“...Our parish church has lived much of her life in the ragged edge of uncertainty and challenge.

“Her proud steeple has witnessed chaos and change, pain and well-being.

“She has had the privilege of serving as sanctuary to all people as the hurricanes swirled around.

“Truly, she has been in the eye of the storm.

“She has been a place of rest and refreshment, a place of broken dreams and new hopes, a place for all God’s children to gather and be healed.

“By word and sacraments, by listening and proclaiming, she witnesses for Christ in the heart of the city.”

Our Mission

We are called to love and serve God, giving of ourselves as we worship, wrestle with questions of faith and nurture the Christ in all people: the friend and the stranger, the satisfied and the needy, the believer and the unbeliever.

We are a destination church in downtown Dayton. For many of the members it is not the closest Episcopal church to them, but the people and our various ministries draw us from outside the city.

We are proud to be an urban church, and it is an important part of our identity that we stayed where we were needed at a time when many people were abandoning the inner city.

We practice our love for Christ and our fellow human beings by reaching out and by serving them through a variety of ministries, many of which have grown to become independent organizations. Two notable examples are The Other Place, now Homefull, and CityHeart. It gives us great joy to know we are incubators of essential social programs.

We share our building with the CityHeart ministry and two other congregations – Living Beatitudes Community and Eternal Joy Metropolitan Community Church (MCC). We frequently have joint programs and events which include the three congregations and First Baptist Church, another downtown congregation.

In the fall of 2030, we will begin our third century in downtown Dayton. Will you join as we prepare for the journey?
Our Core Values

We are authentic. We foster a deep commitment to walk in the footsteps of Jesus by encouraging one another and giving our time, our talents, and our hearts in the service of others.

We encourage diversity and treat all as equals without judgement or bias, regardless of age, race, sexual identification, ability, economic status, or homelessness.

We bring people together in reconciliation who are otherwise divided over politics and various social issues.

In the spirit of hospitality and inclusiveness, no one who enters our doors is made to feel an outsider. Everyone is welcome to our services.

We value the weekly community experienced in hearing the Word and breaking the Bread in the company of Jesus.
Our Worship Style

We have four services during the week to offer a variety of worship experiences to accommodate different schedules and preferences. We usually follow Rite II.

**Sunday 8:00 am Holy Eucharist** – This quiet service, held in the chapel section of the Nave, is primarily attended by adults who are early risers. Many enjoy fellowship over breakfast afterwards.

**Sunday 10:30 am Holy Eucharist with music** – This is our largest attended service, held in the nave, and features hymns led by our choir and our organist/choirmaster. This service accommodates families with nursery services; for deaf worshippers, an American Sign Language interpreter may be arranged with advanced notice.

Healing is part of the 8:00 am and 10:30 am services on the second Sunday of every month. Members of the Order of St. Luke the Physician (OSL) are also available to pray with/for people on the other Sundays after the service.
Our Worship Style

Wednesday 12:10 pm Holy Eucharist with healing and prayers – This service is a great option for those who work downtown and want to break up the daily grind with mid-week worship. We include special prayers for those who have died in our region from murder, suicide, or accident.

Saturday 5:00 pm Evening Prayer with Holy Communion – Held in the chapel section, this service is primarily attended by adults. It offers a great alternative for those who are unable to attend on Sundays and those who enjoy the service of Evening Prayer, followed by Holy Communion.

Food donations are collected at all services.
Our Music

We strive to explore diverse styles of music, while maintaining an atmosphere conducive to divine worship. The Christ Church Choir is the most vital part of this music ministry led by Dr. Yun Kim, who received her doctorate in organ performance from Indiana University.

Other musicians in the parish generously share their time and talents as vocal and instrumental soloists and accompanists, enhancing our worship services throughout the year. Guest musicians also join us.

On Good Friday and Christmas Eve, we combine the musical talents of Christ Church and the Eternal Joy MCC for joint worship services. As part of the music ministry, both in-house and guest musicians perform during the annual Waffle Shop and the annual Downtowners Christmas Concert.
Our Parish Community

We have many opportunities to gather, learn, and support one another.

Waffle Shop welcomes the community each November during this unique, four-day event which serves lunches of waffles, sausage, soups, sandwiches, and salads. In addition, baked goods, crafts, and white elephant treasures are for sale. During the four days, we host between 1,600 and 2,000 people. It takes many hands working together to accomplish this.

