

2026

**Shrewsbury Parish
Annual Meeting**

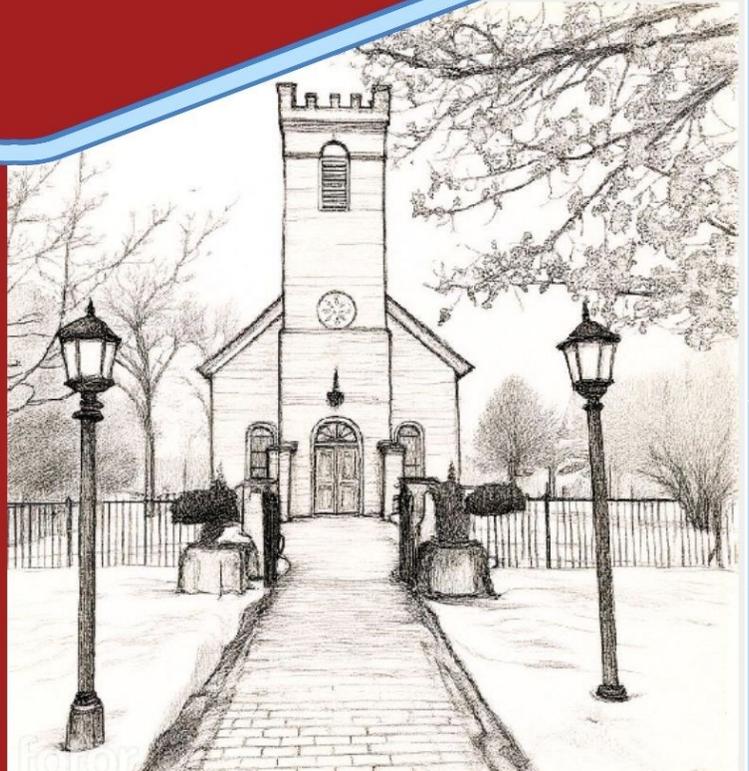


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The Ministers of Shrewsbury Parish Church

The Entire Congregation

Mr. David Murphy, Senior Warden

Mr. Rick Schelts, Jr. Warden

Mr. Rich Walls, Sexton

Mr. Rick Bacastow, Cemetery Warden

Mrs. Mary Lou Pagella, Treasurer

Mrs. Roberta Brown, Associate Treasurer

Mrs. Catherine Davis, Altar Guild

Ms. Pamela Quarstein, Acolytes Guild

Mrs. Karen Trout Reed, Daughters of the King

Mr. John Silcox, Ushers' Guild

Ms. Nicole Wagner, Registrar

The Reverend Marguerite Samuels, Social Ministries

Mr. Kevin Wekke, Minister of Music

Mrs. Elizabeth Carr, Administrative Assistant

The Very Reverend Henry M. Sabetti,

Rector/ Dean of Northern Convocation

The Reverend Stephan Klingelhofer, Priest Associate

The Reverend Marguerite Samuels, Deacon

The Right Reverend James J. Shand, Visiting Bishop

The Vestry:

Mrs. Jane Cropper 27, Mrs. Kelly Schelts 27, Mr. James Steveson 27,

Mrs. Katie Hughes 28, Mr. Bob & Mrs. June O'Connell 28,

Mrs. Kathy Bacastow 29,

Mrs. Deborah Geng 29 and Ms. Kimberly Fox 29

Vestry Biographies
Class of 2028

Mrs. Katie Hughes

Hi everyone, I'm Katie Hughes, and my family and I have been part of Shrewsbury Parish Church since 2005. Will and I were married here in 2008, and Maggie (12) and James (9) were both baptized at Shrewsbury. Some of our most meaningful family moments have taken place here, and we feel incredibly grateful to be raising our children in such a caring and welcoming church community.

Being part of Shrewsbury has shaped who I am in quiet but important ways. I've grown through shared worship, friendships, and simply showing up alongside people who genuinely care about one another. I value the strong sense of tradition here, as well as the openness to new ideas and fresh energy.

During the week, I teach science at Kent County Middle School. Working with middle schoolers is never dull — they keep me laughing and constantly thinking! I love helping students stay curious and discover that they are capable of more than they realize. Teaching has taught me how important it is to listen carefully, work as a team, and approach challenges with patience and a positive attitude.

When I'm not at school, I enjoy being outside as much as possible. Whether it's spending time with my family or coaching soccer, I love staying active and connected. Coaching has been a wonderful reminder of how much encouragement and teamwork matter, especially when young people are learning and growing.

If I'm given the opportunity to serve on the vestry, I would bring a steady commitment, a collaborative spirit, and a deep appreciation for this parish. Shrewsbury has meant so much to my family, and I would be honored to help support and strengthen the community that has given us so much.

Vestry Biographies
Class of 2029

Ms. Kimberly Fox

My name is Kimberly Fox. I was baptized at Grace Episcopal Church in Merchantville, NJ. I had my confirmation there as well. I was in Sunday School, Youth Group, and was an acolyte. I went to Cabrini College and got my bachelor's degree in special education and elementary education. I have a Masters in Education degree in Reading and Literacy from Walden University and Autism Spectrum Disorder from Grand Canyon University. I taught in the Autism program in Prince George's County for 9 years. While working at Rosaryville Elementary school I was the kindergarten team lead for 7 years, I was the PTL (parent teacher liaison), and was a part of the PBIS team. I tutored previous students that went on to get great grades. My parents and students enjoyed having me so much that they still keep in contact with me. I moved to Delaware in 2022 when I had my son Gregory. I am a single mother by choice. I had Gregory through IVF. It was a long journey but very worth it for the blessing God gave me. I now have worked in the RISE program in Appoquinimink school district for 4 years. I also work part-time at Panera Bread in Middletown. I recently built a house in Middletown for Gregory and I. Gregory was baptized at Shrewsbury, and he loves coming to church to see Father Henry and Father Steve. When he is not at church we love watching from home on Facebook where he follows along and participates with his amens and hallelujahs which he now does when he is at church. We also enjoyed cheering on the participants and Gregory running in the fun run, even though he came in last place. I look forward to working on vestry. It will be my first time working on one and I hope to bring new ideas to the table.

Vestry Biographies
Class of 2029

Mrs. Debra Geng

My name is Debra Geng. I was baptized at St. Johns Episcopal church in Camden, NJ. My parents later transferred to Grace Episcopal Church in Merchantville, NJ. I attended Sunday School and was confirmed there. I was married at Grace and served many duties over my time there. I was a Sunday school teacher. I also taught as a preschool teacher for a year in our preschool program at Grace church. We have a thrift shop at Grace and I volunteered twice a week. On Wednesdays, I went through the donations, put prices on them, and put them out in the shop. On Saturdays, I volunteered to run the register when the store was open to the public. My husband and I moved to Galena, MD in 2014 and we still volunteered once a month on Saturdays to help run the store. I also volunteered and worked at our annual fall fair each year. I served on vestry for a 3-year term in which, my last year I drove up each month to finish out my term. When I moved to Galena, I began working at the UPS store in Chestertown and stayed there for 8 years, passing Shrewsbury Church everyday. I decided to come to church at Shrewsbury one day and noticed many of my customers attend Shrewsbury parish. I loved the small church and the sermon by Father Henry and decided that this was now going to be my church. I have been attending Shrewsbury for 8 years and was asked to serve on vestry to fill in a spot in September for someone. I am looking forward to being on vestry for a full 3-year term. I have 2 daughters, April and Kimberly. I have 5 grandchildren, 3 granddaughters and 2 grandsons. I enjoy being with my family. Throughout most of the year my husband and I enjoy driving the golf cart around the neighborhood with Gregory while Kimberly is working at Panera. I also enjoy traveling, boating on the Chesapeake, walking and biking while enjoying the beautiful scenery where I live.

Vestry Biographies
Class of 2029

Mrs. Kathryn Adams Bacastow

My name is Kathryn (Kathy) Bacastow. I grew up in Hershey, Pennsylvania...Chocolate Town USA. I met my husband, Rick, in kindergarten. We were married just before our senior year of college. We now have a daughter, two sons and four grandchildren. After graduating from Davis and Elkins College I took a position as physical education and health teacher in Camp Hill, PA. We initially lived in Hershey, PA but Rick's job took us to Devon PA, Coral Springs FL, Setauket NY, and Wayne PA. When our children started school, I began working as a realtor in Wayne PA which gave me a more flexible schedule and was a realtor for over 30 years. When Rick retired, we moved to Kentmore Park. I served on the Kentmore Park Board and co-chaired the recreation committee and organized social and fundraising events. We have been active members of Derry Presbyterian Church where Rick and I were married, the Wayne Presbyterian Church, the Setauket Presbyterian Church, Saint David's Episcopal Church in Wayne, Saint Peters Episcopal Church in Malvern, and now Shrewsbury Church. I have been active in Shrewsbury Parish for over five years. I have served on the Vestry and very much enjoy and support our church. I have chaired the Crab Fest and co-chaired the Spring Fling. I am hoping as a member of the vestry I can be even more a part of moving the church in the direction Father Henry is leading us. I welcome lots of prayers to guide me in this direction.

