

2021 ANNUAL REPORT
on the
STATE OF THE PARISH



**ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE
SOCIETY OF KING'S CHAPEL**

Sunday, May 16, 2021

12:00 via Zoom

Warrant for the 2021 Annual Meeting of the Society of King's Chapel

Directly following the traditional time for Morning Worship, the Annual Meeting of the Society of King's Chapel will begin for the purposes of:

- (1) electing Members of the Vestry, Committee Chairs, and the 2022 Nominating Committee;**
- (2) hearing reports from Parish Leaders including the Wardens, Ministers, and Trustees, the Parish Council and the Committees; the History Program and the Slavery Memorial; and**
- (3) to address any new business that may come before the members of the Society.**

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2021 ANNUAL MEETING

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER	Kathe German and Lee Glenn, Wardens
INVOCATION	Reverend Joy Fallon, Senior Minister
APPOINTMENT	Parliamentarian
MINUTES	2020 Annual Meeting
REPORTS	
Wardens and Vestry	Katherine German and Lee Glenn, Wardens
Ministers	Reverend Joy Fallon, Senior Minister
Trustees	Samuel D. Perry, Eugene H. Clapp, and William W. Park, Trustees
Treasurer	Daniel Taylor and Dorie Seavey, Treasurers
ELECTIONS	
Nominating Committee Report VOTE to Accept Nominations	Betsy Peterson, Chair
COMMITTEE REPORTS	
Parish Council	Betsy Peterson, Chair Pro Tem Michael Bergeron, Chair
Standing Committees	Committee Chairs
TASK FORCE REPORTS	
History Program	Faye Charpentier, Director
Re-opening Task Force	Dan Taylor, Chair
Memorial Project	Dean Denniston, Chair Cliff Allen, Living Memorial Chair Miguel Gomez Ibanez, Physical Memorial Chair
NEW BUSINESS	Members of the Parish
ADJOURNMENT	Kathe German and Lee Glenn, Wardens

THE SOCIETY OF KING'S CHAPEL
ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
May 17, 2020 via Zoom

On May 17, 2020 the Society of Kings Chapel held its first-ever virtual Annual Meeting via Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 12:01PM by Senior Warden, Miguel Gomez-Ibanez. A quorum was secured with 71 members present.

LEADERSHIP REPORTS:

The following reports were presented by the leaders of King's Chapel:

- Senior Warden – Miguel Gomez-Ibanez
 - Miguel gave thanks for all of the committee and Vestry work done this past year.
- Senior Minister – Rev. Joy Fallon
 - A videoed visual report was provided to members prior to the meeting. Joy thanked all staff for the hard work done during the past year, with the ability to be flexible and make changes to how work is now being done during this time of the COVID19 pandemic.
- Trustees Report – Gene Clapp
 - Gene indicated that FY2019 finished strong with ~\$26M in the General Pooled Fund, but it is down at this time to ~\$23M as a result of market fluctuations due to the COVID19 pandemic. Gene ended his report with a plea to give to the Annual Fund so that the endowment can be used for work on the church and Beacon Street properties.
- Treasurer's Report – Dan Taylor
 - Dan had previously shared the FY19 report at the Annual Budget meeting in January, showing that 2019 ended with a surplus of \$8K; the congregation approved a budget for FY2020 that showed a surplus of \$1.5K. However, due to the shutdown of all facilities and suspension of work as we know it, we project a revenue loss since we will not be able to gather revenue from the History Program, weddings and parish house rentals. He hopes that people will give generously to the Annual Appeal.

ELECTIONS

Chris Allen reported for the Nominating Committee, presenting the slate of candidates as follows:

- ARE: Kent Wittenburg
- Archives: Gary Riccio
- B&G: Miguel Gomez-Ibanez
- Church School: Sarah Graber
- CAC: Amanda Pickett
- Personnel: Dean Denniston
- Stewardship: Gail Danckert
- At-Large: Alison LaRosa
- Vestry 2023:
 - Cathy Price
 - Anne Sexton

- Gregg Sorensen
- Vestry 2022 (filling Chelsea Lawson's vacant seat):
 - Cliff Allen
- Wardens:
 - Kathy German and Lee Glenn

The slate was accepted unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Reports were provided by all committee chairs, as written in the formal report. The overall theme of the meeting was that we had a very busy year, with many people involved to make things happen. Thanks goes to all members, friends and staff who helped to make it all happen.

The coming year, FY2020 will look different given that we are unable to congregate and will need to provide all services and business online. All are working together to create a seamless transition online worship, music and more so that we can be inclusive to all members.

In addition to standing Committee reports, Faye Charpentier provided an update on the actions of the History Program in 2019. Faye's report is included in the full Annual Meeting documents.

OTHER BUSINESS – Miguel Gomez-Ibanez

A motion was requested to accept the following change to the Bylaws:

That Article V of the Bylaws be amended by adding a final paragraph thereto as follows:

Notice of the Annual Meeting or any special meeting of Members may be given by any electronic means including email. Any Annual meeting or special meeting shall allow Members to participate by any electronic means if and as specified by the Senior Warden so long as all Members, whether present personally or by electronic means, are able to hear, participate and vote concurrently with all other Members. The Vestry and all committees may discharge their respective responsibilities in like manner. –

Motion made and accepted. Unanimously approved.

There was no new business to be discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:19PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gretchen Horton, Parish Administrator

REPORT OF THE WARDENS AND VESTRY

By any measure, 2020 was an incredible year – one in which we all learned so much about that which is truly important in our lives – and our King’s Chapel community is high on that list! Despite an unprecedented pandemic which required that we move into virtual relationships, the parish did not skip a beat: services, gatherings, meetings, and discussions continued apace, and we all learned how and when to mute ourselves on Zoom! We are amazed and grateful that everyone met the challenge, helping one another and keeping spirits high as we all look forward to a return to worship, meeting, working, and gathering together again – in person and unmasked!

As your Wardens, we sought to ensure that we - the congregational leadership, the ministers and the entire King’s Chapel staff - were all singing from the same score, so we gathered all of the voices together and identified a common set of priorities to which we would all contribute. Focusing on Fellowship and Spiritual Nourishment, the priorities addressed initiatives related to Worship, Pastoral Outreach, Education, Community Building, and Parish Participation, providing a guide for our collective efforts throughout the year. For example, we all became more adept with technology while simultaneously increasing participation in worship services, religious education and history programs involving parishioners and interested others. We worked to engage families in church activities and support our community partners while simultaneously welcoming new members joining from other parts of the country! Moreover, we sought to increase participation in parish governance as we work to build connections and promote collaboration across our community.

Against this backdrop, the Wardens, Ministers, Treasurers, Parish Council Chair, and Parish Administrator have been meeting bi-monthly to address opportunities, concerns and challenges as they arise. By working as a team we have been able to support one another as the demands of parish life continue to morph and change under the current circumstances. Two specific initiatives emanating from this group included the development of the History Program Task Force and the Re-Opening Task Force. The History Program Task Force worked with Faye Charpentier on the development of a plan to refine the program, augment the experience with technology, and reopen in stages as safety permits. The Re-opening Task Force studied the issues relative to our return to in-person worship, making regular recommendations on that score and contributing to the effort to improve the ventilation in the sanctuary in preparation for that eventuality. Additionally, the Leadership Team supported the commissioning of a new piece by Carson Coonan in honor of Heinrich Christensen’s 20th Anniversary as Music Director, the significant exterior restorative work undertaken by the Trustees over the summer to ensure the longevity of our sanctuary, and the continuing work of the Friends of the Parish House who ensure that the garden is flourishing, and the interior painted, polished and appropriately furnished. We are grateful to all!

Not surprisingly, the Vestry, too, has been intensely engaged, providing support for a series of key initiatives throughout the course of the year. Probably first and foremost among these issues, given its fiduciary responsibility, was the discussion and approval of the 2021 budget. Given a thorough airing, the members of the Vestry approved the budget, acknowledging the impact of the pandemic on various traditional sources of revenue - rentals, weddings, plate collections,

visitors, etc. - while simultaneously applauding the generosity of the parish in these difficult times. Hopefully as 2021 progresses, we will be able to expand our base of support and decrease the anticipated deficit for the year.

Related to the budget, the Vestry also voted unanimously to approve Dorie Seavey as our Assistant Treasurer; we are thrilled to have her working with us on fiscal issues. Her appointment was most timely as our Treasurer for the past six years, Dan Taylor, has decided to step down following the annual meeting this year. Dan has done an outstanding job for King's Chapel and planned his successorship well. In April the Vestry again voted unanimously, this time to appoint Dorie to the role of Treasurer! Welcome, Dorie!

Additionally, from time-to-time various parish committees brought issues to our attention. For example, the Adult Religious Education's interest group known as the Environmental Forum, which has a very active membership, asked that we approve a motion requesting that the Trustees divest of fossil fuel and firearm stocks, a motion that was unanimously approved by the Vestry and is currently being implemented by the Trustees.

