



ANNUAL REPORT on the STATE OF THE PARISH

June 2023





**Annual Meeting
of the
Society of King's Chapel
Sunday, June 4, 2023
6:00 PM via Zoom**

Warrant for the 2023 Annual Meeting of the Society of King's Chapel

The Annual Meeting of the Society of King's Chapel will be held for the purposes of:

- (1) electing Members of the Vestry, Committee Chairs, and the 2024 Nominating Committee;**
- (2) hearing reports from Parish Leaders including the Warden, Minister, and Trustees, the Parish Council and Committee Chairs, and the Memorial Committee;**
- (3) seeking congregational support to move forward with the realization of the memorial as proposed; and**
- (4) addressing any new business that may come before the members of the Society.**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Meeting Agenda.....	5
Report of the Wardens and Vestry	6
Report of the Minister	8
Report of the Trustees	10
Report of the Parish Council	11
Adult Religious Education	
Archives	
Building and Grounds	
Chancel	
Church School	
Community Action	
Denominational and Ecumenical Affairs	
Environmental Action Initiative	
Fiscal Affairs	
Hospitality	
Membership	
Music	
Nominating	
Personnel	
Stewardship	
Report of the Nominating Committee	27
Report of the Memorial Project	28

**2022 ANNUAL MEETING
The Society of King's Chapel
Sunday, June 4, 2023
6:00 PM via Zoom**

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER	Katherine German, Warden
INVOCATION	Reverend Joy Fallon, Senior Minister
APPOINTMENT	Parliamentarian - Robert Gulick
REPORTS	
Wardens and Vestry	Katherine German, Warden
Ministers	Reverend Joy Fallon, Senior Minister
Trustees	Samuel D. Perry, Eugene H. Clapp, and William W. Park, Trustees
Parish Council	Michael Bergeron, Chair
History Program	Marissa Cheifetz, Program Director
ELECTIONS	
Nominating Committee Report	Sylvia Soderberg, Chair
VOTE to Accept Nominations	
MEMORIAL PROJECT REPORT	
Memorial Committee Report	Dean Denniston, Memorial Project Chair
VOTE to Proceed	Cliff Allen, Living Memorial
NEW BUSINESS	Members of the Parish
CONCLUDING PRAYER	Joy Fallon, Senior Minister
ADJOURNMENT	Katherine German, Warden

Report of the Wardens and Vestry

As always, it has been another exciting year at King's Chapel, and it was perhaps fortuitous that our theme this year was *Faith Into Action!* First and foremost, we emerged from the pandemic, stronger, and surely more agile than ever as we now move from zoom to room and back again with alacrity! Who could have predicted that we would be 'vaxed' and 'masked' for two years, and that now this experience becomes another story to be told in our 337 year history! Officially beyond the pandemic's reach, we are returning to our beautiful sanctuary filled with the spirit, buoyed by the music, and blessed with the presence of our members and friends and the community we love. We offer tremendous gratitude to our dedicated Reopening Task Force, chaired by Dan Taylor, that, with a steady hand, guided us through a host of unexpected challenges to successfully re-open and, once again, enjoy the intimacy of our beautiful sanctuary and the warmth and fellowship of our parish community.

Over the course of the past year, the Vestry - Pat Bass, Alison LaRosa, Mary Katherine Morn, John Natoli, Betsy Peterson, Cathy Price, Anne Sexton, Sylvia Soderberg, and Gregg Sorenson – worked closely with our Ministers, the Treasurer, the Parish Administrator, and our intrepid King's Chapel staff to support the programs and services that move us, improve our lives, and connect us with deep spiritual nourishment upon which we thrive. Our meetings were filled with thoughtful discussion, yielding decisions large and small concerning the budget and our committee structure, our archival collections policy, our communications needs, and our engagement with congregational sponsorship. Within this framework, three particular initiatives deserve special mention: our annual budget process, our committee structure, and our Memorial Project.

Improving the budget process. Over the past few years we have been working to improve and refine our budget development process, and this year was no exception. In 2022, we brought a multi-year retrospective to our budget considerations to assist in establishing a post-pandemic perspective for new budget development. This year we refined our budget process further, beginning during the summer with the review and refinement of our budget principles and planning assumptions as well as the status of expenditures-to-date for parish administration and programming. Central to this process were our Treasurer, Dorie Seavey; our Fiscal Affairs Chair, Amanda Cegielski; our Parish Administrator, Gretchen Horton, and our Parish Council including Michael Bergeron, Chair, and each of our Committee Chairs. This information, in combination with an update on our stewardship effort provided by Alison LaRosa, Stewardship Committee Chair, connected us to the funding of our work and provided us with helpful insights as we moved forward with the development of the 2023 budget. Thereafter we initiated new budget development by creating a series of projections and scenarios, vetted and discussed with the Vestry over the course of three months to come together and finalize a proposed balanced 2023 budget. This budget, which met our key criteria, was approved first by the Vestry and subsequently by the congregation at the Annual Budget Meeting in January. At this juncture, despite some unexpected occurrences such as staffing changes and the Parsonage kitchen fire, we are on pace for another successful year with your generous financial support. Thank you all for your consistently increasing stewardship – it is your love and support that is critical to the future of King's Chapel and ultimately makes the difference!