The Elsie's Attic/white elephant sale is a unique part of Waffle Shop. Sorting and pricing donations takes place all year around and is another opportunity for fellowship.

The profits go to the Waffle Shop grant program for outreach to the community.

*Last year we celebrated our 90th year of Waffle Shop!*
Our Parish Community
The many faces of Waffle Shop
Our Parish Community

In addition to weekly Coffee Hour after the 10:30 service, the Downtowners group meets for Wednesday lunches at area restaurants, typically on a monthly basis.

Throughout the year, a parish-wide Foyer Group meets at the church on the first Friday evening of the month for food, fellowship, and spiritual support. Tables of eight give the intimacy of dining with a small group. Guests are always welcome...we’ve got warm hearts and wide tables! The Foyer Group is an outgrowth of our membership in the international Community of the Cross of Nails.
Our Parish Community

We host an annual summer picnic and joint worship at a Dayton community park. We include all three congregations worshipping in our building, and also invite our downtown friends at First Baptist Church, with whom we have enjoyed a special relationship for many years. We also worship together on other occasions, such as Ash Wednesday 2020.

Each spring and fall, we conduct a Women’s Retreat, designed to be a time for relaxation, fellowship, and spiritual renewal. A casual, fun, and engaging time with other women of the parish to strengthen friendships and make new ones, the weekend retreat is held at Convent of the Transfiguration’s BethAnna House, in Cincinnati, Ohio.
Our Community Outreach

CityHeart: CityHeart began as a ministry of Christ Church for people with emergency needs or requiring referrals to mainstream services. At the beginning of 2016, CityHeart became a separate non-profit corporation. It is located on the lower level of Christ Church with its own outside entrance.

Feeding Ministries in Homeless Shelters: We serve delicious and hearty meals to the homeless men, women, and families at two St. Vincent de Paul Gateway shelters every month. The hot meals are delivered to the sites. Church and other community volunteers set up the dining areas and serve the meals.

12-Step Programs: Four different 12-Step programs help people to break the chains of addiction and save lives.

Blue Star Mothers: We collect items for the Blue Star Mothers to send to the troops and help with sorting and packing items during the year.
Our Community Outreach

Rebuilding Together Dayton: We join people from throughout the Miami Valley to assist our neighbors to rehab and upgrade their homes. These are homeowners who cannot completely afford to pay for some of the things that the younger or the more able bodied can do for themselves.

Waffle Shop Grants: In addition to all the great hospitality, friendships, sharing good food and even better conversation, Waffle Shop profits are given back to the community through a number of grants that are awarded every spring. In 2019 we distributed $17,750 to support organizations and ministries that benefit others, we expect to exceed this amount in 2020.

Outside organizations: Our building is used throughout the week for rental, guest, and donation-based groups, including YMCA Junior Leadership Program; Ohio Music Teachers Association; International Peace Museum; National Federation of the Blind, Miami Valley Chapter; Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America; Miami Valley Housing Opportunities Annual Christmas Dinner for Homeless Clients; LGBT Health Alliance; and the Poor People’s Campaign Ohio.
Our Community Outreach

Labyrinth: The Christ Church labyrinth provides a sacred space, as did the Reconciliation Chapel that stood here originally, fulfilling our mission to be an inviting community, by providing outdoor public space in the heart of the city for a reflective walk, quiet meditation, or other appropriate activities that enhance the parish and the neighborhood. Find more information here: http://daytonchristepiscopal.com/the-reconciliation-labyrinth/

Eternal Joy Metropolitan Community Church and The Living Beatitudes: Our worship and meeting facilities, at 20 W. First St., are shared by two other congregations. The Living Beatitudes Community has worship space on the lower level, and Eternal Joy Metropolitan Community Church uses our Nave for worship Sunday afternoons and rents office space. We work together for various Christian formation events, Waffle Shop, and other special occasions. For more information, visit our website: http://daytonchristepiscopal.com/our-outreach/
Our Global Outreach

United Nations Global Compact: In 2015, Christ Church became the only faith community in the world to sign on with the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) to respect, protect and promote human rights. We embrace, support, and commit to enact within our sphere of influence the core values in the areas of human rights, labor standards, the environment, and anti-corruption.

Fairtrade Congregation: In 2016, we became the first church in Ohio to be internationally certified as a Fairtrade congregation. This action is a commitment to moving toward more ethical purchases within the church.