Then, too, the Vestry worked closely with the Nominating Committee on the revision and approval of the Vestry Role statement and the Nominating Committee Guidelines, both of which were approved unanimously by the members of the Vestry. Simultaneously, the Wardens worked with the Nominating Committee to identify members for the 2022 Nominating Committee – Dan Taylor, Sylvia Soderberg, and Gregg Sorenson - and the one-year appointment of Tim Nelson-Hoy to the role of ARE Chair, all of whom were also approved by the Vestry. The Wardens and Vestry also received regular reports on a host of initiatives underway across the parish. Of key importance is the need for significant improvements in our technological infrastructure from the website to internet stability in the sanctuary and the parish house as well as the installation of broadband capacity to support live streaming of worship services, an initiative that we expect to continue even once we return to the sanctuary. Likewise, updates from the Re-opening Task Force kept everyone apprised of the possibilities, resulting in the approval of a plan to permit use of the Parish House Garden, while the approval of the 2021 Action Plan for the History Program put in motion a staged plan to re-engage with visitors, and the approval of a Pastoral Care Program expanded our capacity to sustain one another. As you can surmise, it's been quite a year! Going forward we are eager to support the work of our parish, its committees and its flourishing special initiatives through which we put our faith into action. The Wardens and Vestry are grateful for your continuing support, your enthusiastic engagement, and your generosity: it keeps us all!

Kathe German and Lee Glenn, Co-Wardens



MINISTER'S REPORT

The report of the Senior Minister will be in visual, video format and will be introduced during the Annual Meeting. The staff has had to adjust this year to new ways of working, due to the pandemic. The Worship Report and Communications Reports, below, illustrate two ways in which staff have been busy to provide ongoing services to our members and community.

WORSHIP REPORT

Since last year's Annual Meeting, we have provided two virtual services nearly every Sunday. Our 9 AM Morning Light contemporary service has met via Zoom, and we have pre-recorded Morning Prayer video services to be available on YouTube and our website on Sunday mornings. In this past year, we have held over 50 Morning Light services, plus hosted special Zoom services for Thanksgiving, Christmas Day, and Palm Sunday. We produced 53 Morning Prayer videos, including special Sundays like Pentecost, Partner Church Sunday, our Birthday, Homecoming and All Saints All Souls. We also created special video services for Blue Christmas, Christmas Eve (Lessons and Carols), Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday (Tenebrae).

Creating these virtual services has been an all-new experience for the Clergy and staff. Putting together our Morning Prayer videos is a lengthy process that requires the hard work of all the members of our Worship Team. After meeting to discuss each week's scriptures, themes and musical selections, we each take on different duties- as Worship Coordinator, I put together the Order of Service and reach out to our members to film various readings and prayers which we insert into the video. This has allowed us to see and hear more of our members each week- thank you to all who have participated! Music Director Heinrich organizes our virtual choir and edits together the many voices (and faces) with his beautiful organ tracks, as well as adds lyrics on screen to help our congregation sing along with hymns.

Our Ministers, Rev. Joy and David spend many hours each week setting up in our Sanctuary and recording themselves delivering the prayers and their Sermons. Once the music, clergy pieces and readings are all sent in, I work with our editor to put everything together. Then there are review periods, edits, and final checks all leading up to posting on Sunday. All this, in addition to our preparations for Morning Light, like putting together the PowerPoint slides which are screen-shared on Zoom, has taken an enormous amount of time and effort. But, we have been constantly committed to offering meaningful worship and connection to our members during this difficult time of being apart. Now the Worship Team is focused on how to continue capturing the services and continue making them available online, even when we are able to worship together in person again.

Laura Zeugner
Worship Coordinator



COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

As the Communications Coordinator since May 2020, my main objective has been to improve and upgrade the way the parish community engages and interacts with one another over the course of the pandemic, while also showcasing this vibrant community beyond its members and friends. As we continue to be “Physically Closed, and Spiritually Open,” online communications and engagement remain vital. Creating a fresher, upgraded design that is consistent throughout all media platforms - newsletters, social media, website, YouTube, etc. - has been an essential part of my position, as well as empowering members and committees in learning ways to engage with one another virtually. This pandemic has forced the King’s Chapel community to upgrade on a more digital, tech-based level, and I hope that my role has helped the entire parish make that transition a bit easier.

Newsletters & Eblasts

- Coordinates the production of the weekly *Between Sundays* parish e-newsletter, and made minor updates with the existing template. The hope is to have a fresher, newer template by Fall 2021. Work with clergy, staff, committees, and members on content on a weekly basis.
- Designed and launched *This Week at King’s Chapel*, a new e-newsletter that is sent to members and friends every Monday morning.
- Coordinated with clergy, staff, committees, and members on other special eblasts throughout the year, such as Stewardship, the Environmental Action Initiative, special services and programs, etc.

Social Media

- Post on the social media platforms on a weekly basis including services, sermons, parish events, and other content.
- Updated the King’s Chapel Parish Facebook page with the “King’s Chapel From Home” design and content
- Created a separate King’s Chapel Parish Instagram and Twitter account, providing better interaction with members and visibility/engagement with followers on the parish-side of KC
 - Accounts created in July 2020 and as of 4/28/21 the Twitter account already has 49 followers and Instagram account has 237 followers!
 - As of 4/28/21, the Facebook account has 2,114 followers (+168 followers since May 2020!)
- Created a Linktree account for Instagram and updates regularly on relevant links, such as registration link for upcoming programs, recent recitals, the YouTube channel, and KC website
- Upgraded Hootsuite account - social media content management system - that enables me to schedule and post content on Parish and History program platforms

Website Development

- In late spring 2020, redesigned the King's Chapel website homepage as "King's Chapel from Home" to better reflect services and the community as we remain "Physically Closed, but Spiritually Open" through the pandemic. This included building "Worship from Home," "Music from Home," "History from Home," and "Community from Home" webpages that guide viewers on what we offer on a virtual level, and are updated sporadically .
- Worked with the Community Action Committee, David Waters, and the History Program on an Anti-Racism Resources webpage that's under the "Community from Home" webpage
- On a weekly basis, update the website's homepage with current events and services, new *Between Sundays* newsletter links, and other pages as needed
- Updating the entire website with a fresher, user-friendly look has been ongoing. I hope that by fall 2021 we'll have a completely unified website with updated content and design.
- Designed new webpages that were live for Advent 2020 and Lent 2021 and served as a information and content portal for related services and parish events, including the Advent and Lent booklets.
- Created a new "Giving" section on the website, including a user-friendly donation page and stewardship page (see Stewardship section below)
- Minor updates to the Music webpages were done under the direction of Heinrich Christensen, such as creating a Virtual Musical events webpage

Print Newsletters & Mailings

- In Fall 2020, worked with Gail Danckert, Gretchen Horton, and Laura Zeugner on creating a print newsletter for our members.
- For Advent 2020, designed a devotional/booklet and postcard that was sent out to our members
- Other print mailings included a postcard for the Valentine's Day virtual recital and the Holy Week offerings

YouTube Channel

- Updated the design of the King's Chapel YouTube channel homepage, including designing the banner, and categorizing the various videos into playlists
- Updates the "featured" video on a weekly basis with the most recent Morning Prayer Worship Service, or as needed. I.e. a virtual recital or special service
- Edits and uploads videos as needed, such as David's videos related to the Black Lives Matter movement in 2020, Stewardship campaign testimonials, virtual program recordings, etc.

Marketing/Graphic Design

- Designed and submitted newspaper ad for Beacon Hill Times for Holy Week/Easter 2021
- Designed the banners and posters that are hung outside the Parish House and Chapel typically once a month, or as needed
- Submitted special worship services and parish events to online calendars, including the Boston Calendar and the Freedom Trail Foundation
- Upgraded to a CanvaPro account, giving other staff members access and usage to the graphic design program and expanded features

Worship Services Production

- Assist Laura Zeugner with the design of ads included at the end of Morning Light and Morning Prayer virtual services on a weekly basis
- Supply graphic for Order of Service as needed

2020 Survey

- Composed a member survey regarding communications and engagement in late summer 2020 via SurveyMonkey
- Compiled a data report on the survey results

Stewardship Campaign

- Worked with Gail Danckert and Gretchen Horton on the 2020 and 2021 Stewardship Campaigns, including designing the logo/banner, editing member testimonial videos, sending out eblasts, and assisting with print materials
- Created a Stewardship webpage, including a way that allows members to make their pledges online

Current Events & Cultural Awareness

- Closely follow current events and social climates, on a local, national, and global level to monitor when it's necessary for clergy or other groups within the parish to step in and make statements, change language, etc.
 - For example, social media posts and public statements were made summer 2020 in support of the Black Lives Matter Movement; an eblast message from Joy was quickly sent out as we anxiously waited for the presidential election results; and continue to edit language that more current (eg. "black" to "Black community")
- Closely follow the most recent CDC guidelines regarding the pandemic and make sure how we publicly portray ourselves is compliant with CDC regulations (publish pictures only with people wearing masks, distancing, etc.)
- Monitor how other local churches and institutions are representing themselves in the community to learn how we can best learn from and engage with them
 - For example, how local churches are advertising their virtual services and events

Very Brief Summary on History Program Work

- Produce, design, and schedule weekly social media posts - now the only way the Program gets visibility with no public tours
- Created separate History Program Facebook page in July 2020 (as of 4/28/21, already have 116 followers)
 - Updated History Program Instagram account has 1,379 followers (+269 since May 2020)
 - Updated History Program Twitter account has 937 followers (+141 since May 2020)
- Assists with weekly (not bimonthly) Virtual Program Development and serves as tech support during actual virtual events
- Sent out weekly eblasts with special themed content throughout the month of December for holiday virtual programming
- Edited and supported History Program Director on various reports, programs, website materials, etc.
- Sets up and advertises upcoming history programs, including creating Zoom registration link, Eventbrite and Facebook events, updates website, and submits info to various online calendars

Jennifer Roesch,

Communications Coordinator



King's Chapel Trustees Annual Report for 2020

On December 31, 2020, the market value of the King's Chapel General Pooled Fund (GPF) stood at \$27,872,634 compared with \$26,177,520 at the end of 2019. Equities accounted for 95.3% of the portfolio at year-end with the remaining balance of \$1,311,778 being cash held in an interest-bearing account. Despite the challenges associated with COVID, the GPF has recovered nicely since the market low of last March.