Reconsidering our committee structure. Likewise, this year we assumed the unprecedented task of considering adjustments to our committee structure with three goals in mind:

first, we sought to ‘right-size’ the array of committees to align with our needs and interests; second, we sought to energize parish initiatives around emergent community interests and concerns; and third, we sought to increase support for those who take on the leadership mantle. Beginning last fall, members of the Vestry and Parish Council worked together throughout the year to identify our needs, interests, and priorities; consider alternatives and options to the traditional structure; and work to identify refinements intended to decrease the number of committees without compromising opportunities for volunteering or circumscribing the services we value. As you will see in Michael Bergeron’s Parish Council Report which follows, we are on pace to complete this project this month, essentially decreasing the number of committees by four and by absorbing the functions of those four into other committees or within Parish administration. Simultaneously we have also recommended a new category of “Special Interest Groups” that is intended to capture key areas of Parish interest such as the Partner Church, the Memorial Committee, the Communications Task Force, and a new crew of volunteers to decorate for Christmas and Easter currently named ‘Deck the Halls’. Over the course of the year ahead we hope to implement the new Committee structure as we continue to consider how best to support our leaders and energize our work together to carry us into the future. We are grateful to the members of the Parish Council for their support and thoughtful participation in this effort, and to the members of the Vestry for their guidance and affirmation. Now we’ll see how she flies!

Supporting the Memorial Project. Our Memorial Committee made enormous strides last year. Chair, Dean Denniston, provided steady, patient, and wise leadership, creating multiple milestone opportunities for congregational involvement and feedback over the course of the year. In the fall, Vestry members, along with available Trustees, viewed the proposed design prepared in collaboration with our partner, MASS Design, on the basis of previous congregational discussions, a presentation subsequently shown to the entire congregation through one of several congregational conversations hosted over the course of the year. Thereafter, regular updates on the work of the Committee were provided, inviting members of the Vestry to share their thoughts, comments, and suggestions directly. Once again, the Vestry discussions were thoughtful and respectful of divergent views, just as the congregational conversations have been, a testament to the respect we have for one another and our spiritual home. We look forward to supporting the decision of the congregation as the Memorial Committee seeks our affirmation.

Clearly 2023 was a year of tremendous growth and change. We are grateful for all who continue to invest their time, talent, and treasure to nurture the King’s Chapel community. And we trust that we will intensify our efforts to put our *Faith into Action* in the year ahead. Finally, I want to thank the members of the Vestry, the Ministers, the Parish Council Chair and the Parish Administrator for their unswerving collaboration and support. It has been an incredible pleasure to work with such a talented and passionate team dedicated to King’s Chapel. It keeps us all!

Respectfully,
Katherine German, Warden

Annual Report from the Senior Minister

For ten years I have been graced to be a part of this community. Together we seek to serve the Eternal One, who has sustained us for 337 years. I am grateful for all of you, the kindness you share widely, your warm welcome of all, and the many ways I learn from you.

This year I have learned in many ways. The Environmental Action Initiative has taught all of us about the nexus between our faith and the climate tragedy; about the urgent call to radically change our lives within -- our very souls --in order to change the world without; and the practical, essential steps we must take, both as individuals and as a faith community, to save our planet and all life upon it. EAI calls us to put our faith into action.

I've also learned from your elected leadership committed to the Memorial Project. I witnessed the care with which our current Senior Warden and her three predecessors led us to a decision on the proposed physical memorial. Throughout, congregation members were respectful and kind to one another, even when they disagreed. Your leadership worked hard to be transparent, to listen carefully to different perspectives, and to bring members together for conversations so all could learn from each other. I applaud your process for this decision.

In worship, during Lent we again read a litany naming the 219 people enslaved by our past ministers and members. During Holy Week we hosted all of our traditional services, adapting well to the availability of fewer volunteers. Generally, attendance has been lower since the Pandemic both at Morning Prayer and our larger holiday services, but this spring we've enjoyed the fellowship of more tourists and outside visitors again coming through our doors. People continue to be interested in attending King's Chapel and are often impressed with our liturgy, especially our professional musicians. We are richly blessed by Heinrich Christensen and our choir.

This spring we are experiencing some transitions, an opportunity to engage again in this spiritual practice: remembering that life always entails change, and God will see us through in ways as yet unimaginable. The parsonage kitchen and a bedroom underneath are being rebuilt after a fire generated by old electrical heaters. It's a major job, and I'm grateful to the Building Committee for undertaking it. We also are transitioning with three staff. Recently we hired a new sexton, Chelsea Millsap, and in the next 1-2 months, we will be hiring a new Assistant Minister and a new Parish Administrator. David Waters has been my clergy companion for four years, laughing with me and supporting me, so his departure leaves a big hole. However, our entire church honors the decision he and his wife Mandy Rice have made to both pursue ordination in the Episcopal Church. We wish him well, with thanks for his ministry among us. Another transition will require us to say goodbye this summer to Gretchen Horton, our gracious and very effective Parish Administrator for 7 years. Gretchen makes an enormous difference in my life daily, but not only in my life: she's touched countless other lives at King's Chapel with her kindness, responsiveness and deep commitment to keep our church operations running smoothly. Gretchen is a woman of prayer, which has always undergirded her work at King's Chapel, and therefore has undergirded all of us.

By fall, we'll have another exciting new start to our church year. The members of King's Chapel are steadfast, and will keep our programs thriving -- from the prayer group to Environmental Action, from careful financial decisions to festively decorating our church, from planning the long-awaited trip to our Partner Church to weekly bible study, and so much more. We continue to

gather a beloved community. Together, with God, we dream of that all our church can be for our city.

Respectfully submitted,
Joy K. Fallon
Senior Minister
June 4, 2023



King's Chapel Trust Funds Annual Report for 2022

On December 31, 2022, the market value of the King's Chapel General Pooled Fund stood at \$31,698,677 as compared with \$35,627,007 at the end of 2021. Equities accounted for 96.2% of the portfolio at year-end with the remaining balance of \$1,195,707 being cash held in an interest-bearing account. The value of the portfolio depreciated by some -9.1% over the preceding twelve months. This performance compares to the -6.9% recorded by the Dow Jones Industrial Average and the -18.1% drop in the more broadly based Standard & Poor's Index of 500 Stocks. Hence, despite the continuing challenges of COVID-19 and its variants, the Ukraine/Russia war, high inflation, and numerous economic challenges, the General Pooled Fund's investments generally fared well on a relative basis despite depreciating in value during its most recent year.