Community of the Cross of Nails: We are part of a worldwide network of more than 200 churches, charities, peace-building centres, and educational and training organizations, inspired by the story of the destruction, rebuilding, and renewal of Coventry Cathedral, in Coventry, England, and committed to the ministry of reconciliation.
Christian Formation

Christian Formation provides opportunities for learning and growing together in our faith, as well as in our relationships with one another. We know that Christian education is more than acquiring knowledge; it is about helping one another discover God’s presence in and purpose for our lives.

The Adult Forum hour on Sundays, from 9:00 -10:00 am, offers opportunities to learn about topics relating to our world and faith, along with occasions to gather for congregational meetings. Dr. Larry Welborn, Professor of New Testament at Fordham University, is a frequent guest presenter. During Lent, he will present “The Passions of the Christ.” Recent series by parishioners have been “African-American Spirituals” by musician Percy Jones, and “Near Death Experiences” by retired philosophy professor Dr. Joe Kunkel.

Tuesday Night Discussion Group meets weekly on Tuesday evenings and centers on a new topic each week. It provides an opportunity for people to gather for conversation about life and faith in a casual comfortable setting. It is hosted by members of the congregation.

Due to the current demographics of the Parish, our programming is directed toward adults with no regular programming for children or teens. Nursery care is provided for infants and preschoolers. Children are welcomed and participate at all services.
Christ Church and Downtown Dayton

Dayton, Ohio at a Glance:
• Downtown area seeing growth in residential space as well as businesses
• Downtown has the region’s highest apartment occupancy rate at 97.5%
• Population ~140,000; metro area 800,000+
• Located in the Miami River Valley, within an hour of Columbus and Cincinnati
• Temperate Midwest climate – humid summers, and cold, dry winters
• Population shaped by inflows of African-American and Appalachian laborers during 19th and 20th Century industrialization, then 20th Century flight to the suburbs
• Dayton - African-American 39.3%, White alone 55.4%, Hispanic or Latino 3.9%, Asian 0.9%
• Dayton and the region converting to service economy, based in defense and related businesses, health care, and education

For further information, contact: Downtown Dayton Partnership - https://www.downtowndayton.org or Dayton Convention & Visitors Bureau - https://www.daytoncvb.com
Dayton Dragons Baseball

Loft Apartments – factory buildings repurposed for living space across Downtown

Biltmore Apartments – Senior and Low-Income Living

RiverScape Metro Park
Our Downtown Neighborhood
Reflecting the neighborhood and era at the time of construction, Christ Church shares First Street and Monument Avenue with several other grand downtown churches and their congregations. Our Church is an eclectic example of High Victorian Gothic style, with several notable changes and additions to the building over the life of the Parish. The 1956 Parish Hall structure wraps the rear of the church and received a new roof in 2019.

The parking lot to the right is owned by the parish. It is privately managed and generates modest revenue for the church.

In 1913, the Miami Valley experienced the Great Flood in which much of downtown, including Christ Church, was under twelve feet of water. In 1966, a massive, revitalizing renovation was necessary to save the building and maintain our commitment to the downtown presence. The basement under the building was created, along with other changes and updates to the building. The original stained-glass windows were removed as part of the effort to restore the structural integrity of the building.
Our Facilities

The 1966 renovation opened the Great Window on the east side of the Nave, originally clear glass with angled supports to illustrate a broken world. The Church could look out into the world and the world could look in to the sacred space. The Sesquicentennial milestone in 1981 provided the opportunity to create the stained-glass window we enjoy today.

The windows on the west side, which overlooked the Van Cleve Hotel, were filled in with concrete in 1957 and left blank. The Creation Windows were designed by Mary Price Dalberg early in 2003. The final installation and formal dedication took place in May 2005.
Our Facilities

In addition to the Nave, main floor space includes a spacious lobby, Rector’s Office, Parish Administration space, and a large Parish Hall with full commercial kitchen. The Vestry meets in the Parlor, as do many church committees and various community groups.

The kitchen is utilized weekly for Coffee Hour preparations after Sunday services, and meals and receptions during various Church gatherings. It is available for outside groups that use the Parish Hall. And it is used non-stop every November during Waffle Shop!

The lower level dedicates space to the Living Beatitudes Community ministry, as well as CityHeart, our partner social service agency, and several 12-Step Programs. A Columbarium is located there as well.