SHREWSBURY PARISH
Kent County, Maryland

Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes
For year ending 12/31/2024
Sunday, March 2, 2025
10am after the 9am Service with Parish Breakfast
Last Sunday after the Epiphany

The meeting was called to order at **10:35 a.m.** with an opening prayer by Fr. Henry Sabetti.

In Attendance:

Approximately **32** members of Shrewsbury Parish were in attendance.

Opening Remarks

Father Henry thanked everyone in attendance. Thank you to all the men who helped arranged and cooked the breakfast.

Vestry Nominations

Father Henry thanked the class of **2025** for the dedication and hardwork. Stepping down from the Vestry are **Kathy Bacastow, Barbara Lloyd and Lucinda McCartan**. The new slate for the class of **2028** are **Bob O'Connell, June O'Connell and Ralph Van Dyke**. Their Biography's have been sent out via email and can also be found on pages **4-5** of your report.

Sue Coleman moved to accept the new slate of Vestry Members for the class of **2028**

Roberta Brown seconded.

No Discussion

All present were in favor.

All nominees were accepted, welcome to the Vestry Class of **2028!**

Review of 2024 Minutes

Kelly Schelts moved to accept the minutes of **2024** and dispense with the reading of the minutes, Included in Shrewsbury Parish Church Annual Congregational Meeting Publication for the Year Ending **12/31/24**.

Peggy Samuels seconded.

No Discussion

- Best minutes in the Dioceses.
- Best the Auditors have ever seen.
- Applause!

All present were in favor.

The **2024** minutes were accepted as submitted.

Rector's Report: Henry Sabetti

The Rector's Report was given, during the Sermon time this morning, at the 9am combined services of the Holy Eucharist.

Senior Warden's Report: David Murphy

As I reflect on my short time spent as your Senior Warden, I find myself thankful for the opportunity to help lead our congregation along its path of worship and service. Here are some quotes from my monthly vestry reports that help to communicate my thoughts and opinions about serving here at Shrewsbury:

- "The "magic or secret sauce" that made this event a success, was the " Can Do/Will Do" attitude of the Spring Fling team members."
- "This level of commitment and pride will serve us well going into the future...we may be small, but we are mighty!"
- "While we enjoy the benefit from a " strong volunteerism spirit" from a limited, but mighty group of parishioners, we need to find ways to invite and encourage others to join in."
- In a synopsis, we have been blessed, with what I like to say is our Strong Stewardship for Shrewsbury. This blessing was demonstrated many times over the past year with events like our Spring Fling, Crab Feast, our new "Chicken Processing" ministry and the service and support of our Vestry, Altar Guild, Ushers, Acolytes, Social Ministries, and parish members.
- For me, a clear theme emerged that articulates who we are and how we practice our faith and strive to serve. We may be small, but we are mighty and our faith can move mountains! This will be the key to our success going forward, as we confront the challenge facing all of organized religion, in terms of declining attendance.
- Following is a quote from an interview with Bishop Michael Curry, former Presiding Bishop of Episcopal Church, when asked about the declining attendance numbers:
- " Oh the numbers aren' t going to reverse themselves. Another way to say it is, helping the church to be transformed for the age in which it is, which has happened in Christian history before. Jesus is Lord and that ain' t changing. God is still God. The Spirit is still the Spirit. The faith isn' t changing-but how that faith gets transmitted and lived out and organized, that's changing for this age. What worked in the 1950s doesn't t necessarily work today. So why have that as an expectation of what the church should be? It served its time. The mission goes on, but how we organized for it, on a church wide basis, and at the diocese, and in the local congregation, that' s all going to change..."
- Bishop Michael Curry identified a call to action. The need for us to act now to plan our way to a vibrant future for Shrewsbury or become victim of not embracing the future and fall peril to "living in the status quo."
- There are many reasons for this decline (demographics, policy, post Covid era, etc..) and it's important for us to truly understand this new reality and embrace it with plans that will best position Shrewsbury to thrive and grow, by meeting the needs of our parish members and those of the community we serve with meaningful ministries.
- To that end, your vestry has heeded Bishop Curry's advice and is working on plans to ensure a vibrant future for Shrewsbury.

- We're calling this work "Planning Our Future." The work will be a journey over time, as it is a prayerful and planned approach.
- We will look at and question everything we do to make sure it serves our mission and vision of the future.
- To date, we have worked on our vision and mission statements, confirmed our core values, and conducted a SWOT analysis (a strategic planning tool that identifies an organization's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats) of Shrewsbury's "current state."
- Next week, we'll begin work on articulating our "future state" that Bishop Curry eluded too.
- Following that, will be the creation of actionable plans that will carry us into the future.
- My thanks to Father Henry and Lucinda McCartan for steering this important project along with me.
- Some immediate work, completed this year, was the creation of new job descriptions for our vestry officers and office staff. Having all new officers, these new and revised job descriptions were welcomed and will help to create clarity of roles and accountability to the parish.
- In closing, here is another quote from my one of my reports that expresses my gratitude and appreciation for my role: "I'd like to say to my Shrewsbury Family, that I am both thankful and grateful for the opportunity to work together on the Stewardship of this wonderful place called Shrewsbury. The work we are doing is exciting and meaningful and with our focus and intent, Shrewsbury will become stronger and better poised to meet the challenges of the future."
- You are all welcome to reach out to me with any questions.
- Vision Statement:
 - To grow our presence and support within our community through God's work with meaningful ministries.
- Mission Statement:
 - Our mission is to joyfully radiate God's love through worship, hospitality, and service.
- Core Values:
 - Inclusive:
 - Welcoming all people without exception, meeting people where they are with respect and dignity.
- Service and Outreach:
 - Target the underserved in our community that means so much to us.
- Our Faith:
 - Tradition, scripture, and reason, unconditional and unwavering belief.
- Stewardship:
 - Accountability for caring and managing all that we have and do (Property and Ministries).
- Living the Spirit
 - Having fun, enjoying fellowship with others, while loving and serving God.
- **Discussion**
 - David Murphy stated that he see's the commitment the parishioners have everyday and he does really mean it!
 - We are a small but mighty congregation, we get things done!

- Thank you to everyone who works and all of our generosity through time or money or both.
- We have many challenges facing religion as well as the demographics of our county how both affect our congregation.
- Vestry has been going work monthly “Planning our Future” and revising our mission and vision and looking at our core and values.
- Reflecting on what is working and not working.
- We will give the congregation more information as we learn where we are and where we want to go to strengthen our community as a parish.
- We welcome and want feedback and suggestions from you!
- Blossom Tree for 2025
 - Security
 - We will be increasing security around the parish, rectory and the church.
 - Currently we have installed a ring camera and will be increasing security around the keys to the buildings.
 - This is just the beginning we will look at more ways that our security needs strengthening as the year progresses.
 - Increase internet availability
 - We need funds to increase our internet availability and dependability for the Parish Hall, Offices, Church and Rectory.
 - Working with Austin Parish to see what options we have at the moment.
- Spring Fling
 - We have begun selling tickets see David or a vestry member if interested.
 - If you want to help let us in anyway let David Murphy know and he will include you in the future planning meetings.
 - Donations for the silent auction are being accepted.
 - Buy tickets for yourselves, friends and family.
 - Advertising is available in the brochure for the evening event.
- Clean up yesterday!
 - Thank you for all the work that everyone did to clean up inside and outside for the meeting and making all look great!
 - Many hands make great work!
- Hoping by the end of month for a new hire of a cleaning person 2 people have expressed interest so far.
- Report submitted
- Report included in Shrewsbury Parish Church Annual Congregational Meeting Publication for the Year Ending 12/31/24.

Junior Warden’s/Property Committee Reports: Rick Schelts

2024 in Review

- So here we are, annual meeting time again. I am not going to go into any details of the many, many maintenance projects done throughout the past year; but I will remind everyone that all

those maintenance chores, breakdowns, and whatever's all happen at the church and Parish Hall, and someone must take care of them.