The General Pooled Fund generated \$584,324 in dividends and interest net of expenses for custody, investment management and taxes over the twelve months, an increase of some \$67,990 from a year ago. Distributions to the Society (and payments incurred on its behalf) totaled \$541,539. This sum included a premium payment of \$56,271 to the Great American Insurance Group for property and liability insurance coverage. For the first time in many years, the disbursements to and for the Church's operations fell within the endowment income generated. This allowed for a net transfer to Principal of \$12,534 at yearend as opposed to 2021's net withdrawal of \$156,091 from unrestricted Principal to cover Distributions to the Society. Additionally, Principal gift additions totaling \$7,500 were received into two of the General Pooled Fund's restricted endowments during the year. As a result, the unrestricted portion of the endowment did not decrease and still stands at just over 41%.

Along with the General Pooled Fund, the Trustees oversee the Society's General Reserve Fund. This portfolio had a market value on December 31, 2022 of \$640,554 versus \$858,601 one year earlier.

The Trustees meet periodically with the Wardens and Treasurers to discuss the General Pooled Fund and its ongoing support of building maintenance and Society activities. They also maintain the longstanding relationship with Fiduciary Trust Company as investment advisor/custodian of the General Pooled and the Society's General Reserve Funds. The Trustees receive no compensation for their services.

In closing this year's report, the Trustees wish to recognize the Society's progress in ensuring that Contributions to the Annual Appeal better cover the Society's operations so that the General Pooled Fund Income may again be directed primarily towards the necessary maintenance of the Church building as called for under the Indenture of 1907 and that of the two Beacon Street properties without diminishing Principal. To withstand the ravages of high inflation, the General Pooled Fund's investments must be permitted to appreciate.

Respectfully submitted,

Eugene H. Clapp
Trustee

William W. Park
Trustee

Samuel D. Perry
Trustee

Report of the Parish Council

Parish Council has provided a range of services, activities and initiatives to address the needs of King's Chapel, its' Ministers and Leadership, the Vestry and the Congregation. Efforts spanning the internal and external life of the church have all been consistent with and driven by our stated priority mission of 'Putting Faith Into Action'. The details of their work are shared in the individual Committee Annual Reports contained in your packets.

In the interest of brevity, this report will focus upon the year-long endeavor to restructure governance by the council committees which has been in place for decades. The need for such a change had become increasingly evident by questions related to: 1) the relevance of each of the committees, 2) the need for a dedicated and discrete committee, 3) growing challenges in finding volunteers for committee chairs, 4) efficiency and effectiveness, 5) alignment with today's needs and priorities

Kathe German, Senior Warden, in concert with other church leaders including Rev. Joy Fallon initiated discussion of restructuring over one year ago. A commitment was made to begin an effort led by Kathe German and this writer, Michael Bergeron-Parish Council Chair beginning with discussions with Parish Council Chairs, leading to engagement of and collaboration with the Leadership Team; comprised of Kathe German - Senior Warden, Rev. Joy Fallon - Senior Minister, David Waters – Minister of Education, Dorie Seavey – Treasurer, Michael Bergeron – PC Chair, and Gretchen Horton – Parish Administrator; and the Vestry.

Consensus arrived at indicated using identified needs, interests and priorities of King's Chapel as the principal drivers of the process for identifying needed committees and appropriate allocation of staff resources. After a number of iterations and refinements, the attached summary document has received the support of all of the participating constituent groups noted above. The new structure has a total of 11 committees, a reduction from the current 15. Chancel Committee, Denominational and Ecumenical Affairs Committee, Fiscal Affairs Committee, and Personnel Committee all cease to exist as discrete committees with all previous functions either reconceptualized, realigned or collaboratively reallocated. Please see 'Notes' section of attached Summary Document for more specific detail.

On behalf of King's Chapel's Leadership, Vestry and members I extend gratitude and appreciation to all Parish Council Committee Chairs: Tim Nelson-Hoy (Adult Religious Education); Karen Taylor (Archives); John Bowman (Buildings & Grounds); Anne Sexton (Chancel); Sarah Graber (Church School); Elizabeth Foster (Community Action); Stephen Courtney (Denominational & Ecumenical Affairs); Amanda Cegielski (Fiscal) Affairs; Sylvia Soderberg (Membership); Amy Meyer (Music); Dan Taylor (Personnel); Alison LaRosa (Stewardship) Kent Wittenberg (Environmental Action Initiative) Cliff Allen, Dean Denniston, and Miguel Ibanez-Gomez (Memorial Project). Lastly, I would be remiss not to extend thanks to all of the Parish Council Committee Members (see committee reports for lists) for their service to the Parish Council and King's Chapel. Thank you all!

Respectively Submitted by, Michael Bergeron, Parish Council Chair

Overarching Needs and Activities of King's Chapel



Explanatory Notes:

- Chancel functions would be absorbed by staff in collaboration with the ushers.
- Denominational and Ecumenical Affairs would merge with Membership.
- Fiscal Affairs responsibilities would shift to the Parish Council Chair and Treasurer.
- Personnel would become an administrative function with the appointment of search committees for key positions.
- Hospitality would focus on coffee hour and special events.
- Environment becomes a discrete committee.
- Special worship service preparation and decorating, aka Deck the Halls, would become a Special Interest Group.
- Special Interest Groups might include: the Communications Task Force, the Memorial Project, the Partner Church, and, possibly, the Prayer Circle; these groups would be organized, recognized and led by interested members with appointed leadership in an effort to provide increased opportunity for new interests to emerge and engage parishioners.
- Initials of committee chairs follow committee name above.

Implementation would follow with the support of the Parish Council and the Vestry and begin immediately, allowing the Nominating Committee to act accordingly and the Warden to announce the development to the congregation at the Annual Meeting. Beginning in the fall, the Parish Council would include both committees and special interest groups.