The second floor has office space for Eternal Joy MCC, the nursery, library and archives, choir room and other classroom-type space.
Our Heritage

Christ Church’s heritage proclaims the Baptismal Covenant: Striving for justice and peace, respecting the dignity of every human being, seeking and serving Christ in all persons, and loving our neighbors as ourselves.

Christ Church has been a continuing Episcopal presence in downtown Dayton since 1830. In 1833, our first building was constructed on South Jefferson Street. A new church building went up on First Street in 1871.

In the mid-1960s, faced with urban renewal, changing demographics, and a building in need of major renovation, this congregation committed to stay downtown and be a witness for Christ in the heart of the city. We continue to be that presence by declaring, “Center your spirit in the heart of the city.”

Today, Christ Church remains on First Street and is the spiritual home to more than 370 members. See our timeline on the next page.
Christ Church Finances

Operating Plan

Total Operating Income for 2019 was $496,326.71 which is 99.4% of the 2019 Operating Plan. The primary sources of operating income in 2019 were Giving (donations, pledge & plate) of $273,443.90, the Endowment of $150,000 and Van Cleve House (parking lot) of $45,000.

Total Operating Expense for 2019 was $494,192.31 which is 99.1% of the 2019 Operating Plan. The staff and committee chairpersons continued to do an excellent job controlling spending to below or near budgeted levels.

2019 Total Operating Income of $496,326.71 less Total Operating Expenses of $494,192.31 resulted in a net surplus of $2,134.40 on the year.

The approved 2020 Operating Plan forecasts $488,007.09 of Income and $494,868.62 Expense.

Capital Expenditures

In late 2018 and early 2019, a capital expenditure nearing $96,000 from the General Maintenance Fund was made for the replacement of all flat roofs of the church building. Donations to the General Maintenance Fund amounted to $34,159 in 2019.

Projects completed in 2019 include sign refurbishment, painting the Rector’s Office, and improvements to the hot water boiler system. Safety and security improvements include a new alarm system and new exit doors at the north end of the Nave. Planned actions in 2020 include a new vinyl floor in the Parish kitchen and a remodeled Choir Room.
Recent Christ Church Building Projects

First Street Sign Restoration

New Flat Roof Installation

New Emergency Exit Doors

New Security Alarm System

Repainted Rector’s Office

Restoration- Choir Room
Christ Church Finances

Endowment Committee

The Endowment Fund has supported Christ Church for more than 90 years, thanks to many generous people who desire to create a permanent legacy for future generations of parishioners. Funds used for church operations are provided annually in an amount up to 5% of the average endowment balances for the trailing twelve quarters. The Endowment Committee has approved providing $178,500 for 2020. This is approximately 4.4% of the $4,009,220 value of the fund as of December 31, 2019.

Van Cleve House, Inc.

Van Cleve House, Inc., is a corporation owned by Christ Church. The Corporation’s sole asset is the parking lot west of the church, formerly the site of the Van Cleve Hotel. Parking Management, Inc. (PMI) operates the lot and pays rent. Van Cleve House, Inc., is responsible for taxes and maintenance. Earnings in 2019 were $27,192, which included a charge of $740 for 2018 City of Dayton taxes and $1,893 for 2019 maintenance. The Church drew $45,000, which came from earnings and cash from prior years. Parking Management, Inc. has been a helpful partner over many years, frequently accommodating our many scheduled and unscheduled parking needs.
# Christ Episcopal Church
## 2019 Finance Report - Operating
### Annual Meeting February 2, 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2018 Actual</th>
<th>2019 Approved</th>
<th>2019 Actual</th>
<th>2020 Approved</th>
<th>2020 Budget</th>
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<td>CityHeart Expenses</td>
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### Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2019

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<th>Account Name</th>
<th>December 31, 2019</th>
<th>December 31, 2018</th>
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<td><strong>Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>Balance</strong></td>
<td><strong>Balance</strong></td>
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<td>Chase-Checking</td>
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<td>Petty Cash</td>
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<td><strong>Liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>Balance</strong></td>
<td><strong>Balance</strong></td>
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<td>Accounts Payable and Liabilities</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities and Fund Balance</strong></td>
<td>$5,131,332.97</td>
<td>$4,485,910.58</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Looking to the Future

1. **Define our potential for new members** – This would include those who share our core values from across the Dayton metro area and want to expand God’s kingdom. This would also include those who live and work in downtown Dayton and are either unchurched, de-churched, or unfamiliar with our liturgical style.