- Now to the future.
 - There are many projects coming up this year. In the church there will be fixing and painting the baseboards under the heaters, repairing wall cracks, and painting. A big project is saying farewell to the Brown House, reminding everyone that the machinery and labor of removing the house is being donated, and the cost of the dumpsters for the removal will be paid for by the church, so don't be afraid to pitch in for the Bon-Voyage Party.
- **Discussion:**
 - Rick we do alot of stuff that needs to be fixed around here just like at your home when things break and need repair.
 - Sue Coleman - It is so great having an inside man and not having to call anyone when things break or need repair. Thank you Rick and Rich!
 - Brown House Demolition
 - Donations accepted to help offset the cost of miscellaneous fees associated with the take down of the Brown House.
 - Jenny Randolph: Do we have a Date for the Brown House destruction?
 - We are at the mercy of the crew who are in charge of the demolition and delivery of the roll back containers for the debris.
 - Henry Sabetti: Someone came last week and asked if they could take the copper from the furnace. Another individual came a took some of the extra furniture.
- Reports Submitted
- Reports included in Shrewsbury Parish Church Annual Congregational Meeting Publication for the Year Ending 12/31/24.

Cemetery Report: Ran Crawford

Cemetery Warden's Report to the Annual Meeting, March 2, 2025.

- Submitted by Roberta Brown on behalf of Ran Crawford
- The year 2024 was a time of transition for the Shrewsbury Parish Cemetery.
- Mr. Robert Busler retired from the position. Our many thanks to Mr. Busler for his years of service.
- Mr. Ran Crawford, our former Senior Warden, graciously agreed to become our Cemetery Warden.
- This past year we had the removal of a dying statuesque Oak tree behind the church. Fortunately, it was removed with no damage to graves or graveyard. In addition a Parish volunteer group gave graciously of their time for a day of clean up.
- **Discussion**
 - Henry Sabetti: Thank you Ran for all you do for us.
 - Henry Sabetti: Ran Crawford could not be here today as he has had alot of family conflicts recently.
 - The Cemetery is very important part of our church and the cemetery warden has a very big job keeping it looking nice and attending to future interest in plots.

- The tree that came down this fall cost approximately 9K, they did an amazing job taking it down and cleaning up.
- Henry Sabetti stated that there are many options for burial please contact Ran, Steve or Henry.
- Report submitted
- Report included in Shrewsbury Parish Church Annual Congregational Meeting Publication for the Year Ending 12/31/24.

Treasurer's Report: Roberta Brown and Mary Lou Pagella

2025 - Treasurers' Report

- The Vestry approved to recommend the submission of the 2025 Church and Cemetery Budget to the Annual Meeting during the February 2025 Vestry Meeting with a projected ordinary net income deficit of \$14,560 for the Church and a deficit of \$1,680 for the Cemetery.
- While overall operating and maintenance expenses were carefully managed and very close to budget, income fell below expectations.
- With the addition of non-cash depreciation expense of \$4,248, the year-end ordinary deficit was \$29,487.
- The offset in part by fund raising and other income, and the remainder covered by cash reserves generated by investment income.
- The Vestry made plans for increased awareness of pledge status and additional fund-raising activities in 2024.
- **2025 Budget Assumptions and Notes**
- ***INCOME BUDGET ASSUMPTIONS:***
 - The budgets for Estimated Donations are lower and Plate are higher for 2025 based 2024 actuals.
 - The 2025 pledge total remains the same as '24 with the hope that it will be achieved. However, the 2024 actual pledge income was less than pledged by almost \$13K, Pledges are our only committed source of income.
 - The total '25 Miscellaneous Donations budget is lower than '24 projected, again based on history. Revenue is the easiest to budget because it remains fairly static from year to year.
 - The exception is Rent Church/Parish Hall. Increased income could occur if the Parish Hall was marketed more aggressively as a venue.
- ***EXPENSE BUDGET ASSUMPTIONS:***
 - The Building & Grounds budget has increased reflecting the cost increases of almost everything in that category; ie. cleaning, electricity, oil, services, grounds maintenance and liability insurance.
 - The projected COLA has been added for Fr. Henry and our office assistant. The '25 Worship budget was also increased by \$450, again, to anticipate costs.
 - The General Expenses budget is higher for the same reasons.
 - The Diocesan Assessment decreased by \$36 over '24.
 - Outreach/Social Ministries budget is higher than '24 actual but not as high as the '24 budget.

- **Discussion:**

- The 2025 pledges were higher than any other year that Mar Lou has been Treasurer for the past 9 years.
- The number is important but not as important as the commitment that each of us have to the Parish and Church and the day to day operating of the Parish and Church.
- The total pledge number is important it gives us an insight as to what we have coming in to spend because there are so many ways that we don't know what is coming in for example; plate money, rental halls income and other donations.
- Expenses reflect daily cost increases and increases in pay to the paid staff.
- The Bible verse: Isaiah 6:8, "I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me." Reflects the members of our Parish and Church.
- Bob O'Connell asked if the number of people who pledged went up?
 - Yes the number of people who pledged went up and also the amount that people pledged has gone up as well! Shows a strong commitment to our parish and church!
- Roberta Brown stated : Our other assets such as the Hannah and Jack Fund (Donated a Violin, Echo Hill Camp) serves the needs of children in Kent County. This spring we are also using funds from the Fund to sponsor an Easter Extravaganza with Bayside Hoyas.
- Our finances are a narrative of our congregation. Another was just established and approved by the Vestry in March which will support sports for children in Kent County.

- **2025 Church Budget**

| | 2024 Actual | 2025 Budget |
|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| • Income | | |
| • Regular Donation | \$174,660 | \$193,712 |
| • Misc. Donations | \$22,478 | \$21,00 |
| • Revenue | \$14,177 | \$14,070 |
| • Income Total | \$211,315 | \$228,782 |
| • Expenses | | |
| • B&G | \$43,504 | \$46,590 |
| • Personnel | \$133,994 | \$138,010 |
| • Worship | \$7,529 | \$7,950 |
| • General | \$41,753 | \$39,080 |
| • Social Ministries | \$1,244 | \$1,600 |
| • Expense Total | \$232,271 | \$233,230 |
| • Difference | (-\$20,956) | (-\$4,448) |

- **2025 Cemetery Budget**

| | 2024 Budget | 2025 Budget |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| • Income | | |
| • Homecoming | \$500 | \$2000 |
| • Misc. Donations | \$2500 | \$3500 |
| • Other Revenue | \$18,000 | \$10,000 |
| • Income Total | \$38,325 | \$31,820 |
| • Expenses | | |
| • Homecoming | \$200 | \$200 |
| • Maintenance | \$26,200 | \$33,200 |

- **Miscellaneous** **\$250** **\$100**
- **Expense Total** **\$35,700** **\$33,500**
- **Difference** **(-\$2,625)** **(-\$1,680)**
- **Approval of 2025 Church and Cemetery Budget**
 - Kelly Schelts made a motion to approve to accept the submitted 2025 Church and Cemetery Budget
 - Carol Neimand seconded the motion to approve the submitted 2025 Budget.
 - **Discussion**
 - None
 - All Approved
 - The submitted **2025** Budget was approved to be accepted.
- Report submitted
- Report included in Shrewsbury Parish Church Annual Congregational Meeting Publication for the Year Ending **12/31/24**.

Reports of Guilds, Missions and Ministries:

Acolytes Guild: Pamela Ann Quarstein

Annual Report 2024-2025 Shrewsbury Parish Acolytes Guild

- Adeline Pechin (9 years old), our 10 o'clock faithful acolyte.
- Jim Stevenson our loyal acolyte at early 7:30 am service
- So, what does an acolyte do?? They can assist (follow) in worship by carrying a processional cross, lighting candles, holding the Gospel book, holding candles or "torches", assisting a deacon or priest prepare and clean the altar, swinging a censer or thurible (also named the thurifer) or carrying the incense boat, handing the offering plates to ushers, and many other tasks as seen fit by the priest or acolyte warden.
- Because we have a small team of acolytes in our parish, Shrewsbury's Lay Eucharistic Ministers can also assist in this role of acolyte, when needed.
- Help Wanted Please!
- Please consider the duty of an acolyte as a gift you can give to Shrewsbury!
- ALL AGES ARE WELCOMED. This can serve as an introductory experience for anyone learning about or deeply engaging with their faith, as this role not only helps the service run smoothly but also deeply involves individuals in the religious practices and traditions of our community.
- **Discussion:**
 - Just a note that we do not use incense in the church.
 - Robert Bryan suggested it could be nice to have it occasionally for people to experience it.
 - Carol Neimand suggested "outside!"
- Report submitted
- Report included in Shrewsbury Parish Church Annual Congregational Meeting Publication for the Year Ending **12/31/24**.