Two important Trustee initiatives were undertaken and completed during 2020. The Church's Blue Ceiling repairs and repainting was the first with 2020 expenditures of \$134,990 (total cost of \$177,915 paid between 2019 and 2020). The second was the larger Exterior Column/Masonry restoration project which involved 2020 expenditures of \$757,425 (total cost of \$842,635 paid in 2020 and in 2021).

The GPF generated \$599,699 in dividend income in 2020. Cash distributions to the Society were \$385,149, including the monthly draw which was increased to \$300,000 annually in 2020. Other expenses included the premium payment of \$77,448 to the Hanover Insurance Group for property and liability insurance coverage and \$110,797 in custody and investment management fees. Other cash transfers from income were \$64,888 to the Lyman Fund and \$7,765 to the Organ Fund.

Along with the General Pooled Fund, the Trustees oversee the Society's General Reserve Fund. This portfolio had a market value on December 31, 2020 of \$710,695, including a cash balance of \$182,053.

The Trustees meet periodically with the Wardens and Treasurer to discuss the GPF and its ongoing support of building maintenance and Society activities. We also continue in the longstanding relationship with Fiduciary Trust Company as investment advisor and custodian of the GPF and the Society's General Reserve Funds.

Because distributions and expenses have exceeded income, the unrestricted portion of the GPF continues to decline as a percentage of the GPF. Restricted funds, as the description implies, are restricted to a specific purpose or require that distributions are limited to income or subject to both requirements. This further decline in unrestricted principal is an important reminder to all of us of the necessity to expand the Society's Annual Appeal to cover an increasing percentage of the Society's annual operating budget. Through growth in the Annual Appeal, GPF income and assets will be better positioned to meet the ongoing maintenance needs of the Church building and the two Beacon Street properties.

Respectfully submitted,

Eugene H. Clapp
Trustee

William W. Park
Trustee

Samuel D. Perry
Trustee

January 31, 2021

TREASURER'S REPORT MARCH 2021

Operating Results

Per the Society's income statement as of March 2021, the results show year to date income over expenses of \$30,109. (The monthly and year-to-date budget line items reflect a 1/12th pro rata allocation of budgeted annual income and expense items.)

During March, the Annual Appeal brought in \$89,263; the first quarter (Q1) total for the same was \$103,377.

As of the end of the period, the bank accounts under the control of King's Chapel had a collective balance of \$524,400, as shown in the attached balance sheet, of which \$188,210 was unrestricted. These checking accounts contain funds temporarily restricted as follows:

Minister's Discretionary Funds	\$114,205
Community Action Funds Carried Over for 2021	\$4,088
Ministerial Exchange Fund	\$4,590
Concert Series	\$56,134
Freedom Trail grant	\$5,000
Bequest for Choir	\$10,000
Livestreaming equipment authorized by Vestry	\$6,523
2 nd PPP Loan*	\$135,650

*We will seek forgiveness of the PPP loan from the Small Business Administration; when granted, the loan proceeds will be taken into income to support the financial condition of King's Chapel.

Trust and Reserve Funds

The Society of King's Chapel is the owner of certain funds managed by Fiduciary Trust having a market value as of the end of the period, as shown on the accompanying balance sheet.

King's Chapel Christensen Endowment	\$271,942
King's Chapel Soc Gen Reserve	\$751,977

The Society of King's Chapel is also the beneficial owner of certain funds held by the Trustees and managed by Fiduciary Trust: The King's Chapel-General PL Fund, the Lyman Fund and the Organ Fund held by the Trustees for the benefit of the Society had market values respectively of \$29,626,631, \$16,253 and \$86,539 as of the end of the period.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorie Seavey, Assistant Treasurer
April 16, 2021



NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Elections

The Nominating Committee proposes the following slate:

For the Vestry:

Patricia Bass

Alison LaRosa

Mary Katherine Morn

For Chairs of Standing Committees:

Denominational and Ecumenical Affairs: Stephen Courtney

Music: Amy Meyer

For Parish Council Member-at-Large: Kent Wittenburg

The Wardens and Vestry propose the following slate for members of the 2021-2022 Nominating Committee:

Sylvia Soderberg

Gregg Sorensen

Daniel Taylor

Appointments

When a vacancy occurs, usually because someone steps aside before completing a term, the vacancy is filled by appointment by the Wardens and Vestry, in consultation with the Nominating Committee.

Two such appointments have been made, effective May 16.

Treasurer: Dorie Seavey

Chair of the Adult Religious Education Committee: Timothy Nelson-Hoy

Additionally, the Vestry to vote at its meeting on May 17.

Chair of the Hospitality Committee: Betsy Peterson

Member-at-large: Paula O’Keeffe (current incumbent Alison LaRosa will leave this position if elected to the Vestry)

Nominating Guidelines

The Committee also undertook the updating of Nominating Guidelines that were first adopted in 2006. The Parish Council and Vestry have approved the 2021 revision.

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy Peterson, Chair; Stephen Courtney, and Gregg Sorensen



KING'S CHAPEL LEADERSHIP 2021-2022
(assuming all nominees are elected and appointments approved)

Officers of the Society

Wardens: Kathe German and Lee Glenn
Treasurer: Dorie Seavey

Vestry

Class of 2022

Cliff Allen
Chris LaRoche
Dorothy Waldron

Class of 2023:

Cathy Price
Anne Sexton
Gregg Sorensen

Class of 2024

Patricia Bass
Alison LaRosa
Mary Katherine Morn

Parish Council

Chair: Michael Bergeron

Chairs of Standing Committees

Archives: Gary Riccio
Adult Religious Education: Timothy Nelson-Hoy
Buildings and Grounds: Miguel Gomez-Ibanez
Chancel: Joan Hunt
Church School: Sarah Graber
Community Action: Amanda Pickett
Denominational and Ecumenical Affairs: Stephen Courtney
Fiscal Affairs: Amanda Cegielski
Hospitality: Betsy Peterson
Membership: Christopher Allen
Music: Amy Meyer

Nominating: (chooses its own chair)

Personnel: Dean Denniston

Stewardship: Gail Danckert

Members-at-large

Paula O'Keeffe

Kent Wittenburg

PARISH COUNCIL CHAIR REPORT, 2021

This brief report is intended to provide introduction, recognition and appreciation to all who have contributed to the work of Parish Council in the last year. More specific detail pertaining to each of the committee's efforts and activities can be found in their respective individual reports contained in the Annual Report.

The spring of 2020 brought many changes not all of which were related to the pandemic. Our longstanding Parish Council Chair, Betsy Peterson, began the process of stepping away from this role. I was honored to be nominated to become the next chair with the support of Betsy's support and our leadership team. Any reservations I had were quickly dispelled by the thoughtful graciousness, generosity of spirit and kindness extended by Betsy, Joy Fallon, Kathe German, Lee Glenn, Dan Taylor and Gretchen Horton.

Initial meetings in August and September focused on getting acquainted with one another, hearing Warden's vision, discussing priorities for the year, retreat and homecoming planning, conveying budget responsibilities, and establishing future meeting schedule. The welcome and cooperation of the Committee Chairs, met with individually outside of the Council meeting, was gratifying and informative; providing a basis of understanding crucial to looking for opportunities for cross committee initiatives, collaborations and operational synergies.

Work continued with several committee and sub-committee projects and initiatives from October through January. These included environmental awareness and get out the vote initiatives, fiscal organization and budget submissions, community action outreach, retreat planning and assembly, Chapel building improvement projects completion, musical presentations, virtual membership activities, church school weekly virtual gatherings, stewardship campaign follow-up for year-end and development for new campaign, development and implementation of nominating guidelines, and more.

The balance of the year, and the efforts and activities during this period, the Council was led once again by Betsy Peterson, who voluntarily came forward maintaining continuity during my absence at the time leading up to the terminal point of illness and ultimate loss of my beloved wife Pam.

I owe a great debt of gratitude to the members of the congregation for their expressions of loving compassion and caring support, and especially to my fellow Council and Nominating Committee Chair Betsy Peterson, and Parish Council Committee Chairs; Kent Wittenberg (Adult Religious Education), Gary Riccio (Archives), Miguel Ibanez-Gomez (Buildings & Grounds), Joan Hunt (Chancel), Sarah Graber (Church School), Amanda Pickett (Community Action), Denton Crews (Denominational & Ecumenical Affairs), Amanda Cegielski (Fiscal), Chris Allen (Membership), Sylvia Soderberg (Music), Dean Denniston (Personnel & Ministerial), Gail Danckert (Stewardship), Alison Larosa and Carol Genovese (Members at Large).

Lastly, a special note of thanks and appreciation to all of the Parish Council Committee Members (see committee reports for lists) who freely give of their time, talents, energy and dedication in the service of King's Chapel and the larger community. Thank you all!

Respectively and Appreciatively Submitted by,

Michael Bergeron

Parish Council Chairman



ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The mission of the Adult Religious Education (ARE) Committee is to deepen our religious understanding and spiritual development, to cultivate discourse on meaningful topics to our members, and to support and pass on the traditions of the Society of King's Chapel.

For the past year, the committee has been chaired by Kent Wittenburg. Continuing members were Emanuel and Carol Genovese, Tim Nelson-Hoy, and Betsy Peterson. Emma Healy joined the committee mid-year. Friends of the committee include Amanda Pickett and Stephen Courtney. Gary Riccio, Dorie Seavey, Julie Hyde, and Kent Wittenburg comprised the steering committee for the Environmental Action Initiative, which was formed under the auspices of ARE. Joy Fallon is the staff liaison.