Report of the Adult Religious Education Committee

In the 2022-2023 working year, the Adult Religious Education Committee remained dedicated in its mission to deepen our religious and spiritual development, to cultivate discourse on meaningful topics with our members, and to support and pass on the traditions of the Society of King's Chapel.

Committee members this year were Tim Nelson-Hoy, who chairs the committee, Kent Wittenburg, Emma Healy, Carol and Emanuel Genovese, and Betsy Peterson.

Our year started off with a bang last spring, as ARE organized a well-attended and well-received retreat on Cynthia Perkins' beautiful land, providing ample opportunities for reflection and connection after two long years of isolation. This was followed in December with "Quiet Day" retreat in the Parish House, giving congregants opportunities for contemplation and wonder during the Advent season.

We continued our series of book groups this year, with discussion groups during Advent for "What's Left of the Night" and during Lent for "Between Midnight and Dawn." And, in possibly our most extraordinary book group in recent memory, our multi-week discussion of the poetry of Regie Gibson culminated in a rousing performance, by the artist himself, to a packed house in the Little Chapel.

Regie was not our only special guest this year, as King's Chapel member Heather Fraser Fawcett led "Speaking the Unspeakable," in which she spoke movingly about her time working with refugees, and how we can best love others, and ourselves, under some of the most difficult circumstances imaginable.

The Environmental Action Initiative (EAI) also organized a strong slate of events this year, which will be its last as part of the ARE before it takes its well-deserved place as a fully independent permanent committee under our new structure. EAI events included congregational conversations on conservation law with Brad Campbell, finance and the environment with Scott Buddy, as well as hosting an earth-friendly pot luck in April. The EAI also led a GOTV effort in November. Please see the separate Environmental Action Initiative report for details.

Ongoing activities remained mostly the same as the previous year, with Bible Study and Theology on Tap remaining well-attended and highly valued, although sadly only Bible Study will be continuing in the immediate future as Theology on Tap is on hiatus until the new Assistant Minister comes on and decides how and if they wish to continue it.

The ARE committee already has more in the planning stages, from retreats to discussion and study groups to possibly even a third ongoing weekly event. We look forward to your suggestions, feedback, and participation in the coming year.

Submitted by,

Tim Nelson-Hoy, Chair



Report of the Archives Committee

The King's Chapel Archives are in good shape, partly due to some of the previous archivists with help from Gretchen Horton. During this year we have pruned materials that were in the archives room but should not be. Miguel Gomez-Ibanez is fabricating shelves for the large breakfront enabling us to store books that have belonged to various ministers. We don't want to discard them, but they are not truly suitable for the archives. The King's Chapel historians, who are more experienced than we volunteers at archival matters, have made suggestions and have helped me decide what to do with some of the materials.

We now have an archives policy in place that has been approved by the vestry. We will soon have a location for the books that take up too much space on the table and floor of the archives room. And in preparation for the next yearly budget, I will ask for funds to hire a professional archivist for a few hours a month to assist me in making decisions, adding new materials and keeping the archives in good condition.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Cord Taylor, Archivist

Report of the Buildings and Grounds Committee

The role of the building and grounds committee is to oversee the operation and maintenance of three properties: the Church at 58 Tremont Street, the Parsonage at 63 Beacon Street, and the Parish House at 64 Beacon Street.

The membership for the past year has been Stephen Courtney, Miguel Gomez-Ibanez, Sally Brewster, Sam Perry, and John Bowman, chair. B&G works closely with staff including the Parish Administrator Gretchen Horton, and the Sexton Chelsea Millsap. The Committee also communicates with the Trustees, the de facto owners of the buildings, through Sam Perry, a Trustee and member of the committee.

The current primary activity of the committee is the restoration of the fire damaged portions of the Parsonage at 63 Beacon Street as a result of a kitchen fire this past February. Demolition of the fire damaged portions began on May 22. Members of the committee are developing plans and specifications, and soliciting proposals from general contractors, to complete the renovation by September 1st.

About 50% of the B&G budget is devoted to utilities, another 6% to services. Capital expenses totaled some \$17,725: \$9,750 for replacement elevator parts for 64 Beacon, \$3,480 for heating and plumbing repairs for 64 Beacon, \$3,450 for replacement of the overhead door enclosure, and \$1,045 for the overhead door motor replacement, both at 64 Beacon.

Anticipated work at 58 Tremont includes a quote of \$7,150 for gutter repair and slate replacement. The committee also anticipates spending about \$8,000 for an energy audit and recommendations for energy conservation and conversion for the three properties.

Respectfully submitted,
John Bowman, Chair

The Report of the Chancel Committee

The Chancel Committee spent time this year planning and decorating for our two big services, Christmas and Easter. Many hands joined together to decorate the chapel for both seasons, and greens and flowers brought much life and light to the chapel. Many thanks to our regular chancel committee members Cathy Price, Becky Wittenburg and Kathe German, led by chair Anne Sexton, who helped tremendously with these events.

The Chancel Committee is also responsible for assuring that supplies are available, and for setting up for worship services including monthly Communion, special Holy Week services, All Saints/All Souls Sunday, and any other service that may need assistance. We are grateful for staff member Laura Zeugner for ordering flowers weekly, and for staying on top of all needs for chancel.

Respectfully,
Anne Sexton, Chair/gh

Report of the Church School Committee

We returned to all in-person events in the past year. Most of the popular seasonal events were held the same as years prior to the pandemic. The children of the Church participated in Advent crafts, Christmas service, Shrove pancake breakfast, Easter Crafts, and Palm Sunday. The Advent crafts event was held at the Parish House including brunch and making the Advent wreaths and other crafts, such as stained glass ornaments and cards. The children played important roles in the live nativity scene during the Christmas Eve Family service. The Shrove pancake breakfast was held at the Parish House following the Morning Light service at 11 AM, and was a huge success. We made pancakes, sausage, bacon, and had coffee and juices. This year we added an Easter Crafts event. For Palm Sunday, palm leaves were distributed by the children to members of the Church during both services. The children participated in the Palm Sunday service processional and readings.