Altar Guild: Catherine Davis

Annual Report 2024-2025 Shrewsbury Altar Guild

- We have four teams that make up the Altar Guild.
- Each team takes a weekend a month to be in charge of all the behind the scenes set up and clean up for the Altar.
- We are also on duty for Weddings and Funerals, sometimes it's everyone pitching in to help, other times only one of us is available.
- Carol Miller and Maria Marshall set up for Sunday service every week. Carol also washes and irons the white linens. (which is no small task).
- Our other team members are Wendy Davis, Harriet Silcox, Sue Coleman, Lisa Raffetto and Jane Cropper. Pam Quarstein and Barbara Lloyd are our beloved substitutes along with Sue Coleman and Carol Niemand who are the Flower Co- Chairs.
- We are looking for new volunteers all the time. Please come forward if you are interested or give me a call at 410-708-1942
- **Discussion:**
 - We really need more help on the guild!
 - Can be a man who volunteers it does not need to be only women, men are welcome too!
- Report submitted
- Report included in Shrewsbury Parish Church Annual Congregational Meeting Publication for the Year Ending **12/31/24**.

Community Relations Liaison: Carol Niemand

Community Relations Report Shrewsbury Annual Meeting 2025

- I started out last year's Annual CRL Report with the announcement of the ending of the Fatherhood Group and the dismantling of the Kent Count Coalition for the Homeless with the resignation of President, Thad Bench, due to moving his business to Philadelphia. The Fatherhood Initiative under a grant from The Diocese of Easton lasted 6 months and served 12 men.
- The KCCH sheltered and fed 12 individuals, couples and families at The Driftwood and Courtyard for up to 2 years during COVID (2021, 2022). Both initiatives truly put Shrewsbury on the map of community service, beyond the walls of our little church.
- Fast forward to 2024, and I find myself currently wearing two hats:
 - The Community Relations Liaison for Shrewsbury Church
 - The President of THE SHELTER ALLIANCE, a 501©(3) fund under the Mid-Shore Community Foundation in Easton
 - Nothing I do in either role would be possible without the unwavering support of my Shrewsbury family. A particular debt of gratitude goes out to Father Henry for allowing me the platform of a sort of "town crier" for what's happening in Kent County and beyond, even though I sometimes rattle on too long. I am so proud of all of us, as we each try to serve those in need in our community in our own ways with our own gifts.
- Several items stand out that have survived the test of time over this year:
 - The Emergency Cold Weather Shelter
 - Food deliveries Tuesday and Thursdays

- Contributions to the SHOWER MINISTRY at Grace Church on the 2nd/ 4th Tuesdays from 3:30-5:30
- Nearly New – gave us socks and underwear
- Volunteer hours at THE SHELTER CLOSET (*opened January 2025 Wed/ Sat. 10-2:00)
- Coat donations: Jamie Barrett of Big Mixx; Mike Riggins of Hope Community Alliance/ Rock Hall
- Monthly Church Dinners (last Thursday of each month; rsvp in advance; location TBA)
 - Attendance at local government meetings:
 - The Kent County Town Council and The Kent County Commissioners
- What's coming up as we move into 2025?
 - The funding and hiring of an Executive Director for THE SHELTER ALLIANCE
 - Reincarnation of two postponed events:
 - Talk on Homelessness on the Shore by Jake Day, Governor Moore's Director of Housing
 - At The Lawrence Wetlands Preserve sponsored by Sultana and THE SHELTER ALLIANCE
- A Fall Benefit for THE ALLIANCE once a director is in place
- Mounting a fashion show for THE SHELTER CLOSET if we have it into April before Easter (*volunteers will be our models)
- Please look at your calendars and try to give an evening, a meal or an overnight to THE SAMARITAN SHELTER at one of the local churches (Methodist Church in February and The Presbyterian Church of Chestertown in March. We are signed up to do dinner on the 16th of March; contact Sue Coleman if you wish tom help. If you are able to serve in any of the following positions, contact james@chestertownnazarene.org or jdavis@sacreparish.org (* will send volunteer application when contacted)
 - Evening Host (2 per evening) 5:30-10:00pm
 - Dinner Volunteers (6:00pm; prepare a meal for shelter guests, yourselves and 2 volunteers); group serving should be no larger than 4
 - Overnight Volunteers (10:00pm – 8:00 am); bring own pillow and bedding As the weather warms up, we hope to organize a church clean-up day to include the cleaning and sealing of the outside tables. It remains a deep privilege to serve Shrewsbury in both arenas and attempt to bring our church from the pews to the broader community of Kent County. By our works shall we be known beyond the walls of our building. Each of you lives up to this wish.
- **Discussion:**
 - Ending of the Fatherhood Group under a grant from The Diocese of Easton lasted 6 months and served 12 men.
 - Currently wearing two hats:
 - The Community Relations Liaison for Shrewsbury Church
 - The President of THE SHELTER ALLIANCE, a 501©(3) fund under the Mid-Shore Community Foundation in Easton
 - Volunteer hours at THE SHELTER CLOSET (*opened January 2025 Wed/ Sat. 10-2:00)
 - Thank you Carol for all you do and have done!

- Report submitted
- Report included in Shrewsbury Parish Church Annual Congregational Meeting Publication for the Year Ending 12/31/24.

Daughters of the King: Karen Reed

The Sisters of Rebecca Matoaka Chapter of The Order of the Daughters of the King was instituted at Shrewsbury Parish Church eight years ago.

- Presently, six women are Daughters in this chapter and discernment study sessions for new Daughters are planned for this year.
- Women in the Order are between the ages of seven and one hundred and seven who desire a closer walk with the Lord. We are Christian women – both lay and ordained, and all at different stages on our Christian journey – who are strengthened through the discipline of a Rule of Life, and supported through the companionship of our sisters.
- Our primary goal is to know Jesus Christ and to make Him known to others. The Order of the Daughters of the King is based on the principles of prayer, service and evangelism.
- Sisters of Rebecca Matoaka participate in daily prayer, service projects, monthly meetings, retreats, and leading Morning Prayer services at Shrewsbury Parish Church.
- In addition, we enjoy an annual Christmas breakfast or dinner and conduct discernment study sessions for those interested in becoming a Daughter.
- Daily prayer is part of the vow of being a Daughter, and we find our prayer practice deepening as we pray for those on our prayer list, and for any who request prayers. Please send your prayer requests to the church office, place them in the collection plate during Sunday services, or email them to doksrmpayers@googlegroups.com or directly to any Daughter.
- Prayerful meetings are normally held the first Tuesday of each month and include meditation and singing in addition to prayers and business of The Order.
- Daughters are encouraged to attend the Province III retreat held annually in the spring as well as the Diocesan Retreat for Daughters held in the fall season.
- All Daughters from the diocese are welcomed to attend the National Convention of The Order of the Daughters of the King in Phoenix, Arizona in 2027.
- We anticipate with joy in our hearts the opportunity to continue prayer together as a part of our discipline, to serve the church and the community through service projects, and to help other women discern if being a Daughter is a part of their calling.
- Women interested in becoming a Daughter should call Karen Reed at 410-778-6114 or email her at kltr4096@gmail.com for more information, or visit www.doknational.org.
- Our prayers together have deepened our relationship with God, with our fellow Daughters, and our church community – and we invite you to share in this prayerful service to God.
- Current members of Sisters of Rebecca Matoaka are Karen T. Reed, Rev. Peggy Samuels, Pamela Quarstein, Christine Wallman, Trudie Groves, and Nicole Wagner.
- The Reverend Henry Sabetti is our chapter Chaplain. Karen is the President of the Chapter and Vice President of the Diocesan Assembly for the Order. Peggy serves as Membership Chair of the Diocesan Assembly. Church of the Holy Trinity in Oxford, St. Paul's, Kent in Chestertown, and Trinity Episcopal Church in Elkton are three other chapters in the Diocese, and plans are for additional chapters to be created throughout the diocese.

- The Order is completely self-funded by each Daughter and we contribute quarterly to the National Funds of the Order. The blessing of generous anonymous donations have been of great help in assisting us to serve and help others.
- **Discussion:**
 - Thank you Karen for your report!
- Report submitted
- Report included in Shrewsbury Parish Church Annual Congregational Meeting Publication for the Year Ending 12/31/24.