Of course in this year of the pandemic, the activities of ARE were almost all virtual. We carried on weekly Bible study meetings, a poetry discussion group in January, and special extended gatherings for Advent and Lent. The ministers focused on the Advent gatherings, the monthly theology-on-tap discussions, and the spiritual autobiography series in the fall. Led from the Environmental side, we organized a series of meetings and actions to support electoral justice in the fall; we hosted a guest preacher and a workshop from Fred Small in January, which was deemed Environmental Compassion Month; we held biweekly meetings on various environmental subjects starting in February; and we organized a river cleanup, a seminar on regenerative agriculture, and a virtual art show "Celebrate the Earth" during Earth week. Also, we initiated a bell-ringing on the 11th hour (the 11th day of the month at 11AM) in March to sound the alarm about climate change.

Highlights

- The weekly Bible Study meeting has been continuing for 14 months now and is highly valued by participants.
- Theology on Tap is well-attended and also highly valued.
- Our voter action initiative in the fall, which included tracking the goal of contacting a certain number of voters to register and to get out and vote, attracted participation from many members and vastly exceeded its initial target. Dorie Seavey was the leader of this initiative.
- The Spiritual Autobiography series, led by Joy Fallon and Cynthia Perkins, was considered a great success by its participants.
- The poetry discussion series on the work of Joy Harjo, a native American and current U.S. poet laureate, attracted an enthusiastic following. This was led by Kent Wittenburg and David Waters.
- The Environmental Action Initiative has held a series of events, meetings, and activities, and has been a positive source for King's Chapel from Home during the pandemic year. Members of King's Chapel became newly engaged, including Bill Wilson, who gave a seminar on Earth Day. (We had a high of 54 registrants for this seminar, including many outside King's Chapel.) A number of different members of the congregation have stepped up to lead, notably Cynthia Perkins, whose *pièce de résistance* was the CELEBRATE THE EARTH virtual art show on Earth Day.

- ARE came together with CAC and others in a burst of creativity to produce a Lenten booklet that included prayers, poems, readings, and photographs to guide us through Lent in this extraordinary year. Tim Nelson-Hoy did an amazing job of designing and producing the book with input from many.

Budget

The ARE committee has a modest budget that, normally, is used to support the annual retreat and refreshments connected with its events. This year our primary expense was to pay the fee for the workshop led by Fred Small. We do not expect major structural changes for next year, though increased funding for guest speakers and/or workshops may be considered.

Going Forward

Kent Wittenburg is stepping down from chairing the full ARE committee in order to devote more time to the Environmental Action Initiative. Tim Nelson-Hoy has graciously agreed to assume the chairmanship of ARE for the remainder of the term.

Respectfully submitted,

Kent Wittenburg, Chair



ARCHIVES COMMITTEE

There was no activity of the Archives Committee, as such, in 2020 because COVID-19 protocols precluded group meetings and socially responsible work by individuals in Parish House for any reasonable period of time.

There was an inquiry by the Minns Committee to search for any material in the King's Chapel Archives pertaining to origination of the Minns committee and collaboration between King's Chapel and First Church Boston in the Minns Committee. Nothing was found in the archives in the King's Chapel Parish House. Unrelated to the objective of the search, however, there is an entertaining correspondence in the King's Chapel archives about a court case over many years pertaining to ownership of a sword that a Sultan of Zanzibar had given to John Percival in the mid-19th C. (when he was Captain of the U.S.S. Constitution) that somehow came into the possession of the Minns family. The family had loaned it, in some rather ambiguous language, to someone who sold it to a third party. The Minns family ultimately won the case and retained the sword.

Dr. Marc Roscoe Loustau, an administrative representative of the Minns Committee, initiated a search of the archives of First Church Boston. In 2021, the Archives Committee of King's

Chapel will consider the findings of Dr. Loustau for representation in the King's Chapel Archives.

By agreement with members of the Archives Committee and with Amanda Cegielski, Chair of the Fiscal Affairs Committee, the budget for the Archives Committee was cut in half for FY2021 to help relieve financial strain in King's Chapel and because no expenses were incurred in FY2020.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Riccio, Chair



BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE

The Building and Grounds committee, in cooperation with the Trustees are charged with the facility stewardship of King's Chapel, the Parish House and Parsonage.

The committee members who have contributed substantial time energy and expertise include John Bowman, Sally Brewster, Stephen Courtney, and Sam Perry (with his dual role as Trustee). Ex-officio committee members Rev. Joy Fallon and Gretchen Horton have also contributed to our facility needs as has our sexton, Clark Aitkins.

This past year was an exceptional year for the church, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Chapel and Parish House were closed in March 2020 and remained closed through the end of the year. Church services and parish meetings were held remotely through Zoom meetings and telephone calls. The impact of the unoccupied Chapel and Parish House on the Buildings and Grounds Committee was a reduction in rental income as well as a reduction in some ongoing expenses such as utilities and routine maintenance. There was an offsetting increase in internet and telephone expenses to accommodate the transition to virtual church services. No reductions were made in Buildings and Grounds staffing. The net effect of the pandemic on the Buildings and Grounds budget was essentially neutral, with the actual expense exceeding the budgeted expense of \$122,016 by just 6% or \$7,931.

In addition to the repairs and maintenance overseen by the Buildings and Grounds committee, the committee worked with the Trustees to take advantage of the unoccupied buildings and complete the restoration of the Chapel's plaster ceiling and undertake a large-scale exterior repair project at the Chapel, which included restoration of the exterior masonry, the wood columns and balustrade at the Chapel entry, roof repairs and repairs to the heating and ventilating

systems. The cost of repairs and maintenance undertaken by the Trustees during the year was approximately \$1,100,000.

Projects completed during the year included:

63 and 64 Beacon:

- Hot water heater tank replacement.

The Chapel:

- Exterior renovations - column/balustrade/wood repair, painting, granite step repairs, fresh air copper louver replacement, brownstone repair, mortar re-pointing, and bell tower louver repair.
- Sanctuary Ceiling: The major ceiling staging and repair begun in 2019 was successfully completed.
- Entry vestibule heating system repairs.
- Ventilation enhancements achieved through a new attic exhaust fan and reworking the fresh air-handling system motor, ductwork, controls and filter system in the basement.

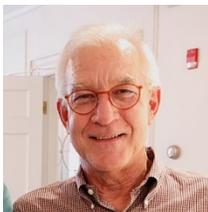
General Miscellaneous Maintenance:

Many smaller items get done annually such as cleaning and tuning of boilers, fire alarm testing, cleaning of gutters/downspouts, sprinkler system testing, elevator certification, air filter replacements, water filter replacements, window cleaning, replacement of light ballast and light fixtures, lubricating the Chapel sliding entry gate, cleaning of the main chandler etc.

A mention must be made that all these activities are made possible by the effective project management of the Parish Administrator, Gretchen Horton.

Respectfully submitted,

Miguel Gómez-Ibáñez, Chair



CHANCEL COMMITTEE

This is a very general report as specifics are in short supply due to the pandemic. Being a new Chair of the Committee, I had hoped to learn what to do and how to do everything. Due to the pandemic that learning was reduced to Advent/Christmas and Easter. Anne Sexton and Louise Perkins planned, ordered and decorated the Chancel for both, and I am most grateful to have learned from seasoned experts.

The Chancel Committee's main responsibilities are to provide and maintain items used in all of the King's Chapel services. This includes on the first Sunday of each month preparing the communion table for the ministers, ensuring the Elements needed for communion are appropriately placed, that clean napkins and linens are available for use during communion.

Additional responsibilities:

- Making sure the flower donation sheet is updated
- Arranging for the decoration of the sanctuary during Easter and Advent
- Making sure the flowers are on the chancel table for Sunday morning prayer
- Providing a sufficient supply of the Elements used during communion.

Before the pandemic, King's Chapel members and friends made donations for flower arrangements in the name of loved ones. We are hopeful this will continue and increase when we return to regular church services.

While the sanctuary is usually decorated for the Advent Season, this year it was decorated with filming in mind. Many thanks to John Appleton for his generous donations of Advent/Christmas flowers.

Again, Easter flowers were focused on Easter service filming as King's Chapel was closed for Easter Sunday.

Again, Anne Sexton and Louise Perkins ordered and organized the flowers for both Christmas and Easter. The Chancel Committee thanks them for their artistic diligence and know-how.

Committee members before the pandemic were John Appleton, Tim Nelson-Hoy, Louise Perkins, Cathy Price, Anne Sexton, Sylvia Soderberg, and Becky Wittenburg. I hope they will all resume when we can worship in-person again.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Hunt, Chair



CHURCH SCHOOL COMMITTEE

All the usual activities of the Church School were not possible in 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and this required us to reimagine new ways of interacting with the children of the Church. We were not able to have the usual weekly in-person meetings of the Church School after Morning Light services, and the Morning Light services were held as live Zoom meetings weekly at 9AM. The Church School is a small community, but many of them remained active and joined the Morning Light services. Some of the children offered prayers during the Zoom services as they would during the in-person Morning Light service. We did not have any new members to the Church School and did not recruit as actively as we would in the past. To give the children some regularly occurring meetings, the children were invited to join live Zoom meetings with David that occurred every other Tuesday night at 7PM with an informal agenda of open discussion and did not include formal instruction or lessons like past in-person sessions. The children were encouraged to discuss their feelings and experiences living under the conditions of the COVID-19 pandemic. Although the family was not excluded from these sessions, they were mostly just between the children and David. The children appeared to enjoy these opportunities to interact with David and their peers with an active dialog, while their usual amount of interaction outside their own household was limited.