Although the activities of the Church School were very different this year, we were able to have more in-person activities than the previous year in 2022, and we look forward to having more participation.

Unfortunately, we have no Sunday School at this point because it is not in the budget. I feel strongly we should be working on hiring someone this summer to start in September in order to keep the younger children interested in attending.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Graber
Church School Committee Chair

Annual Report of the 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 congregation spiritually via raising awareness of and dedication to meeting community needs and by being in proximity to those who are systemically under-resourced.

2023 Highlights

The Community Action Committee organized members of King's Chapel to make and serve 140-150 bag lunches and worship with our unhoused neighbors of *common cathedral* on average every other month. Each time, the committee organizes King's Chapel volunteers to order food and supplies, shop for the ingredients, and make sandwiches. The sandwich making and lunch packing takes place in the Parish House 10:00 AM-10:50 AM on the Sunday morning for which we have signed up. This year we have had 2 of our church school children engaged 4-6 of the times with their parents. Additionally, a King's Chapel volunteer packs their car with the and delivers the brown bag lunches to the *common cathedral* service beside Brewer Fountain on the Boston Common. At 12:30, King's Chapel parishioners and *common cathedral* staff distribute lunches to *common cathedral* parishioners, all have lunch together and then part take in the worship service at 1:00pm. The CAC welcomes and invites any King's Chapel parishioners and friends to participate in future volunteer sandwich-making and/or the *common cathedral* worship service.

Regarding the Louis D Brown Peace Institute, 16 parishioners and friends walked in the annual Mother's Day Walk 4 Peace on May 14th and raised \$8300 to benefit this organization's efforts to transform society's response to homicide. The donation page is still open until Father's Day for members and friends to contribute to the King's Chapel Team:

<https://www.mothersdaywalk4peace.org/Team/View/171964/Kings-Chapel-Team>

Looking Forward

The CAC is hosting a Father's Day PIANO ACTION concert to benefit the Peace Institute from 2 -3 PM on Sunday June 18th featuring our very own Heinrich Christiansen and also Bob Winkely. This was an amazing, rousing event last year which had attendees spellbound. A free will offering will be collected to benefit the Peace Institute.

On June 10, the CAC will host an opportunity for King's Chapel members and friends to show support for [Boston Pride for the People](#), 11 AM-12 PM at the Parish House. Those gathered will stand in front of the Parish House to cheer and display our "King's Chapel Supports Pride" banner as the parade passes en route to the Pride festival on the Boston Common at noon.

Considerations are underway for determining the collaborations between the developing work of the Living Memorial Project and the work of the CAC. Additionally, the CAC will be collaborating to deliver a workshop in the fall about gender inclusivity and liturgy.

The committee looks forward to continuing to build relationships with our partners, to increasing community engagement, and to collaborating with the Living Memorial component of the Memorial Project. Going forward, the CAC will continue to build upon direct service and relationship-building and improve upon doing so more effectively and with greater impact.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Foster, Chair

Carol Genovese, Emanuel Genovese, Stephen Fischer, Amanda Pickett, committee members

Tim Nelson-Hoy, friend of the committee

May 2023

**Report for the Denominational and Ecumenical Affairs
Committee, DEAC (Including the Partner Church
Subcommittee)**

1) Committee Role/Mission Statement

To foster relationships and engagement with the Unitarian Universalist Association and the wider church community, to preserve awareness of the religious roots of King's Chapel, and to preserve the partner church relationship between the Society of King's Chapel and the first (downtown) Unitarian Church in Kolozsvár (Cluj, Romania).

2) Membership & Staff Liaison

- Committee Members include:
Denton Crews (Chair of the Partner Church Subcommittee), Joy Fallon, Kathe German, Carol Kemp, Bill Kuttner
- Committee Friends include:
Cliff Allen, Emma Healy, Tim-Nelson-Hoy, Chris LaRoche, Cynthia Perkins, Betsy Peterson

3) Activities & Key Accomplishments

- Planned and executed our 100th Partner Church Celebration in June 2022. - As Chair of the Partner Church Committee, Denton Crews led the development of a reduced version of the proposed centenary celebration of the partnership between King's Chapel and the Downtown Unitarian Church of Kolozsvár given the war in Ukraine. Denton is also key to our Partner Church Sunday preparations for this June 4, 2023.
- Denton has also led the planning and logistics of our King's Chapel Delegation trip to Romania planned for this June 7th through the 17th. The delegation anticipates deepening our Partner Church relationships and sharing our learning with the larger KC congregation through several events/activities in the coming year.
- Kathe German has continued her participation with the UUA Quarterly leadership gatherings for members of New England Region parish boards. The New England Region (NER) staff seek to be thought partners with congregations as they discern direction and navigate tensions. As regional staff, they try to keep ears to the ground to discern patterns playing out in our congregations, sharing stories of breaking through, holding firm, making meaning, and keeping faith.
- DEAC is following the progress of the UU International Collaboration Initiative in revisiting the former International Council of Unitarian and Universalists (ICUU) and the Unitarian Universalist Council of Partner Churches (UUPCC) towards the creation of a single body with international reach.

4) **Budget & Future Plans/Initiatives**

- As this committee is slated for decommissioning, working out the logistics of a merger without burdening the already full mission of the Membership Committee.
- Continue to research and develop written materials which expands on our common Christian Unitarian history with Hungary, Romania (Transylvania), Poland and England.
- Support the Partner Church concept with other UU congregations in our region.
- Envision possibilities for in-person exchanges facilitating our Partner Church to visit Boston in the near future.
- Explore relationship with the UU Christian Fellowship.
- Find a way financially to further support the UUA.
- Participate in the Pittsburgh, PA UUA General Assembly June 21-25, 2023 virtually.