Social Ministries: Sue Coleman

Mission: to take care of our Family, Church, and Community. Led by the Holy Spirit, we will provide support, services, and resources using our talents, abilities, and energies.

- Members: Emily Cassidy and Sue Coleman, Jane Cropper, Father Henry, Katie Hughes, Carol Niemand, Bob O'Connell, and Rich Walls.
- Activities the Social Ministry Committee sponsored with support from the Shrewsbury Parish congregation and assistances from Elizabeth Carr.
 - Souper Bowl of Caring: \$897.00 to Ruby Rainbow to provide funds for Down Syndrome children to reach their fullest potential through scholarships.
 - Monthly AA treats-sweet treats are part of their recovery program.
 - Community Pantry- Bob reports food comes in periodically and he delivers it to the pantry in Chestertown as well as produce from the garden. Social Ministries Committee approved \$50 to Millington and to Chestertown pantries.
 - On March 14, 2024 we provided a meal of corn beef and all the fixings for the Samaritan Homeless Shelter for 8 people.
 - The Social Ministry Committee activated the Tool Box Project to provide meals for a Shrewsbury member recovering from surgery.
 - Horizon Summer Enrichment-Emily reported this is a program for enrichment for underprivileged children. Emily delivered lunch to Kent School to 24 children and staff. This year there were fewer children. Randy and Emily Cassidy provided and delivered the meals to the program at Kent School campus.
 - Chicken Processing - Our new endeavor has been taking on chicken processing and packing bags to be given to local families in need. John Queen met with the Social Ministry Committee and the monthly procedure was approved for sterilizing and vacuum sealing chicken pieces. Our first crew assembled June 15, 2024. At 5 PM 100 pounds of raw chicken pieces arrived in 10 boxes and with the guidance of John and his family; bags were ready for distribution. Beyond the Social Ministry Committee, members of Shrewsbury congregation have come forward to help with the process. Altogether in 2024 the 7-month crews have processed, sterilized, vacuum sealed and packed 432 bags of chicken pieces that were distributed to local Kent County families. A special thanks goes out to the farmer, crews, and those who provided supplies.
 - School Supplies- This year Chestertown Middle School was selected for providing school supplies of pencils, composition books, tissues and hand sanitizer.

- Thanksgiving- Nan Voorhees and Sue Edson work as a team to assemble all the food supplies, fresh and canned items into large bags for the 18 families including the Turkeys contributed by another person.
- Angel Tree- Emily Cassidy, Carol Niemand, and Carol Orange worked together to identify families this year with a total of 20 children who received a gift from a member of Shrewsbury congregation.
- Fire Departments- Funds were budgeted to provide \$50 to each of the fire Departments- Kennedyville and Galena.
- Thank YOU-ALL from the Shrewsbury Social Ministries Committee
- **Discussion:**
 - We always need help and welcome your help!
 - Always need sweet treats for the AA Meetings
 - The Chicken is a great experience, you have no idea how wonderful is to support so many families in Kent County
 - Please join us to help with the chickens
 - Next meeting 2nd Tuesday April 8 at 6pm
 - Please join our meetings!
- Thank you Sue Coleman for a great report!
- Report submitted
- Report included in Shrewsbury Parish Church Annual Congregational Meeting Publication for the Year Ending 12/31/24.

Spring Fling 2024: David Murphy

April 26, 2025 6pm

- Silent Auction and Steak Dinner for up to 100 people.
- Saturday, April 26th, 2025 is a proposed date for this year. (The Saturday after Easter)
- Our Spring Fling event will be a fun evening with a dinner and silent auction, complete with door prizes.
- Tickets are \$40.00 each
- We will be serving steak, potato, vegetable, dinner rolls and dessert.

Usher's Guild 2024: John Silcox

- The concept of an usher is not new. In the Old Testament, there were positions addressed as "Doorkeepers" or "Gatekeepers", and their roles were very similar.
- The church usher has various duties. Ushers may perform some or all of the following:
 - Seat guests
 - Collect the offering
 - Invite the congregants forward to receive communion in rotation.
 - Keep order at the entrance of the sanctuary
 - Distribute bulletins and service programs
 - Handle disturbances or emergencies.
- The Shrewsbury Church ushers are a dedicated and hardworking team. Ushers for the 7:30AM worship service are Randy Cassidy, John Silcox, Ran Crawford, Barbie Lloyd, Jack Withers

and Rich Walls. The 10 AM service ushers are Robert Bryan, Doug Hamilton, Lisa Raffetto, Kirk Wade and Peter Thayer.

- These individuals are to be commended for their service and willingness to step up as needed.
- The Usher Guild is especially thankful for the presence of Bill Irish and Mary Lou Pagella, both of whom remain ready in reserve in case a scheduled usher has a conflict.
- We are always looking for new people to be part of this important ministry. Again, this past year, we have continued to have some ushers leave us and are beginning to feel the declining numbers.
- We are constantly welcoming others to join us, Please contact John Silcox or another usher if you are interested. You would train with one of our ushers until you feel you are ready to serve on your own.
- **Discussion:**
 - We can always use more ushers; the training is free, no dues! It is free and fun!
 - It is an important ministry as the usher is typically the first person you see when we arrive at the church.
- Report submitted
- Report included in Shrewsbury Parish Church Annual Congregational Meeting Publication for the Year Ending 12/31/24.

Other Reports:

Heritage Society: Robert Bryan

Verbal Report for the Heritage Society

- A Sunday afternoon picnic is being planned in mid-May at the home of Robert Bryan, Jr. at Marsh Point Farm overlooking the Sassafras for current and prospective new members. The date will be announced.
- There are several ways in which you can elect to be involved. You have a number of choices in how wish to be remembered.
 - Several are:
 - Designate a percentage of your estate to go to the church
 - Contribute stocks or bonds to our parish from your investment portfolio
 - Donate a piece of property or a building
 - Give a valuable piece of jewelry or other antique (i.e. art or furniture)
- Looking to revive it for current members and get more parishioners involved.

End of Meeting Notes:

- Peggy Samuels: "Thank you for all the cards from the Pastoral Care Ministry it has lifted her spirits and she looks forward to getting the cards each month."
- Henry Sabetti: "Peggy Samuels is a gift we are so lucky to have her as a part of our congregation and ministry."
- David Murphy: "Thank you for coming and supporting our annual meeting."
- Ash Wednesday is March 5, 2025 with 2 services.

- Lenten Program: Retreat House will be offering a Lenten Offering which will include 10 minute daily video and a weekly video mediation. Shrewsbury, Emmanuel and Kent Rock Hall will be included. The presenter will be the Rev. Zina Jacque, minister at the Alfred Street Baptist Church in Washington, DC.
- Thank you to WGH Catering Company for today's delicious breakfast!
- Thank you To Steve and Kevin for all of there help throughout the year!

Adjournment of the Annual Meeting

Jenny Randolph made a motion to adjourn the Shrewsbury Parish Annual Congregational Meeting for year ending **12/31/2024 on Sunday, March 2, 2025** at 10am after the 9am Service with Parish Breakfast

Lisa Sabetti seconded the motion

No Discussion

The Shrewsbury Parish Annual Congregational Meeting for year ending **12/31/2024 on Sunday, March 2, 2025** at 10am after the 9am Service with Parish Breakfast was adjourned at 11:26am.

For the Good of the order, Father Henry adjourned the meeting at **11:26** am with the singing the doxology and a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Jene Wagner
Registrar



Senior Warden's Annual Report

"Our Faith Can Move Mountains"

WOW! 2025 feels like it just flew by in the blink of an eye. Maybe it's just me, but as I age, the years appear to go by faster and faster. While time may have appeared to move quickly, its pace did not deter us from leveraging both our time and gifts from doing the work God sets out for us to do.

As I reflect back on 2025 and the aggressive agenda we set for ourselves, as part of our SHAPING OUR FUTURE initiative, I am grateful for all we accomplished.

In last year's Annual Report, I noted a few qualities, that along with our faith, hope and prayer, lead us to our accomplishments with our ministries and stewardship for Shrewsbury.

Our collective service, stewardship and results of 2025, reconfirmed my belief, that we possess the qualities of a Can Do/Will Do organization, that doesn't act just because someone put it on our list of things to do, but because its the right thing to do! We know this, because our service is guided by our Mission, Vision and Core Values. This along with our belief in our abilities, drives our dedication to serving others.