In addition to the children's recurring live Zoom meetings, a group for mothers with young children held recurring meetings led by Joy and Gretchen. Households with young children during the pandemic faced new challenges with children not being at in-person school, child daycare facilities being closed, and parents working from home. While facing the frustrations of this environment, it can be uplifting to hear from others about positive things under the circumstances, such as, families being able to spend more time together and get out of the city for extended periods of time that would not be possible previously.

Although none of the popular seasonal events were held with in-person activities, the children of the Church participated in Advent crafts, a virtual pancake breakfast, Palm Sunday, and Easter. The Advent crafts event would typically include an in-person event with brunch and making the Advent wreaths and other crafts, such as, stained glass ornaments. Instead of the in-person event, we delivered boxed Advent craft kits to families with young children the week before the first Sunday, and the children lit their candles to share their wreaths over the video during Morning Light live Zoom service. The pancake breakfast was held virtually over a live Zoom meeting on Valentine's Day following the Morning Light service at 11am. Gift packages were delivered to members of the Church from the children the week of the pancake breakfast. The whole Church was invited to join the pancake breakfast and share the activities from their kitchen and dining tables. The feedback from the children after the event was positive so from the children's perspective, this a successful alternative to the in-person event and could be something worth considering even when the in-person events return. We think the children enjoyed being more hands-on than they would at the in-person event, and the virtual meeting creates a more informal setting that may be more appealing to the children. For Palm Sunday, palm leaves were delivered to the children and members of the Church the week before the service. The children waved their palms during the live Zoom service. Plants were delivered to members of the church from the children the week before Easter. On Easter Sunday, the children

participated again in the live Zoom service shouting Hosanna as members of the crowd welcomed Jesus to Jerusalem.

The final event we are planning with the Church School will be on May 23, 2021 in the yard of the parish house. This event may include some outreach and inviting new prospective members. The children will be invited to make kites. We will be following the guidelines recommended at the time, which may include limiting gathering size, remaining outdoors, wearing masks, social distancing, or other guidelines.

Although the activities of the Church School were very different this year due to the pandemic, we were able to maintain engagement with the existing members and look forward to the opportunity to get back to more in-person meetings and formal instruction starting in the fall of 2021, which will hopefully include the return of in-person services at the Church.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Graber, Chair



COMMUNITY ACTION COMMITTEE

Role Statement

The mission of the Community Action Committee (CAC) is to support and collaborate with community organizations collectively selected by the congregation. The committee asks staff of the partner organizations how best to serve their organization's communities. CAC strives to enrich the King's Chapel (KC) congregation spiritually via raising awareness of and dedication to meeting community needs and by being in proximity to those who are systemically under-resourced.

Recent History

In 2017-2018, KC members participated in a visioning process which resulted in more focused service to three specific community partners: Common Cathedral, the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute, and the UU Urban Ministry.

April 2020-April 2021 CAC partnership activity:

- *common cathedral*, of Ecclesia Ministries, Inc. - an outdoor church on the Boston Common for people experiencing homelessness and their friends; approximately 30

volunteers participated in purchasing lunch materials, made sandwiches and packed brown bags, and delivered 150-200 bagged lunches on six occasions. KC volunteers make and deliver lunches six times a year, and worship together with our unhoused neighbors; at Christmas KC members donated warm clothing. CAC also provided \$500 for Dunkin' gift cards for *common cathedral* staff to distribute to unhoused members of the Boston community.

- **Louis D. Brown Peace Institute**, in Dorchester, is a center of healing, teaching, and learning for families and communities impacted by murder, trauma, grief, and loss. LDBPI is transforming society's response to homicide. KC members and friends fundraise/walk in the annual Mother's Day Walk for Peace. In 2020 KC raised \$11,019.28 for the 24th annual LDBPI Mother's Day Walk for Peace, the first ever virtual walk because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The 25th annual Peace Walk on May 9, 2021 will mark KC participating 7 years running in this fundraiser and as of 4/25/2021 the KC team has raised \$2,048.65 of our \$10,000 goal. In March, CAC hosted Director of Reentry Services Milton Jones who spoke to KC members about the LDBPI's re-entry program for effectively supporting people leaving prison and empowering them to be successful in transitioning back to society. CAC member Carol Genovese serves on the LDBPI Interfaith Committee.
- **Unitarian Universalist Urban Ministry (UUUM)** is a center in Roxbury that engages communities and congregations in social action and change, with programs that empower youth and adults to realize their full potential via youth programs, community engagement, and domestic violence support services. In winter of 2020 CAC promoted the UUUM's Roxbury Artists of Color directory and highlighted their Artist Spotlight documentary series. CAC chair Amanda Pickett meets monthly with the UUUM Volunteer Coordinator.

Current and Future CAC Initiatives

- Congregational Review – CAC is currently reviewing our activities over the past three years, and will solicit input from KC membership for ideas;
- Emergency pandemic monetary contribution - the CAC successfully requested one-time donations from the Minister's Discretionary Fund of \$20,000 for each our three partner organizations so that they could continue to provide much-needed services and programming at the beginning of the pandemic.
- Budget - CAC's budget is about ~\$8500/year (\$5000 from a trust fund and \$3500 from the offertory annually) or less than 1% of KC's total budget; while a CAC request for additional budget was denied in 2020, additional funding is essential for growth, and we are making another request in 2021. Congregational engagement. The numbers of KC members participating in CAC programs have grown (e.g. 30 lunch volunteers for *common cathedral*, more Peace Walk walkers and donors), and we continue to encourage all who can to volunteer;
- Future KC collaboration – CAC is exploring the possibility of combining efforts with other KC committees and projects, such as the Living Memorial Project and Adult Religious Education.

- “Do what we do and do it well” or “stay in our lane” – CAC will strive to build upon direct service and relationship-building and improve upon doing it more effectively and with greater impact.

Members of the Committee are Amanda Pickett, Carol Genovese, Emanuel Genovese, Denton Crews, Dan Sullivan, Amy Meyer, Ciael Hills, and Louise Perkins. Staff liaison is Rev. Joy Fallon.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Pickett, Chair



DENOMINATIONAL AND ECUMENICAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (AKA PARTNER CHURCH COMMITTEE)

In my nine annual reports (2012-2020), the primary focus of the Denominational and Ecumenical Affairs Committee (DEAC) has been the partner church relationship between King’s Chapel and First Unitarian Church of Kolozsvár in Transylvania. Our focus last year was the upcoming celebration in 2021 of the 100th anniversary of the oldest partnership in the world between an American and a Transylvanian Unitarian congregation. The goal of the celebration was to discover new ways of making the partnership an active part of life in our communities. But the coronavirus pandemic brought planning to a halt. It also brought Zoom videoconferencing to a suspension. In the first wave, anxieties increased, conditions worsened, and our ministers gave full attention to the needs of parishioners and the demands of virtual technologies as venues for religious services. In the second wave, we were shocked and saddened. The First Unitarian congregation of Kolozsvár had lost parishioners and church leaders to the deadly virus. On October 28th we sent a deeply felt message on behalf of the Wardens, Vestry, and members of the Society of King’s Chapel:

Dear Ministers, Lay Leaders, and Members of the First Unitarian Church of Kolozsvár. In this dark time of the pandemic, we have learned of infections of coronavirus in your congregation, and we write you in prayer, hope, and love. On next Sunday, in the service of All Saints and All Souls, we will say a special prayer for you, our brothers and sisters, our partners in faith.

Subsequently, we published an article in the newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Partner Church Council, entitled “Celebrating the Centenary of Our Church Partnership in the Time of COVID-19.” The celebration was not to be, but moments of meaning came twice when we celebrated Communion in the Transylvanian tradition. In different services recorded on YouTube, we honored Rev. Dr. Imre Gellérd, martyr to Transylvanian Unitarianism, and Ferenc Dávid, founder of Transylvanian Unitarianism and martyr. And now, we are again hoping to celebrate our centenary in some form, at least virtually.

While the focus of the Denominational and Ecumenical Affairs Committee has mostly been the partner church relationship, our charge to engage congregational involvement in the larger community of faith has been less conspicuous. However, we did promote virtual attendance at the June 2020 General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association in Between Sundays, we maintained membership in the UUA through modest annual dues, and the church has made use of the services of the UUA. Hopefully, future leadership will foster greater engagement in denominational affairs and encourage ecumenical and interfaith activities at King’s Chapel.

As my term expires, I wish to express appreciation to the Society of King’s Chapel for the opportunity to serve as chair of the DEAC and to champion the partner church engagement. Since Carl Scovel’s visit to Transylvania in the 1970s, we’ve been awakened to the incredible story of Unitarian brothers and sisters who survived four centuries of persecution and the loss of freedom. In my mind, they belong in the pantheon of people of the 11th chapter of Hebrews with its citations of those who lived “by faith” – name after name after name. They are among the “great cloud of witnesses” that surrounds us (Hebrews 12:1). And it matters immensely that we can honor, love, and engage with them.

Members of the Committee: Denton Crews (chair), Stephen Courtney, Joy Fallon, Kathe German, Carol Kemp, Bill Kuttner, and Louise Perkins; Friends are Cliff Allen, Tim Nelson-Hoy, Betsy Peterson, Cynthia Perkins, and Gary Riccio.