By Committee Chair, Stephen E. Courtney



Report from Hospitality Committee

While the church was closed during the Covid-19 pandemic, Hospitality events did not take place. Last summer, three King’s Chapel members - Cathy Price, Anne Sexton and Gregg Sorensen – met to bring the program back to life, giving members a chance to experience fellowship after church and enjoy a delicious meal with old and new friends from our community. Coffee Hour has been held after Morning Prayer since last September. Mike Bergeron has generously made the coffee, and numerous members have generously provided both savory and sweet treats. Members and friends of King’s Chapel gathered for two festive luncheons: Homecoming in September and Milk Punch in December. Cathy Price, Anne Sexton and Gregg Sorensen wish to thank the many volunteers and friends who participated.

Submitted by,
Gregg Sorensen

Annual Report of the Membership Committee

The Membership Committee, in conjunction with the ministers, identifies and fosters the attracting, welcoming and enrolling of new members. In company with the Hospitality Committee and others, it helps to build connections and community among the members. This year's committee members were Gregg Sorensen, John Appleton, and Cathy Price and Sylvia Soderberg, Chairwomen.

January was new members month. We gathered for an informational dinner, catered as a gift from John Appleton. Prospective new members learned about King's Chapel's history from historian/educator Emily Chastain, its structure and culture from Senior Warden Kathe German, and its Unitarian Christian theology and spirituality from our Minister, Joy Fallon. Two newer members, David Fisher and Felicia Kisselberg, spoke about their experiences of King's Chapel. The meeting was held both in person at the Parish House and as a Zoom meeting for out-of-towners accessibility.

At the January 22nd service of Morning Prayer, we welcomed Meg Perkins Ames, and Steve Oddo and Alecia Carey and their two children as members of King's Chapel. The next induction ceremony will be at Morning Prayer on June 4, when we will welcome John Devine.

Our budget this year was \$150. This amount is expected to cover flowers at the welcome service.

We hope for a larger scope and energy, perhaps coordination with other committees, for the Membership Committee in 2003-04. Our members are stretched due to the small numbers in the congregation and the need to cover several jobs. Perhaps some of our newer members can help. In addition, we've thought about generating a new descriptive brochure which could be given to potential members (not the general tourists/visitors)

Respectfully submitted,

Sylvia Soderberg, Chair
May 5, 2023



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MUSIC COMMITTEE

The Music Committee supports our Music Director, Heinrich Christensen, and the King's Chapel Concert Series (CS) by fundraising and promoting the series; selling tickets and ushering at the concerts. Current Music Committee members are: Bob Gulick, Ray Hardin, Carol Kemp, Amy Meyer, *chair*, Mary Sears, Sylvia Soderberg, and Gregg Sorensen. We are delighted to be part of King's Chapel's splendid music program and among its devoted fans.

The Concert Series offered a robust program of six concerts (vs. the usual five) including Handel's splendid "Alexander's Feast," very generously sponsored by the Schochet Family, which had had to be postponed twice due to Covid. This was followed in the fall by a glorious Brahms Requiem, and then by a program entitled "Counterpoint," pairing Bach works with those of more recent composers, such as Florence Price, James Woodman, and Larry Bell.

The three concerts in the second half of the season were devoted to the late Daniel Pinkham, KC's longtime previous Music Director, founder of the Concert Series, and prolific composer himself, on his 100th anniversary. We celebrated "Pinkham:100" with three programs: (1) a pairing of Pinkham works with those of local contemporaries, Carson Cooman and Graham Gordon Ramsey; (2) Pinkham songs by soloists from the KC choir; and (3) "Renaissance man," highlighting Daniel's role in the rediscovery of Early Music movement.

We were delighted to welcome appreciative live audiences at each of these six concerts, and we are very grateful for the generous support of our donors (whom we call "Guarantors") who sustain these beautiful concerts. Our Music Director/Heinrich is already thinking about the 2023-24 season, and this committee will reach out to our audiences, friends, and donors... KC members and non-members alike... later this summer with information about the coming season and a request for continued support.

The Music Committee is not part of the church's budget, and so raises the funds (approximately \$55,000 from about 70 donors this year) which support the Concert Series, beyond ticket sales and overhead assistance from the church.

Your chair greatly appreciates all contributions, suggestions, and comments.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Meyer, *Chair*
May 2, 2023



Report of the Stewardship Committee

The King's Chapel Stewardship Committee (Alison LaRosa, Chair, Michael Bergeron, and Gregg Sorensen, supported by Parish Administrator Gretchen Horton) is charged with raising approximately one-quarter of King's Chapel's annual operating income through soliciting financial contributions from members and friends of the church. This income is critical to supporting King's Chapel's mission in a variety of ways: Community Action and environmental programs, Adult Religious Education and KC Kids (Church School), Sunday worship music, hospitality and new member activities, archival supplies, staff salaries, and other operating needs are all enhanced by your gifts to Stewardship. What better opportunity is there than the annual meeting to hear firsthand the outcomes of our collective support?

Thanks to the great generosity of our parish community, Stewardship achievement for the budget year ending December 31, 2022, surpassed \$300,000 for the second year in a row with a total achievement of \$300,623. Despite continued worldwide economic challenges, you made King's Chapel a priority for your giving. These gifts came from 132 supporters at an average gift of \$2,304. Outreach via email, phone, and Between Sundays went right up until December 31 to ensure that no one missed the opportunity to join in! We are grateful to everyone who participated in last year's campaign, and their names are included with this annual report. We also thank those who shared their personal "Faith in Action" stories as part of last fall's campaign. These testimonials were well received, and we intend to continue with a similar approach going forward.