Here are some highlights of our 2025 Service and Stewardship:

- Organized four successful fundraiser events:
 - Spring Fling
 - Homecoming
 - Crab Feast
 - Fall Fest & Run with Cemetery Tour
- Growing Spiritual Formation Ministry
- Sponsored Bayside H.O.Y.A.S Easter Eggstravaganza
- Updated and published new cemetery rules and regulations
- Designed and erected new church signage along with rotating banner signs to invite people to join us in worship and events
- Performed several volunteer, clean up days around Shrewsbury campus
 - Weeding, gardening, tree pruning, landscaping, monument cleaning, etc.
- Helped fight food insecurity in Kent county
 - Chicken Processing Ministry
 - Grocery Shopping Cards
 - Souper Bowl of Caring
 - Donations to the county food bank
- Hosted new fellowship opportunities for the congregation - two free movie & dinner nights
- Updated our cemetery record keeping processes and forms
- Solved and expanded Shrewsbury's internet needs
- Improved Parish Hall Security (Camera and improved Key Management)
- Removed the "Brown House"
- Ensured strong financial discipline to maintain our strong financial position



Beyond all the above mentioned highlights, there many ongoing activities performed throughout the year by our; Vestry, Altar Guild, Ushers, Acolytes, Social Ministries, Daughters of the King and you, our parish members, that make Shrewsbury such a special place.

I find myself thankful for the opportunity to help lead our congregation along its path of worship and service. My appreciation continues to grow for all of you who volunteer your time and give of your gifts, for they fuel our ministries and allow us to do the good work God intends for us to do.

While continuing to do all the good works we are called upon to do in 2026, I have one specific hope for us. That hope, is for us to grow the engagement of our congregation with their increased volunteerism in support of our many ministries. While obvious as it sounds, the notion of "many hands make the work light, when working together" is true. This notion, noted in throughout scripture, is supported with several examples:

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12:

"Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up. Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken."

Proverbs 27:17:

"As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another."

This verse emphasizes the idea that individuals can sharpen and improve one another through mutual encouragement, feedback, and collaboration. Just as iron blades become sharper when they rub against each other, people can grow and develop by engaging with others in meaningful ways.

In closing, let me say, although we may be small, we are mighty and that with faith, we can move mountains.

Let us join together, to love and serve the Lord!

If getting more involved is of interest to you, please feel free to reach out to myself or any vestry member.

Dave Murphy
Sr. Warden

2026 PROPOSED SHREWSBURY CHURCH BUDGET

| CATEGORY | 2025 ACTUAL | 2026 BUDGET |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|
| INCOME | | |
| REGULAR DONATIONS | \$168,111 | \$153,985 |
| MISC. DONATIONS | \$ 23,354 | \$ 44,000 |
| REVENUE | \$ 13,169 | \$ 20,070 |
| | | |
| INCOME TOTAL | \$204,634 | \$218,055 |
| | | |
| EXPENSES | | |
| BUILDINGS & GROUNDS | \$ 51,273 | \$ 48,090 |
| PERSONNEL | \$140,678 | \$150,028 |
| WORSHIP | \$ 7,613 | \$ 7,996 |
| GENERAL | \$ 45,859 | \$ 40,568 |
| SOCIAL MINISTRIES | \$ 1,132 | \$ 1,150 |
| | | |
| EXPENSE TOTAL | \$246,555 | \$247,832 |
| DIFFERENCE | -\$41,921 | -\$29,777 |

Treasurers' Report

At our 2025 Annual Meeting, your Treasurers presented the congregation with the challenge of a \$5,000 deficit budget, requiring additional donations and fund raising, but with the Vestry's confidence that the challenge would be met. Both the Spring Fling and Crab Feast were successful in providing other income. Our new third annual event, the Fall Festival was successful in its first year, even though it required additional investment and improvements for our buildings and grounds. Many thanks to all who pledge, our donors, and to the organizers and volunteers of our three special events. In addition, income from our investment portfolio continues to be an important part of the strategy set by the Finance Committee. While the overall annual results show a significant gap of over \$46,000, largely due to increased energy costs or improvements to our property which should defer future maintenance or replacement costs, this gap was covered by other income from special events fund raising and investment growth/profits. The overall value of our investment portfolio increased in 2025, achieving the minimum targets set by the Finance Committee. Proceeds from the Hannah and Jack Endowment Fund permitted support of a student's attendance at Camp Tockwogh, \$3,000 support of the Bayside HOYAs Easter Eggstravaganza, and \$7,000 support of critical food support during the fall government shutdown.

In 2026, we anticipate donations to be about the same but higher expenses for payroll, energy, and maintenance. While we expect an increase in our investment income, we are again projecting a deficit in ordinary net income for 2026, though smaller than in 2025 actual deficit. Based on the success of each of our 2025 fund raising events, we believe that we can again fill that gap with other income.

In the next month, the Leadership Team and Vestry will focus on longer range planning for future, including any major repairs and improvements and a finance plan for their implementation.

Shrewsbury Cemetery
Statement of Income & Expense YTD Comparison
December 2025

Cash Basis

| | Dec 25 | Jan - Dec 25 |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Ordinary Income/Expense | | |
| Income | | |
| Contributions Income | | |
| Homecoming | 0.00 | 3,220.00 |
| Miscellaneous Income/Donations | 500.00 | 14,320.00 |
| Total Contributions Income | 500.00 | 17,540.00 |
| Dividend Unrestricted (Vanguard) | 1,460.94 | 4,945.51 |
| Dividend Restricted (Vanguard) | 4,444.21 | 18,409.57 |
| Interest Income Peoples | 0.56 | 13.07 |
| Interment Fees | 400.00 | 2,200.00 |
| Sale of Lots | 100.00 | 5,000.00 |
| Total Income | 6,905.71 | 48,108.15 |
| Expense | | |
| Maintenance/Perpetual Care | | |
| Grounds Maintenance | 1,720.00 | 39,735.00 |
| Stone Repairs | 0.00 | 320.00 |
| Tree Maintenance | 0.00 | 2,500.00 |
| Total Maintenance/Perpetual Care | 1,720.00 | 42,555.00 |
| Property Taxes | 0.00 | 90.06 |
| Total Expense | 1,720.00 | 42,645.06 |
| Net Ordinary Income | 5,185.71 | 5,463.09 |
| Other Income/Expense | | |
| Other Expense | | |
| Other Expenses | | |
| Washington College GIS | 2,240.00 | 3,740.00 |
| Misc. Other Expenses | 0.00 | 1,558.80 |
| Total Other Expenses | 2,240.00 | 5,298.80 |
| Total Other Expense | 2,240.00 | 5,298.80 |
| Net Other Income | -2,240.00 | -5,298.80 |
| Net Income | <u>2,945.71</u> | <u>164.29</u> |

Shrewsbury Cemetery
Statement of Financial Position
As of December 31, 2025

Cash Basis

| | Dec 31, 25 |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| ASSETS | |
| Current Assets | |
| Checking/Savings | |
| Peoples Checking | 8,500.13 |
| Total Checking/Savings | 8,500.13 |
| Total Current Assets | 8,500.13 |
| Fixed Assets | |
| Outdoor Chapel/Columbarium | 78,612.00 |
| Total Fixed Assets | 78,612.00 |
| Other Assets | |
| Vanguard Other Unrestricted | 230,816.00 |
| Vanguard Restricted Funds | 881,846.87 |
| Total Other Assets | 1,112,662.87 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | 1,199,775.00 |
| LIABILITIES & EQUITY | |
| Equity | |
| Opening Bal Equity | 446,133.61 |
| Retained Earnings | 68,363.02 |
| Unrealized Gain/Loss Investment | 685,114.08 |
| Net Income | 164.29 |
| Total Equity | 1,199,775.00 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY | 1,199,775.00 |

Shrewsbury Parish Church
Statement of Income & Expense Budget Performance
December 2025