Respectfully submitted,

Denton Crews



FISCAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Role Statement: The Fiscal Affairs Committee prepares the budget for the Society of King's Chapel for each fiscal year and submits its proposals to the members of the Society, who vote on the budget at a meeting designated for that purpose. The Committee reviews the Society's finances throughout the year.

Membership: Amanda Cegielski, Chair; Mike Bergeron, Miguel Gomez-Ibanez
Ex-officio members -- Lee Glenn and Kathe German, Wardens; Dan Taylor, Treasurer;
and Gail Danckert, Chair of Stewardship.

Staff Liaison: Gretchen Horton

On January 31, 2021 the membership of King's Chapel approved the annual budget submitted to them for the 2021 Fiscal Year (January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021). This budget was created by the Fiscal Affairs committee, who reached out to all committee chairs in Fall 2020 and worked with Parish Council and the Vestry to assist in creating the FY 2021 budget.

Despite the extraordinary circumstances of this year, Fiscal Affairs was able to provide all but one committee with their requested budget for FY 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Cegielski, Chair



MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Recovering from the COVID-induced shutdown, Membership went virtual this year, with three members joining us virtually.

Fred Putnam, David Messner, and James Bockmier joined our congregation in November, during our special All Saints All Souls service. Geographically spanning from Springfield, IL. to Savannah, GA. to the distant reaches of Beacon Hill, this let us feel out what a fully digital membership drive would look like.

Our migration included the following:

- Moving all meetings online, using Google Drive to track assignments and status of potential new members
- New members interest session, where we tried to use breakout groups to mimic the small-table chitchat that lets folks warm up in an environment where they may not know everyone
- Historical presentation from Chris LaRoche migrated to Zoom – no need to set up the projector now 😊
- New member induction at both the 9 AM and 12 o'clock ceremonies.

There were a few things that could be improved on in the October membership drive – mailing our traditional corsages would have been a nice touch and provided a small physical connection to the event. Additionally, I think the breakout rooms concept needs some refinement – potentially using some icebreakers or ways to allow folks to find common ground or interesting subjects to discuss.

There will be a lot to determine moving forward as we switch to a more hybrid model and attempt to determine how these activities look, but I believe we have the infrastructure and know-how.

Membership has been dormant this quarter and most work has been at the individual level, and I am to blame for that – I've failed to schedule a meeting to discuss our current prospects. Current projects include updating our membership materials (John Appleton has taken a great first-crack at this with some fabulous-looking brochures) and better determining ways to follow up on regular attendees of virtual meetings.

Members of the committee are Chris Allen, John Appleton, Cynthia Korb-Wellington, Cathy Price, Jennifer Kronstain, and Sylvia Soderberg.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Allen, Chair



MUSIC COMMITTEE

The Music Committee functions to support our Music Director, Heinrich Christensen, our choir, and the King's Chapel Concert Series in various ways: advertise and promote the concerts, usher at the concerts and provide post-concert receptions, write reviews of the concerts for our house organ, Between Sundays, write semi-annual news and fund-raising letters to guarantors and others on the general mailing list, write thank you letters to contributors, and manage the mailing lists.

Since last March, many of these tasks have been put on hold due to the Coronavirus. Our culminating performance of Handel's Alexander's Feast, scheduled for March 29, 2020, and supported by Suzette Schochet, had to be cancelled, but that wasn't the end of music with Heinrich. On June 17, 2020, although this one was not affiliated with King's Chapel, Heinrich played a concert to an almost-empty hall on the great organ in Methuen. We enjoyed it on YouTube, where it's still available.

In July, 2020, we celebrated Heinrich's 20th anniversary as Music Director. A most festive Zoom block party was held, and in further observance of the occasion, composer Carson Cooman was commissioned by the church to write a new piece for choir and organ, to a text by Goethe titled "What is Holy?". Carson's piece will be premiered when live performance become possible again.

During the fall of 2020, Heinrich hosted Conversations About Music, weekly half-hour Zoom interviews with various musicians in the community, including with his friend, composer Graham Gordon Ramsay, as well as several current and former choir members, and even a couple of international guest speakers. These featured some lively discussions with the musicians as they all conversed from their living rooms and we joined from ours!

During this strange pandemic year, when we couldn't get together, Heinrich, assisted by some new audio/visual equipment, became expert at recording, editing and mixing Church services and concerts.

On November 29, Heinrich and flutist Alison LaRosa presented a pre-recorded virtual concert of French Competition music for flute and piano. It took place in our Parish House front parlor, which gave us an opportunity to enjoy and appreciate the music and our "new" Mason and Hamlin piano. Expertly edited by Alison, it revealed some artistic camera work as we watched each performer playing, and also views of the old scenic wallpaper in that room.

On February 14, 2021, Heinrich and members of our Choir performed A Virtual Valentine. It was a festive, loving YouTube concert of love songs, acted and sung by our talented singers, followed by a zoomed Mardi Gras reception.

The last concert of the Season was shown on Johann Sebastian Bach's 336th birthday, and was appropriately titled, Happy Birthday, J.S. Bach! Heinrich played especially chosen organ pieces appropriate to the virtual setting, and recorded the concert himself. Here was an example of musical and virtual virtuosity, as the cameras showed views of his hands, feet, and face as he

played. In addition, at times the camera focused on various architectural elements of our beautiful Church. During the premier of this YouTube performance, which many of us watched together, Heinrich live- commented via the Chat section throughout, and audience members also commented. During the festive Zoom Bacchanal reception which followed, we appreciated that this opportunity to communicate throughout a performance was one advantage of virtual performing.

Although we did not send out a formal request for funds this year, we are touched and grateful to note that several of our patrons contributed generously.

We don't know when we'll be able to schedule live concerts in the Church, but we hope that we can present an in-person Season before long; Alexander's Feast awaits us! Meanwhile, you can watch this year's YouTube concerts by visiting the King's Chapel website.

It has been my deep and joyful pleasure to serve as Chair of this committee during the last four years, and I look forward to continuing to serve as a member of the Committee as we welcome the next Chair. Thank you, Heinrich and Committee members.

Gratefully and respectfully submitted,

Sylvia Soderberg, Chair



PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

During the past year, the personnel committee experienced very limited activity within the life of the church. As day-to-day personnel matters tend to fall under the purview of the parish administrator, and as there were no significant or outstanding personnel matters requiring either the intercession or assistance of the committee, it was a very quiet. Year.

The Chair did serve on two ad hoc committees, the KC Visitors Program Task Force, and the KC Memorial Project; participating in the former to respond to any potential personnel issues which might arise as part of reorganizing the program and chairing the second committee.

In the coming year, as the pandemic appears to be winding down, and as the church considers the possibility of reopening, the personnel committee's work could pick up. If so, the committee will work in consort with the parish administrator to ensure continued smooth and efficient operations.

Respectfully submitted,

Dean K. Denniston, Chair



STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Role

The goal of the Stewardship Committee is to encourage all members and friends of King's Chapel to give of their personal time, talent and treasure to support the mission and work of the church.

Responsibility

Communication is a key component of the stewardship process: outlining the financial need of the church and the importance of member participation through letters, email blasts, work with vestry and committee chairs, and reinforcement and messaging from clergy. We worked to expand the understanding of stewardship and the need for everyone, all members and friends, to share in the responsibility to keep our church flourishing.

This year, because of COVID 19, our need was particularly dire, and members responded with a generosity that was record setting.

New Approaches

With the help of Jennifer Roesch, King's Chapel's new communication coordinator, we designed written materials and email blasts, that served as communication vehicles for our message.

Members of the congregation explained via email videos, why King's Chapel was important to them and why giving to the church was a priority in their lives.

Committee members wrote personal thank you notes to all donors which was in addition to the contribution acknowledgement from Gretchen Horton. This process had been led for many years by Pam Bergeron, a beloved member of the committee. Pam's kind and sincere notes set a precedent which we have tried to emulate.

Committee Members:

Pam and Mike Bergeron, Gail Danckert, Alison LaRosa and Gregg Sorensen. Sadly, this year we lost our dear member Pam and already miss her kindness and cheerful spirit. Gretchen Horton, while not an official member of the committee, was key to our work by providing updated lists and data, coordinating much of the back and forth around all printed communications and giving wise counsel.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Danckert, Chair



KING'S CHAPEL HISTORY PROGRAM

The past year has brought many changes to the King's Chapel History Program, which will continue through the upcoming year as well. Due to the ongoing pandemic, the History Program has remained closed for in-person tours and visitation. Throughout this time, the Program has worked to strengthen its online presence, adapt programming for virtual settings, and do important planning and preparation work to build a stronger History Program for when we are able to reopen for tours. With the laying off of 9 part-time History Program Educators and Jennifer Roesch moving into the position of Communications Coordinator, the Program has solely been staffed by Faye Charpentier, with additional assistance on a few select projects. With the recent Vestry approval of a History Program Action Plan, the Program will move forward with a series of further interpretive planning and program development in anticipation of reopening to the public.