Our Stewardship goal for calendar year 2023 is \$300,000, a goal that we know is achievable with every member's participation—and one we hope to surpass! As of mid-May we are 42% toward our goal through a combination of pledges, sustaining (recurring) gifts, and gifts made by check, credit card, plate, gifts of stock/securities, donor advised funds, and IRA charitable distributions from those over age 70 ½, to name a few. There are many convenient ways to participate in Stewardship, and you can learn more about them at our giving site, kings-chapel.org/giving. Thank you for your contributions thus far!

Planning for the rest of the year's outreach is well underway in close collaboration with the church's leadership team. Stewardship's annual budget of \$2,700 is lean, but we make every effort to maximize it by pairing printed mailings with free communication tools, including word of mouth. This year, we are taking special care to tailor communications that acknowledge the reader's relationship with Stewardship. If you have not made your 2023 Stewardship gift or pledge yet, the committee encourages your prayerful consideration and action today. Each gift is vitally important!

Finally, we wish to take this opportunity to thank Parish Administrator Gretchen Horton for her tremendous contributions to the smooth operation of our Stewardship efforts. As David Waters would say, "Our giving is our delight"—and with Gretchen's professionalism and positivity, the committee's work is a true delight as well.

Respectfully submitted by Alison LaRosa, Chair, 5/22/23



Alison LaRosa,
Stewardship Chair

Thank you to all the members and friends who participated in King's Chapel's 2022 Stewardship campaign with gifts made between January 1, 2022, and December 31, 2022:

Anonymous (4)	Kate and Andy Ebbot	John Natoli
Patricia Ahern	Oliver and Margaret Egleston	Timothy Nelson-Hoy
Clifford Allen	Robert and Joy Fallon	Paula O'Keefe
Wendy Almquist	Heather Fraser Fawcett	Nancy Osgood
John Appleton	Barbara Fay	Katherine Page
Thomas Appleton	Stephen Fisher	Lark Palermo
Bernardo Aumond and Meaghan Hamilton	Lorna Forbes	William Park
David Barlow	Carol and Emanuel Genovese	Cynthia and Dick Perkins
Christopher Barnett	Kathe German and Denton Crews	Louise Perkins
Lynn Baskett	Miguel Gomez-Ibanez	Samuel and Melissa Perry
Patricia Bass	Judy Green	Betsy Peterson
Joseph and Nancy Bassett	Robert Gulick	Amanda Pickett
Michael Bergeron	Raymond Hardin	Heidi Pickett
George Boitano	Harriet Hofheinz	Cathy Price
Nell Borgeson	Gordon Holmes	Jenny Rankin
John Bowman	Earl Holt	Carolyn Russ
Patricia Brennan	Joan Hunt	Suzette Schochet
Sally Brewster	Julie Hyde	Hugh Scott
Walter and Charlotte Buchanan	Dorothy Johnson	Faith and Carl Scovel
John Buehrens	Frank Kearns	Rebecca Scovel
Amelia Burke	Carol Kemp	Dorothy Seavey
Lucyanna Burke	Adelaide Ketchum	Patricia Sharaf
Alecia Carey and Stephen Oddo	Elena Kingsland	Judith Sizer
Charlotte Carlson	Felicia Kissleburg	Margaret Smoragiewicz
Amanda Cegielski and Christopher Allen	James Knowlton	Sylvia Soderberg
Anne Chace	Cynthia Korb-Wellington	Gregg Sorensen
Beth and Walter Chapin	Jennifer Kronstain	C. Allen and Hallie Speight
Leicle and Janet Chesser	Jane Kuchefski	Daniel and Karen Taylor
Eugene and Meredith Clapp	Alison LaRosa	Michael and Nancy Tooke
Sharon Clark	Henry Lee	Anita Turner
Peter and Vicky Coccoluto	Todd Lee and Karen Dalton	Lee Veal
Alan Cody	John Nichols Loeb	Dorothy W. Waldron
Catherine Collishaw	Marc Loustau	John and Beverly Wand
Jeanne Conerly	Betty Lykins	Stephen Washburn
Bonnie Ayers D'Orlando	Sharon Malt	David Waters and Mandi Rice
Nina Danforth	Alecia Manning	Marie Wells
Carol Deane	Corey Merriman-Morris	David Wheeler
Dean Denniston, Jr.	David Messner	Ned Wight
Charles Dietrick	Amy Meyer	Jonathan and Sydney Winthrop
Janie Duncan	G. Russell Miller	Thomas Wintle
	Mary Katherine Morn	Kent and Becky Wittenburg
	Kelly Murphy Mason	Levina Wong

If you would like your name to appear differently on a future Stewardship list, please contact Alison LaRosa, Stewardship Chair, at alison.larosa@gmail.com.

Report from the Nominating Committee

Under the Bylaws, annually the Nominating Committee prepares a slate of candidates to replace officers, vestry members, and chairs of committees and Parish Council who have resigned or whose terms are expiring. The names of nominees in the charts below in *bold italics* will be voted upon at the Annual Meeting. The Nominating Committee wishes to thank all members whose terms are ending for their service to King’s Chapel.

Our Leadership Team, supported by the Parish Council and the Vestry, has reviewed and merged various committees. As a result, the Nominating Committee has left unfilled several former committee chair positions: Chancel Committee, Denominational and Ecumenical Affairs, Fiscal Affairs, and Personnel. Chancel Committee will be absorbed by staff and ushers, Denominational and Ecumenical Affairs will merge with Membership, Fiscal Affairs responsibilities will shift to the Parish Council Chair and Treasurer, and Personnel will become an administrative function.