2. **Understand new member needs** – We would determine where we currently can meet their needs and where we have gaps that will need to be addressed. More than likely, addressing these gaps will also fulfill needs of our current membership.

3. **Understand our community and develop a strategy of outreach** - Understanding our Downtown Dayton area community will allow us to see our shared values and plan our outreach accordingly. This would include increasing the use of social media and other methods to reach out and introduce more people to the mission of Christ Episcopal Church and our moral imperative to serve all persons and share opportunities for fellowship and spirituality inspiring them to join us.

4. **Analyze our church with “visitor eyes”** – Almost 70% of our members have attended Christ Episcopal Church for more than 10 years. This solid commitment is one of our greatest strengths. It, however, prevents many from seeing the church experience from the perspective of someone new to our church. We want to assess potential touchpoints with a visitor to see where we need to make the church experience more welcoming and comfortable for those who are unchurched, de-churched, or unfamiliar with our liturgical style.

5. **Embrace new ideas and offerings versus clinging to outdated traditions** – Christ Episcopal Church has always had an entrepreneurial spirit and has been an incubator for developing new non-profits. We seek to embrace this spirit across all areas of our church and encourage everyone to orient their activities towards God’s vision for this congregation and for downtown Dayton. This does not mean abandoning our core values, nor does it mean making everything modern. It does mean that areas in which we are doing things “because that’s how we’ve always done it” should be examined for sustainability and for alignment with our developing future vision.
Who we seek as the next Rector

1. Be a strong spiritual leader
We look to our new Rector to be our spiritual leader, advisor, and shepherd. The Rector will help us to explore and define our spiritual paths as they intersect with current social, cultural, and political issues.

2. Welcome everyone
We are a congregation with a diversity of views, and we embrace the active and ongoing dialogue that such diversity creates. We strive to be inclusive as broadly as we are able. We look to our new Rector to welcome and embrace the LGBTQIA Community. Within our membership are members who are lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, transgender, queer and questioning, and straight allies.

3. Embrace a collaborative relationship with our strong lay leadership
A strong lay leadership has been a notable characteristic for many years. We are looking for a new Rector who wants to take advantage of our lay resources and capabilities, provide direction to the laity, identify parishioner gifts (spiritual and otherwise), and further encourage people to get “plugged in”.

4. Deliver thought-provoking sermons
We seek a Rector who challenges us, most commonly through thoughtful and intellectually stimulating sermons. We want someone who can connect real-life events to spiritual discovery, illuminated by the “light of Christ”.

5. Provide deeply spiritual and compassionate pastoral care and outreach
We will look to our new Rector for deeply spiritual and compassionate pastoral care. This is especially important for an aging congregation. We will also look to our new Rector to be involved and supportive of our many forms of outreach and ministry, both inside and outside the walls of our church.

6. Embrace the challenges and opportunities of being a downtown church
We look to our new Rector to be a voice in the community who speaks for social justice. We are a place of safety for all people. We oppose Islamophobia, anti-Semitism, and other forms of religious persecution. Xenophobia, homophobia, misogyny, and racism are actively opposed. Our church is intended to be a house of prayer, safety, and grace for everyone. We provide sanctuary for anyone who needs it.
The Diocese of Southern Ohio

The Episcopal Church is home to more than 25,000 people in Southern Ohio. Our communities of faith can be found in Cincinnati, Columbus and Dayton, and in farm towns and county seats all across the southern half of Ohio.

We are led by the Rt. Rev. Thomas E. Breidenthal. He was elected ninth bishop of Southern Ohio in November 2006 and consecrated on April 28, 2007.

Breidenthal is the author of two books (*Christian Households: The Sanctification of Nearness* and *Sacred Unions*) and numerous articles. He serves on the boards of Kenyon College, Bexley-Seabury Seminary, and Cincinnati Children’s Hospital, and has been involved throughout his ministry in civic engagement and ecumenical and interfaith dialogue. Bishop Breidenthal lives in Cincinnati with his spouse, Margaret Garner Breidenthal.

To Apply/For More Information

If you would like to apply for this position or would like additional information regarding the position, please contact:

**The Rev. Canon Jason Leo**
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(513) 379-2240

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[Diocese of Southern Ohio Transition Ministry Webpage](#)