Despite the many challenges faced by the History Program over the past year, staff have worked to adapt programming, generate new online content, and engage on a number of special projects. These efforts include:

- Developing and presenting virtual history programs and lectures on nearly 30 different topics in the form of "Conversations with the History Program" and other program series developed internally
- Hosted 4 guest speakers - ranging from scholars to jewelers to National Park Service Rangers - for special virtual programs
 - This included a program co-hosted with the Friends of Mount Auburn Cemetery and a collaboration with the National Parks of Boston
- Organized and hosted 3 trivia nights, one hosted especially for the King's Chapel community and two as part of the History Program's annual Halloween events
- Curated 3 new online exhibits, in addition to the general overhaul of the History Program webpages completed around the time of the 2020 Annual Meeting
- Created History Program YouTube page for sharing new videos and posting recordings of virtual programs
- Continued engagement and communication with fellow Freedom Trail sites and the Freedom Trail Foundation through attending regularly meetings
- Maintained engagement through social media with Jennifer Roesch's strength in communications
 - Grew social media following across platforms by over 500 people
 - Encouraged follower interaction through series including scavenger hunts
 - An average of over 600 followers view each social media post
- Began sending monthly e-newsletters in early 2021 to expand reach beyond social media
- Joined commemorative planning efforts with a number of local historical organizations and community leaders for Boston's August 2021 event with the Middle Passage Port Marker Project

The History Program has also worked closely with parish committees and task forces, namely the King's Chapel Memorials Project and the History Program Task Force. A full report from the Memorials Project will be presented at the Annual Meeting by Dean Denniston. Workly in collaboration with Warden Kathe German, the History Program developed an action plan,

following the work in 2020 by the History Program Task Force. This action plan, approved by the Vestry in April 2021 focuses on continued virtual engagement, interpretive planning, and following stages of reopening the History Program to the public. The full document is available upon request.

Faye Charpentier, History Program Director



TASK FORCE ON REOPENING

The Task Force on Reopening works as an ad hoc committee of the Vestry, and is tasked with creating a plan for reopening, addressing what conditions will warrant a reasonably safe return to our beloved physical space for in-person worship. The committee has been working since summer 2020, meeting twice monthly. The task force has been focused on what conditions need to be in place to reopen with reasonable safety and in a way that will inspire confidence in parishioners again attending. We have been clear that it is not feasible to go down two tracks with the ministers and staff preparing for both in-person and virtual worship. While planning for worship, the questions we keep at the forefront are:

- What protocols should be circulated to the congregation for attending in-person?
- What PPE and social distancing must be provided?
- How can we safely resume singing and chanting by all?
- What will the role of ushers and vergers be?
- What accommodations are required for communion and after-service fellowship?

At this point we are proposing that we open in phases. The first includes opening the Parish House garden this summer. Here, we have focused on the likely demand to use the Parish House Garden for outdoor events, because indoor events are not yet feasible. In this recommendation we address church-related small outdoor gatherings in the garden as well as memorial services that the Senior Minister believes should be performed in the garden at the request of members' families. We do not recommend that outside groups use the garden for events at this time.

Church-related small outdoor gatherings. We understand the need of many to return to face-to-face small gatherings when it is reasonably safe to do so. As summer approaches, we think that if the guidelines we describe are followed, it is reasonably safe for leaders of such groups to schedule, organize and oversee small group gatherings in the garden. Note that such leaders must undertake significant responsibilities for these events since our staff is already stretched thin to meet other church needs. Our guidelines are:

- Applicable CDC and Massachusetts guidelines shall always be followed. In addition, masks shall always be required of attendees until further notice. Although churches may have more ambiguous guidelines under CDC or state guidelines because of First Amendment sensitivities, King's Chapel should follow the guidelines applicable generally to everyone else. See <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-state-of-emergency#limits-on-gatherings>. These guidelines may change over time, but in any case based on measurements performed by one of our Task Force members no more than 50 people should ever be at an event in the garden even if state guidelines allow more.
- The Parish House will not be used except for the ground floor restroom. Entry and exit will be through the garden door onto Branch Street not the main entrance on Beacon Street. The group leader will always schedule a date for the event "weather permitting," and will be responsible for cancelling if necessary. If the weather changes during the event the group will end its gathering and leave via the back exit; it will not relocate inside the Parish House. The restroom will be wiped down and sanitized within 24 hours after the event by our sexton.
- The group leader will be responsible for scheduling the event with the Parish Administrator, registering all attendees (taking names and contact information) in case of any need for contact tracing, moving chairs from the inside back of the Parish House to the garden for the event, setting them up in a socially distant manner, replacing them in the Parish House after the event, and furnishing the registration information promptly to the Parish Administrator.
- We are unsure of whether wifi bandwidth will exist for Zooming the event to persons who cannot attend. The group leader should check and test this in advance if Zooming of the event is needed. If the group chooses to use Zoom the group leader will be responsible for bringing the necessary equipment for this purpose.

Memorial services. We also understand the pastoral need of the Senior Minister to minister to grieving families of members who have lost loved ones. This need does not serve as precedent or exception to our recommendation that non-church related group events be delayed for now.

- All of the above guidelines are applicable except that a family member or friend will act as the group leader for purposes of registering attendees, checking for face masks and the like and adhering to the 50-person limit (or fewer if required by CDC or state requirements). The church sexton will handle the setting up of chairs and the returning them to the Parish House.
- If the family desires a tent to guard against inclement weather, they will be responsible for arranging and paying for the tent. Use of a tent may reduce the 50-person (or fewer) limit when applicable social distancing requirements are adhered to.

For further planning, we hope and expect we can return to in-person church traditions on Homecoming Sunday, September 19, 2021.

- We also hope and expect that WiFi service, cameras and other infrastructure can be installed before Homecoming Sunday. We reiterate that videoing church services while also conducting in-person services is not feasible for our ministers and staff. Being able

- to livestream in-person church services will accommodate those parishioners who for whatever reason do not wish to or are unable to be a part of larger groups of worshipers.
- Our priority is the safety of our parishioners and staff. To this end we expect to consult with a public health expert regarding the detailed plans for returning to in-person church services we will recommend to the Vestry at the appropriate time this summer.
 - Such plans will include protocols regarding masking and other public safety measures as best practices for larger groups gathering in indoor spaces such as our church with ventilation similar to that of our church. (Last fall our ventilation system was upgraded from a passive one air-exchange per day to an active one and one-half air exchange per hour.)
 - Our plans will comport with recommendations of Massachusetts and Boston public health officials; our plans may exceed those requirements as appropriate.
 - For the initial reopening period, we expect that congregants wanting to attend will pre-register so we can meet capacity limits as well as provide information for any contact tracing.
 - For the initial reopening period, we will make recommendations regarding whether or not to limit in-person attendance to those who are fully vaccinated and to give priority to those who are parishioners and their guests.
 - As the pandemic runs its course we expect our plans for in-person church service will evolve from plans established for the initial reopening period.

Respectfully submitted,

The Reopening Task Force

Heinrich, Christensen, Stephen Courtney, Gretchen Horton Alison LaRosa, Cathy Price, Dan Taylor

REPORT OF THE KING'S CHAPEL MEMORIAL PROJECT

This past year the Kings Chapel Memorial Project continued its focus on exploring ways to help us achieve our mission of uncovering, acknowledging, and sharing the truth of our church's historical connection to slavery and enslaved individuals in colonial Massachusetts.

Formed as a result of research done by the director of the KC History program, Faye Charpentier, and under the leadership of our senior minister, the Memorial Project has been tasked with the work of determining how to memorialize this very difficult truth in ways which acknowledge our past and provide witness to our current efforts toward achieving social justice and racial reconciliation.

Two committees, one which is focused on the creation of a physical memorial to our history, and another which is working on the creation of a living memorial which would demonstrate our current/on going efforts, have been formed and are chaired by former senior wardens Miguel Ibanez Gomez and Cliff Allen respectively.

The work of both committees has been to develop guidelines, ideas, concepts, strategies and recommendations for creating memorials which acknowledge the truth of our history and also demonstrate how we as a community of faith might honestly reckon with our past and create a more equitable future.

In April the Memorial Project sponsored two community conversations with the wider congregation to report on the work of the committees and to solicit feedback from members. In both instances turnout was strong, conversation and dialogue was energetic, inquisitive, constructive, reflective, and supportive. Many parishioners offered thoughtful ideas and suggestions with respect to next steps in the process. Summaries from both meetings are included with this report.

Looking ahead, the Memorial Project is preparing to take next steps in this process as we continue to explore pathways which will bring us closer to our goal of transforming thoughts and ideas into tangible and real life examples of how, working together and through faith, we as a church might build bridges of understanding, equity, and justice. At each step along this journey, congregational support and feedback will be solicited and encouraged.

Dean K. Denniston, Chair
Kings Chapel Memorial Project

King's Chapel Memorial Project
Dean, Denniston, Chair
Discussion Brief

On Thursday, April 15th, an impressive group of twenty-three King's Chapel members gathered to discuss the continuing development of the King's Chapel Memorial Project. Following a prayer led by David Waters, our Minister for Education and Membership, Dean Denniston initiated the presentation of the work completed to date, focusing first on the exploration of our history as a parish before turning to the work of the two Sub-Committees since our last parish convocation - the Physical Memorial led by Miguel Gomez Ibanez and the Living Memorial led by Cliff Allen – each of whom provided a sense of the considerations of their members during the past year.

Miguel indicated that his sub-committee considered both the role and the nature of a physical memorial, reviewing the work of other institutions from universities to churches and historical sites seeking to address the issue. Ultimately they began to focus on King's Chapel's unique story and consider the potential of a public versus a private installation, all of which led to the question of intention, i.e., to promote reflection, inspiration and hope, serving as a catalyst for discussion. With that, the team began to focus on process, considering the feasibility of hosting a competition versus pursuing a particular designer. This development ultimately led to an exploratory conversation with two representatives of MASSDesign, the firm that created the Lynching Memorial in Alabama.