OFFICERS	3-year term, renewable once	Term Ends	Renewable
Warden	<i>Betsy Peterson</i>	2026	Yes
Warden	<i>Stephen Courtney</i>	2026	Yes
Treasurer	<i>Cliff Allen</i>	2026	Yes

VESTRY 3 Year Term, Non-renewable

John Natoli	2025	
<i>Kathe German</i>	2025	(In Betsy Peterson’s Place)
Sylvia Soderberg	2025	
<i>Amanda Cegielski</i>	2026	
<i>Allen Speight</i>	2026	
<i>Felicia Kisselburg</i>	2026	
Patricia Bass	2024	
Alison LaRosa	2024	
Mary Katherine Morn	2024	

PARISH COUNCIL	2-year term, renewable once	up in 2023	up in 2024
Chair	Michael Bergeron		yes, term limited
Adult Religious Education	Tim Nelson-Hoy		yes, renewable
Archives	Karen Cord Taylor		yes, renewable
Buildings and Grounds	John Bowman		yes, renewable
Church School	Sarah Graber		yes, term limited
Community Action	Elizabeth Foster		yes, renewable
Membership	Sylvia Soderberg		renewed in 2023
Music	Amy Meyer		renewed in 2023
Stewardship	Alison LaRosa	yes, renewed in 2023	yes, renewable

Nominating Committee members serve one-year terms nominated by Wardens and Vestry, typically including one from the previous committee.

Signed: 2023 Nominating Committee: Cliff Allen, Cathleen Price and Sylvia Soderberg, May 4, 2023

Report of the Memorial Committee

The Kings Chapel Memorial Project has had a very busy year as we continue on our journey towards the establishment of a memorial to acknowledge and honor those enslaved individuals connected to Kings Chapel and its history.

This past year saw an increase in work on both parts of the memorial with the committee focusing much of its energy and efforts working with our partner, MASS Design, and also with the artist, Harmonia Rosales, to refine and finalize the design of the physical memorial.

The revitalization of the living component of the memorial received a major boost with the return of Cliff Allen to his role as chair of that subcommittee. Cliff and his committee have hit the ground running and are developing a strategic plan for reaching out and connecting with potential community partners to determine how we might work together to initiate, sponsor, and support a variety of programs and activities.

The memorial committee also devoted a significant amount of time and effort towards keeping Vestry and church members apprised of our mission and our progress. These efforts included periodic congregational conversations which were held in November, January, April, and May. These meetings provided opportunities for the committee to present updates, respond to questions, address concerns and sticking points, and listen to suggestions. ,

Additionally, the committee developed an inquiry survey which was mailed to all members with the goal of soliciting congregational feedback related to the concept, design, placement, impact, and cost of the memorial. The purpose of the survey was twofold. First to gather feedback from members regarding the aforementioned areas, and second, to provide an opportunity to those congregants who might have been reluctant to speak out within a group situation to be able to freely express their thoughts and feelings within a more relaxed and personal setting away from the group.

Based on the response from these meetings it is clear that there is a wide range of support for the memorial. This support was clearly demonstrated at our most recent congregational meeting with a very strong vote of approval to move forward with the proposed memorial design to a more formal vote at the annual meeting.

At this point in our journey we are limited in what we can next accomplish by two factors. First, for us to continue with this project, a formal vote at the annual meeting to move forward with the proposed memorial design is necessary. Second, raising the funds to fund the memorial is essential and also quite challenging.

A formal vote to continue our work will free us to move forward with more energy and direction. We will be able to begin fund raising, and also begin making connections with community partners to listen, learn, create, sponsor, and participate in programs and activities which will move us beyond our own building and into spaces where reconciliation and renewal can take place.

To this point, at every point on this journey when we have gone to Vestry and to the congregation to ask for support for the work we are doing, we have received it. We are now asking for a formal vote of approval via the guidelines and parameters of the annual meeting for us to continue on.

A second major challenge to the completion of the memorial is its cost. We will need to raise funds for the design, installation, and maintenance of the memorial's physical component, and also for the programs and activities associated with the living memorial. We anticipate that we will need to raise in excess of one million dollars in the next 18 months to finance this project.

In anticipation of this fact, the committee is currently exploring possible fund raising options. We have formed a fund raising committee and are currently working with our partner, MASS Design to devise strategies and identify possible financial resources to approach.

At this point our fund raising activity is at a very early stage. This is an area which will require a great deal of discussion and planning, and going forward, we may need to bring in outside assistance to help us put together a workable plan.

All of this is of course contingent upon a vote on the attached motion at the annual meeting for us to continue on this journey.

Looking back, the past year has been one within which we, the memorial committee, have experienced moments of celebration, frustration, uncertainty, doubt, determination, and joy. Our journey has sometimes felt long and bumpy, and sometimes filled with unanticipated surprises.

Yet, despite these challenges, our commitment to completing this journey remains strong. We are anchored in our mission by the knowledge that the time for reckoning and reconciliation is now, by our faith in the knowledge that our work is being guided by a hand greater than our collective ones, and by the on-going support of our church.

The Memorial Committee

Dean Denniston, chair
Charles Allen
Marissa Cheifetz
Joy Fallon
Kathe German
Miguel Gomez-Ibanez
Mary Katherine Morn
David Waters

**Memorial Committee Motion
for
Congregational Affirmation
at the
Annual Meeting of the Society**

The following motion was presented at the Congregational Conversation held on May 7, 2023 and affirmed by a vote of 43 to 17; today the motion is presented for your official confirmation.

Whereas King's Chapel's legacy regarding slavery includes the enslavement of at least 219 individuals by its past ministers and members;

Whereas King's Chapel has spent seven years learning about, wrestling with, and discerning a faithful response to this legacy;

Whereas the congregation of King's Chapel commissioned a Memorial Committee to create both a living and physical memorial to honor those enslaved;

It is proposed that King's Chapel embark on a Memorial to the 219 individuals enslaved by its past ministers and members, and that this Memorial consist of a commemoration designed by Harmonia Rosales and a fund dedicated to advancing the work of repair and reconciliation in our community.