Cash Basis

| | Dec 25 | Budget | Jan - Dec 25 | YTD Budget | Annual Budget |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Ordinary Income/Expense | | | | | |
| Income | | | | | |
| 4000 - Regular Donations | 15,338.95 | 16,142.67 | 168,110.81 | 193,712.00 | 193,712.00 |
| 4100 - Miscellaneous Donations | 710.00 | 2,333.33 | 23,354.32 | 21,000.00 | 21,000.00 |
| 4200 - Revenue | 2,532.52 | 5,296.83 | 13,169.01 | 14,070.00 | 14,070.00 |
| Total Income | <u>18,581.47</u> | <u>23,772.83</u> | <u>204,634.14</u> | <u>228,782.00</u> | <u>228,782.00</u> |
| Gross Profit | 18,581.47 | 23,772.83 | 204,634.14 | 228,782.00 | 228,782.00 |
| Expense | | | | | |
| 5000 - Buildings & Grounds | 8,286.81 | 4,331.67 | 51,273.35 | 46,590.00 | 46,590.00 |
| 5200 - Personnel | 21,776.76 | 13,062.63 | 140,678.44 | 138,410.00 | 138,410.00 |
| 5600 - Worship | 743.55 | 1,222.00 | 7,612.98 | 7,950.00 | 7,950.00 |
| 5700 - General Expenses | 3,387.87 | 3,197.68 | 45,858.62 | 39,080.00 | 39,080.00 |
| 5900 - Outreach/Social Ministries | 400.00 | 900.00 | 1,132.32 | 1,600.00 | 1,600.00 |
| 6900 - Depreciation Expense | 4,248.15 | 0.00 | 4,248.15 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Total Expense | <u>38,843.14</u> | <u>22,713.98</u> | <u>250,803.86</u> | <u>233,630.00</u> | <u>233,630.00</u> |
| Net Ordinary Income | -20,261.67 | 1,058.85 | -46,169.72 | -4,848.00 | -4,848.00 |
| Other Income/Expense | | | | | |
| Other Income | | | | | |
| 7000 - Other Income | 888.36 | 0.00 | 62,848.20 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 7500 - In-Kind Non-Cash Donations | 1,737.94 | 0.00 | 2,157.22 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Total Other Income | <u>2,626.30</u> | <u>0.00</u> | <u>65,005.42</u> | <u>0.00</u> | <u>0.00</u> |
| Other Expense | | | | | |
| 8000 - Other Expenses | 866.00 | 0.00 | 33,760.99 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 8500 - Donated Supplies, etc, | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Total Other Expense | <u>866.00</u> | <u>0.00</u> | <u>33,760.99</u> | <u>0.00</u> | <u>0.00</u> |
| Net Other Income | <u>1,760.30</u> | <u>0.00</u> | <u>31,244.43</u> | <u>0.00</u> | <u>0.00</u> |
| Net Income | <u><u>-18,501.37</u></u> | <u><u>1,058.85</u></u> | <u><u>-14,925.29</u></u> | <u><u>-4,848.00</u></u> | <u><u>-4,848.00</u></u> |

Shrewsbury Parish Church
Statement of Financial Position
As of December 31, 2025

Cash Basis

| | Dec 31, 25 |
|--|--------------|
| ASSETS | |
| Current Assets | |
| Checking/Savings | |
| 1010 - Checking - Peoples Bank | 10,574.27 |
| 1020 - Money Market - Peoples Bank | 9,757.02 |
| 1030 - Sagrada Familia de Jesus | 27,120.25 |
| 1035 - PayPal | 522.93 |
| Total Checking/Savings | 47,974.47 |
| Total Current Assets | 47,974.47 |
| Fixed Assets | |
| 1500 - Facilities & Land | |
| 1505 - Church Renovations | 168,732.23 |
| 1508 - Parish Hall Renovations | 27,958.16 |
| 1508-1 - Patio | 42,635.02 |
| 1507 - Rectory Renovations | 106,498.89 |
| 1508 - Basement Classrooms | 59,000.00 |
| 1508 - Facilities and Land | 1,186,388.00 |
| 1508-1 - Drainage Project | 20,247.97 |
| 1510 - Children's Playground | 25,999.00 |
| 1511 - Farm Land | 50,000.00 |
| 1512 - Equipment | 4,100.00 |
| Total 1500 - Facilities & Land | 1,691,559.27 |
| Total Fixed Assets | 1,691,559.27 |
| Other Assets | |
| 1800 - Investment Fund - Vanguard | |
| 1800-1 - Vanguard Main Account | |
| 1810 - Altar Guild | 9,980.59 |
| 1815 - Vanguard Restricted Funds | 318,797.85 |
| 1840 - Vanguard Unrestricted Funds | 234,336.64 |
| Total 1800-1 - Vanguard Main Account | 563,115.08 |
| 1800-2 - Hannah & Jack Fund | 69,040.04 |
| 1800-3 - Designated Endowment | 7,187.08 |
| Total 1800 - Investment Fund - Vanguard | 639,342.20 |
| Total Other Assets | 639,342.20 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | 2,378,876.94 |
| LIABILITIES & EQUITY | |
| Liabilities | |
| Current Liabilities | |
| Credit Cards | |
| 2000 - Capital One Card | 1,234.97 |
| Total Credit Cards | 1,234.97 |
| Other Current Liabilities | |
| 2100 - Payroll Liabilities | 5,977.86 |
| Total Other Current Liabilities | 5,977.86 |
| Total Current Liabilities | 7,212.83 |
| Total Liabilities | 7,212.83 |
| Equity | |
| 2229 - 2029 Prepaid Pledge/Deferred | 8,455.00 |
| 30000 - Opening Balance Equity | 1,432,795.40 |
| 3100 - Unrestricted Net Assets | 438,221.63 |
| 3350 - Unrealized Gain/Loss Endowment | 485,479.95 |
| 3380 - Unrealized Gain/Loss EEF | 2,629.88 |
| 3385 - Unrealized Gain/Loss H&J Fund | 19,006.54 |
| Net Income | -14,925.29 |
| Total Equity | 2,371,663.11 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY | 2,378,876.94 |

Annual Report 2025 Shrewsbury Parish Acolytes Guild
Submitted by Pamela Ann Quarstein



Who are our acolytes?



Adeline Pechin (10 yrs old, 4th grade, loves gymnastics, knitting toys and math), our 10 o'clock faithful acolyte,

Jim Stevenson (70 something, enjoys the outdoors, sailing, bird watching, gardening and woodworking) our loyal acolyte at early 7:30 am service, and

all of our **Lay Eucharistic Ministers** are trained in this service.

What do they do?

Support the celebrant in a religious service or procession by assisting (follow) in worship by carrying a processional cross, lighting candles, holding the Gospel book, holding candles or "torches", assisting a deacon or priest prepare and clean the altar, swinging a censer or thurible (also named the thurifer) or carrying the incense boat, handing the offering plates to ushers, and many other tasks as seen fit by the priest or acolyte warden.

HELP WANTED

Please consider becoming an acolyte as a gift to yourself, your child and to Shrewsbury!

ALL AGES ARE WELCOMED. This can serve as an introductory experience for anyone learning about or deeply engaging with their faith, as this role not only helps the service run smoothly but also deeply involves individuals in the religious practices and traditions of our community.

ALTAR GUILD REPORT - 2026

Altar Guild is a wonderful way to help “ behind the scenes” at Shrewsbury Parish Church. Four teams make up the Altar Guild, one team each weekend. Currently we are short staffed and looking for members who can spend a few extra minutes after the church service to tidy up the Altar and put communion dishes away.

Carol Miller and Maria Marshall set up for 2 Sunday services mid- week. Carol also lovingly washes and irons all of our linens. - (no small task)

Our current team members are Harriet Silcox, Sue Coleman, Jane Cropper and Lisa Raffetto, Carol Miller and myself. We are very lucky to have Pam Quarstein, Barbara Lloyd and Agnes Pechin filling in to clean up after a service if someone is away or sick.

I also want to mention the wonderful job Sue Coleman and Carol Niemand do in making sure there are Flowers or greens on the Altar every Sunday.

Please contact me, Catherine Davis at 410-708-1942 or email at catherinebdavis@gmail.com if there is any way you can help after the 7:30 or 10:00 Services. - Many hands make light work !

Respectfully submitted,
Catherine B. Davis

SHREWSBURY'S CHICKEN PROCESSING COMMITTEE

The chicken processing committee formed in July of 2024. Since then, twenty-five people have volunteered to help in a variety of ways. A team of eight meet once a month to process raw chicken pieces, rinse and sterilize them, pat them dry, and put them in vacuum sealed bags. The bags are stored in the freezer until a designated time and place is selected. Local families are provided with free, frozen chicken to help feed their families. In 2025 the teams filled 6,202 bags, which is about 18,606 chicken pieces (a piece is the thigh, drumstick, and back).

Anyone who wants to join the team, contact Sue Coleman.



The Sisters of Rebecca Matoaka Chapter of The Order of the Daughters of the King was instituted at Shrewsbury Parish Church nine years ago. Presently, six women are Daughters in this chapter and discernment study sessions for new Daughters are planned for this year.

Women in the Order are between the ages of seven and one hundred and seven who desire a closer walk with the Lord. We are Christian women – both lay and ordained, and all at different stages on our Christian journey – who are strengthened through the discipline of a Rule of Life, and supported through the companionship of our sisters. Our primary goal is to know Jesus Christ and to make Him known to others. The Order of the Daughters of the King is based on the principles of prayer, service and evangelism.