Similarly, Cliff indicated that members of his sub-committee, too, built on our unique story seated within the historical context of the region through consideration of the legacy of our forbearers' direct engagement with enslavement. To be sure, the 219 individuals identified through our baptismal, marital, burial records were included, and yet their experience of King's Chapel was quite different both in terms of the sacraments and the seating. With this knowledge and understanding, we must continue to learn from the past. As a result, the living memorial should reflect our mission and priorities through four themes - faith, freedom, tolerance and justice – with a focus on restorative justice, acknowledging the harm done, restoring justice and equity, and transforming lives. This focus informs consideration of programming potentially involving partnerships, scholarships, educational programming and a speaker series.

Acknowledging that broad-based support is essential to move forward, virtually everyone contributed to the discussion which followed, expressing support, asking questions, making comments, and sharing personal experiences. While it is impossible to reflect the richness of that conversation here, it was clear that those participating recognized the importance of King's Chapel efforts to share our story in concert with our role on the Freedom Trail, inviting reflection and engagement, even as we continue to determine how to go about the work of restoration and repair in the community. To that end, a plethora of thoughts and ideas were generated including the possibility of:

- Developing partnerships with the historically Black churches in the city;
- Continuing the exploration of enslavement and its impact on our church;

- Sharing our story with others via the Freedom Trail and Mass Historical;
- Sharing our work with other UU parishes, e.g. in the History and Heritage Society journal;
- Taking our lead from others, e.g., UUA, Episcopal Archdiocese of Maryland, colleges, etc.
- Inviting engagement across the parish to move forward for change in our city without guilt;
- Being realistic about the work we can do together and the ways we can make progress;
- Focusing on ‘charism’ to promote restorative justice, not guilt;
- Collaborating with those affected by the legacy of slavery to determine how to proceed; and
- Determining next steps forward with consideration of the support necessary to ensure success.

Perhaps another reading of Amanda Gorman’s Inauguration Poem will inspire us with regard to the ways in which we at King’s Chapel, with confidence, understanding and engagement ‘step into’ and work to repair our history.

King’s Chapel Memorial Project
Dean Denniston, Chair
Discussion Brief

On Thursday, April 29th, the Memorial Committee hosted a second conversation regarding the continuing development of the Memorial Project with about forty parishioners, some of whom had also participated in the initial conversation two weeks earlier. Following an opening prayer led by Joy Fallon, our Senior Minister, Dean again provided background on the Memorial initiative as a context for updates from the chairs of the Physical Memorial, Miguel Gomez Ibanez and the Living Memorial, Cliff Allen.

Miguel indicated that his committee posed four key questions to guide their thinking: what is the purpose of the memorial, what type of memorial is appropriate, how public should the memorial be, and what is the point of the memorial? Acknowledging our unique story, a physical memorial might be either generic or specific; located within the sanctuary or in the courtyard; crafted in a traditional or contemporary style as representational or abstract. Ultimately, the memorial should raise questions and provide opportunity for reflection, serving both as a catalyst for discussion and as a point of inspiration and hope. With parish support, the Committee will move forward on logistics with the development of a design process and consideration of costs and funding.

Cliff underscored the discovery of the truth of our parish engagement with slavery through our archives, the complicity and of our early parishioners and the silence that

followed. With that legacy, the committee indicated that the living memorial should reflect our mission and priorities - faith, freedom, tolerance and justice – and seek to transform lives through a series of initiatives which might include partnerships, educational programming, speakers and/or scholarships. With reference to the many suggestions garnered from the previous discussion he noted the ubiquitous support of those participating in these efforts to recognize our history and its role today as we endeavor to seek the truth, accept the consequences, and make amends on the path to a more equitable future.

With that background, during the discussion which followed, the following comments and suggestions were made:

- As part of the larger eco system in Boston, our engagement with other institutions in the City would increase the opportunity to expand our impact, whether they are historically Black churches, the Freedom Trail, the Black Heritage Trail, etc.;
- The physical memorial should be representational and specific to King's Chapel, perhaps including the names of the known enslaved, and connect to our faith, perhaps through the Confession in the Prayerbook; and
- The living memorial might consider involvement in community action projects, investing in sustained policy change in key areas directly affecting quality of life issues, e.g., housing policy.

When asked where folks think we should go from here, the participants suggested that we: lead with our faith, engage more members of the parish in the development effort, reach out to our colleagues in the City's Black churches and organizations, develop specifics for the memorials, consider funding prospects, contract a project manager, and keep everyone informed with opportunities to provide input along the way. Above all, we need to make sure the parish is fully supportive of the work we are doing at every step of the journey. The upcoming Annual Meeting provides the next opportunity to do just that!

As one parishioner said: this is a big undertaking and I am proud that we are moving our faith into action!

Slavery History and Memorial Project Timeline

From the website hub of related content and resources

2016

King's Chapel History Program, under the leadership of History Program Director Faye Charpentier, begins digging deeper into researching King's Chapel's history with slavery. This research project follows prior incomplete, preliminary research and Harvard Law School's decision to revise their crest in response to the school's financial ties to King's Chapel member Isaac Royall, Jr. the largest enslaver in colonial Massachusetts.

2017

In late 2016 and early 2017, the History Program creates prototypes for new interpretive signage to be displayed during tourism hours that incorporate new research regarding the role of slavery in the growth and development of King's Chapel and Boston.

Clergy engage in conversations with History Program, seeking to learn more history about the central role of slavery in the development of Boston's and New England's economy.

New interpretive signage is introduced to the History Program's interpretation in July 2017 and tours are revised to discuss the church's history with slavery.

In Fall 2017, the History Program presents a summary of initial findings to the Wardens and Vestry of King's Chapel, advocating for further work to be done in studying and grappling with this history.

Throughout 2017, the History Program collaborate with clergy to begin the process of engaging the congregation with the church's history of slavery, including attending tours and events at the Royall House and Slave Quarters in Medford, and Rev. Fallon preaching her first sermons in October that share historical research about the church's funding as it relates to slavery and the slave trade.

2018

King's Chapel organizes a congregational reading group of *Ten Hills Farm: The Forgotten History of Slavery in the North* by C.S. Manegold, which explores enslavement and complicity in Massachusetts as it relates to the Medford estate owned by both John Winthrop and Isaac Royall, Jr.

Continued research uncovers the names of over 200 enslaved women, men, and children connected to King's Chapel. After History Program staff propose incorporating a sign in the chapel to display the names of each enslaved person connected to King's Chapel, the clergy begin discussions about the possibility of installing a permanent memorial in the chapel to acknowledge the church's history with enslavement.

In the summer of 2018, an Ad Hoc Committee is established to deepen understanding of the church's history with slavery, share this information with the congregation, and discuss memorialization with the following charge:

"To recommend to the Vestry and congregation how we might honor and memorialize those enslaved individuals who appeared on our rolls, and/or those enslaved persons, known and unknown, whose unpaid labor and personhood was cruelly used to accumulate the wealth that built and maintained our building and congregational life"

The Ad Hoc Committee continues to meet through Spring 2019.

Committee Members and congregational leadership participate in an anti-racism training focused on identifying privilege in Fall 2018.

2019

On behalf of the Ad Hoc Committee on King's Chapel and Slavery, the History Program Director compiles a historical report summarizing her research findings in Spring 2019.

In Fall 2019, clergy and History Program staff collaborate in developing a November sermon series and post-service lectures, as well as the presentation of the Ad Hoc Committee's report to the congregation. Throughout the month, the ministers incorporated the History Program's research into their sermons during a 4-part sermon series, and Morning Prayer was followed twice with history events, featuring Harvard Professor Catherine Brekus and King's Chapel History Program Director Faye Charpentier.

2020

In January, the Ad Hoc Committee hosts a conversation about moving forward after Morning Prayer and gained a list of members interested in working towards both "living" and "physical" memorials acknowledging the church's history with slavery.

In March, the History Program hosts a guest lecture with National Park Service ranger Eric Hanson Plass, exploring the life of Lancaster Hill, a free black man married to an enslaved woman at King's Chapel, who petitioned the Massachusetts Legislature to abolish slavery.

The History Program develops public programs exploring various aspects of King's Chapel's difficult history with slavery, including a exploring the existing memorials in King's Chapel and collaboration with the National Park Service throughout the year. A online exhibit exploring slavery and King's Chapel is introduced in May 2020.

Throughout Summer 2020, members of King's Chapel participate in protests in support of Black lives, following the murders of Black Americans at the hands of the police, including George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmuad Arbery, and Tony McDade. King's Chapel displays a Black Lives Matter banner outside the chapel.

In Summer 2020, committees dedicated to the creation of memorials to commemorate the enslaved individuals connected to King's Chapel regroup, following a hiatus at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.

2021

History Program virtual events continue to explore King's Chapel's connections with slavery, particularly in a 19th century context after the abolition of slavery in Massachusetts.

King's Chapel co-sponsors the Confronting Racial Injustice program series in conjunction with the Northeastern University School of Law Criminal Justice Task Force, Massachusetts Historical Society, and other Boston-area organizations.

The Living Memorial Committee and Physical Memorial Committee make recommendations to the congregation and leadership of King's Chapel. Conversations will be held to discuss these reports throughout April 2021 and will be formally presented at the Annual Meeting in May.

Kings Chapel Memorial Project

Dean Denniston, Chair

Cliff Allen

Faye Charpentier, director, KC History Program

Miguel Ibanez Gomez

David Waters

Physical Memorial Committee

Miguel Ibanez Gomez, chair

Stephen Courtney

Dean Denniston

KC Dalton

Chris LaRoche

Todd Lee

David Waters

Tom Wintle

Living Memorial Committee

Cliff Allen, chair

Carol Genovese

Kathe German

Julie Hyde

Amanda Pickett

Cathy Price