Sisters of Rebecca Matoaka participate in daily prayer, service projects, monthly meetings, retreats, and leading Morning Prayer services at Shrewsbury Parish Church. In addition, we enjoy an annual Christmas breakfast or dinner and conduct discernment study sessions for those interested in becoming a Daughter.

Daily prayer is part of the vow of being a Daughter, and we find our prayer practice deepening as we pray for those on our prayer list, and for any who request prayers. Please send your prayer requests to the church office, place them in the collection plate during Sunday services, or email them to doksrmpayers@googlegroups.com or directly to any Daughter.

Prayerful meetings are normally held the first Tuesday of each month and include meditation and singing in addition to prayers and business of The Order.

Daughters are encouraged to attend the Province III retreat held annually in the spring as well as the Diocesan Retreat for Daughters held in the fall season. All Daughters from the diocese are welcomed to attend the National Convention of The Order of the Daughters of the King in Phoenix, Arizona in 2027.

We anticipate with joy in our hearts the opportunity to continue prayer together as a part of our discipline, to serve the church and the community through service projects, and to help other women discern if being a Daughter is a part of their calling. Women interested in becoming a Daughter should call Karen Reed at 410-778-6114 or email her at kltr4096@gmail.com for more information, or visit www.doknational.org. Our prayers together have deepened our relationship with God, with our fellow Daughters, and our church community – and we invite you to share in this prayerful service to God.

Current Daughters in the Sisters of Rebecca Matoaka Chapter are Karen T. Reed, The Reverend Peggy Samuels, Pamela Quarstein, Christine Wallman, Trudie Groves, and Nicole Wagner.

The Reverend Henry Sabetti is our chapter Chaplain. Karen is the President of the Chapter and Acting President of the Diocesan Assembly for the Order. Pam is serving as Secretary of the Diocesan Assembly and Peggy serves as Membership Chair of the Diocesan Assembly. Church of the Holy Trinity in Oxford, St. Paul's, Kent in Chestertown, and Trinity Episcopal Church in Elkton also have chapters in the Diocese, and groundwork is being laid to charter more chapters.

The Order is completely self-funded by each Daughter and we contribute quarterly to the National Funds of the Order. The blessing of generous anonymous donations has been of great help in assisting us to serve and help others.

Faithfully, FHS, *Karen T. Reed*

Annual Report : Shrewsbury Social Ministry Committee 2025

Mission: to take care of our Family, Church, and Community. Led by the Holy Spirit, we will provide support, services, and resources using our talents, abilities, and energies.

Members: Cochairs: Emily Cassidy and Sue Coleman, Father Henry, Katie Hughes, Carol Niemand, Bob and June O'Connell, and Rich Walls

Activities the Social Ministry Committee sponsored with support from the Shrewsbury Parish congregation and assistances from Elizabeth Carr.

- v Souper Bowl of Caring- \$2,035 to Episcopal Relief and Development Wildfire Relief.
- v AA treats-sweet treats are part of their recovery program.
- v Donations for Homeless and Those with Limited Income: Carol reported that the Nearly New is now a destination for those in need to get bags of free clothing. We are encouraged to drop off slightly used items and feel free to purchase items. Donations were received for Showers (towels, soap)
- v School Supplies- Headed by Katie: In January Kleenex and disinfecting wipes were collected and given to the Kent County Middle School. In August primary supplies (pencils, markers, composition notebooks) were given to Garnett School.
- v February "Hearts Out to Vets" was headed by Pam to provide much needed supplies (Toiletries, Socks, gloves, entertainment items-puzzles, cards)
- v March Samaritan Shelter Meal of Corn Beef dinner with all the fixings
- v Thanksgiving- Ten Turkeys were distributed to families from LA Sagrada and other local families.
- v Angel Tree- Emily Cassidy, Carol Niemand, and Carol Orange worked together to identify families. A total of 13 children received gifts from a member of Shrewsbury congregation.
- v Fire Departments- Funds were budgeted to provide \$50 to each of the fire Departments- Kennedyville and Galena. An additional \$100 was approved for the Kennedyville Fire Department for providing help during the Fall Fest and Run.

Thank you to the congregation for donations and support of Shrewsbury Social Ministry. The coordinator for this ministry will be lead by Peggy Samuels in 2026.

Submitted by Emily Cassidy and Sue Coleman

2025 Cochairs

Annual Report: Church Usher Guild

Shrewsbury Parish Church | 2025-2026 Reporting Year

Guild Overview

The Usher Guild remains a cornerstone of the Shrewsbury Parish Church experience. As the first point of contact for many, our ushers serve as the "face of the parish," ensuring that every individual who enters our doors feels the warmth, dignity, and hospitality of our community. Current members of the Guild include Randy Cassidy, John Silcox, Barbie Lloyd, Jack Withers, Rich Walls and new members, Jenny Randolph and Joy Mayfield (7:30) and Robert Bryan, Lisa Raffetto, Kirk Wade and Peter Thayer (10:00). The Guild also recognizes the retirement of Ran Crawford and Doug Hamilton who leave us after many years of faithful service.

Our mission extends beyond simple logistics; we are here to cultivate an environment of order and peace, allowing the congregation to focus entirely on worship and the Word.

Core Duties & Accomplishments

Throughout the past year, our dedicated team has consistently performed the following essential functions:

- **Hospitality & Greeting:** Welcoming parishioners and visitors with bulletins and a friendly word, setting a positive tone for the liturgy.
- **Seating & Sanctuary Management:** Assisting with seating during well-attended services and ensuring the aisles remain clear and safe.
- **The Offertory:** Managing the collection of tithes and offerings with integrity and efficiency.
- **Communion Logistics:** Guiding the congregation toward the altar in an orderly fashion to maintain the flow of the service.
- **Safety & Assistance:** Remaining vigilant for any medical needs or security concerns and directing visitors to parish facilities as necessary.

The Challenge: Growing Our Ranks

While our current team is incredibly committed, we are currently facing a significant personnel shortage. As our parish attendance grows, the physical and logistical demands on our small group of volunteers have increased.

Current Status: To maintain the high standard of hospitality Shrewsbury is known for, we require a minimum of one usher per service. Although we are fully operational, retirements are putting undue pressure on our long-serving members.

Urgent Focus: The 10:00 AM Service

While help is welcomed at all gatherings, the **10:00 AM Service** is our area of greatest need. The guild members who volunteer for this service currently number only four and would welcome additional members. As our most heavily attended weekly service, it requires a robust team to manage the diverse needs of families, elderly parishioners, and newcomers.

We are seeking individuals who are:

- Reliable and punctual.
- Possessed of a "servant's heart" and a friendly demeanor.
- Willing to serve just once or twice a month.

A Call to Action

Serving as an usher is a wonderful way to meet your fellow parishioners and give back to the church without a massive mid-week time commitment. If you value the sense of community at Shrewsbury Parish, we invite you to step forward.

THE HERITAGE SOCIETY

Annual Meeting 2026

The Heritage Society has been dormant for several years. But, with Shrewsbury doing so much in and for our community, it is time for its resurrection to give you and your family an opportunity to give back to a church that does so much for you. To date, we have the annual SPRING FLING, CRAB FEAST, FALL FESTIVAL and 5K run, not to mention the on-going ministry to help the homeless and unhoused with food insecurity and housing. We believe that it's time for each of us (you and I) to think seriously about leaving something to your church in your will so that all these initiatives and outreach activities will continue in perpetuity in your name. You may want to consider any of the following:

- Designate a percentage of your estate to go to the church
- Consider contributing stocks or bonds from your portfolio
- Donate a piece of land or property
- Give a piece of jewelry or art to be auctioned off at a later time

An informal and informational luncheon for current and prospective members will be held on Sunday, April 12th at 12:00 noon at Marsh Point Farm (home of Robert Bryan) on Shallcross Wharf Road.

All are welcome to attend to learn more and perhaps begin to consider taking the next step to become a member. More information will follow in the church bulletin and a flyer. Rack cards are also available in the narthex and church hall for your review. If you wish to discuss your options further in the meantime before the picnic, please contact Elizabeth in the church office to schedule an appointment (410) 348-5944 with Father Henry, an appropriate member of the Vestry or one of us (Robert Bryan or Carol Niemand). We will be happy to come to you or meet you at a mutually convenient location. Robert and I have taken the next step and can guide you in learning just how easy becoming a member of the Heritage Society can be.

Joining and making a commitment can mean a lot to you personally, your family, and especially our church to insure work will continue after many of our present day clergy and parishioners have departed.