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EPISCOPAL DIOCESE  
OF INDIANAPOLIS

**ANNUAL REPORT**

2023

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The seal of the Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis is a large, light gray watermark in the background. It features a central shield with a cross, a chalice, and a lamb. The shield is surrounded by a circular border containing the Latin text "ECCLESIA PROT" at the top and "SIGILLI" at the bottom. The seal is partially obscured by the text and lines of the cover design.

# MESSAGE FROM BISHOP JENNIEFER

## REFLECTING ON ALL WE HAVE ACCOMPLISHED TOGETHER

I invite you to join me in looking back at the year that was 2023—a year of rest, reflection, and preparation. At our Diocesan Convention in 2022, I had a hunch that big change was on the horizon, and I wanted us to be ready for it. My visits and conversations with so many of you over the course of 2022 confirmed that finding new equilibrium as we emerged from the Covid-19 pandemic would leave us a bit weary. I also discerned a desire to be rested and ready to be beacons of Christ to the people in our communities. And not only bearers of God’s divine light, but gatherers of community, conveners of important conversations, providers of essential services and ministries, and change-makers reshaping the world to more closely align with God’s dream for us. We had quite a year.



The highlights from this slower, “Year of Rest” were still significant: the Episcopal Mutual Ministry Review at the start of 2023; the launch of a Reunification Discernment Process; the search for and call of our full-time diocesan youth minister; my four month sabbatical; the election of Canon Kristin White to be bishop of the Diocese of Southern Ohio, a Spirit-led Diocesan Convention and the official reception of The Table congregation and its clergy into The Episcopal Church made for an extraordinary year.

We also grieved the losses of lay leaders. We bid farewell to clergy who left for other calls, and we accepted holy endings as St. Alban’s, Indianapolis concluded its ministry.

As we begin 2024, I pray that our sense of belonging in Christ Jesus will continue to grow. We have a beautiful ministry of love and healing to offer the people of central and southern Indiana. Even when it is difficult and the challenges seem more than we can bear, I give thanks that we have been called into this work together. As you reflect on this summary of our last year, I hope you will find hope for what is possible in the year ahead. May God continue to bless you and this ministry we share in Christ.

Faithfully,

The Rt. Rev. Jennifer Baskerville-Burrows  
Bishop



# BISHOP'S STAFF



**Janet Brinkworth**  
Executive Assistant  
to the Bishop



**Kim Christopher**  
Administrator of  
Accounts and Events



**Lauren Hacker**  
Communication  
Coordinator



**Heather Kenison**  
Diocesan Youth  
Minister



**Kelly Nickson**  
Assistant for  
Congregational  
Development



**Brendan  
O'Sullivan-Hale**  
Canon to the Ordinary  
for Administration and  
Evangelism



**Jennifer Phelps**  
Transition Minister



**Elise Shrock**  
Director of  
Communications



**Mary Taflinger**  
Missioner for  
Pastoral Care



**Erinna VanDever**  
Administrator of  
Hospitality and Data



# OUR MISSION

Grounded in God's love in Christ, the Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis and its people:

Serve as beacons of Christ in central and southern Indiana and beyond

Offer a generous invitation and welcome

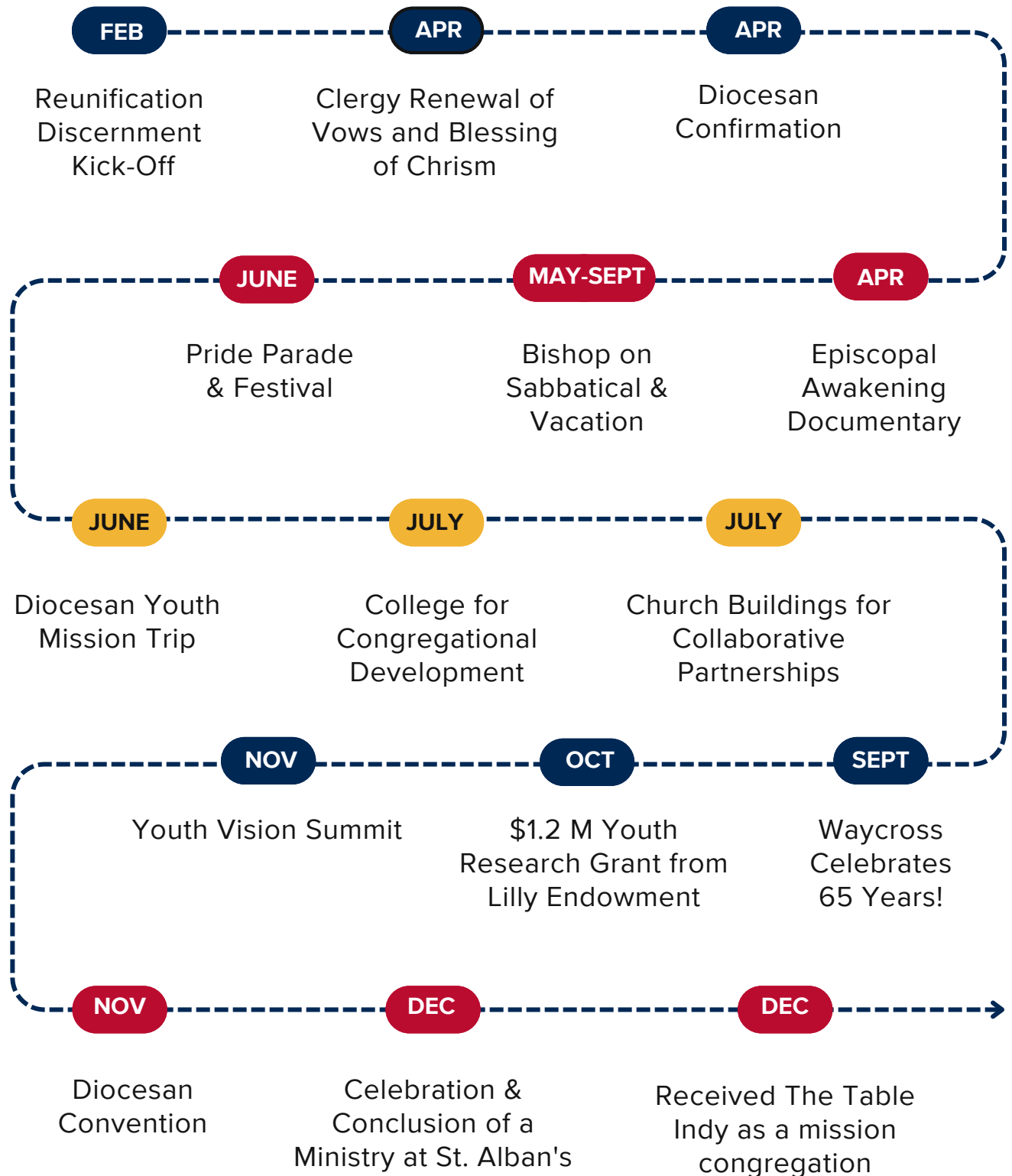
Stand with the vulnerable and marginalized to transform systems of injustice

Connect with other Episcopalians, ecumenical and interfaith partners, and advocacy groups

Develop clergy and laity to lead the church of today and tomorrow.



# YEAR IN REVIEW



# YEAR BY THE **NUMBERS**

**21**

PARISH VISITS THE BISHOP  
MADE

**178**

THOSE CONFIRMED, RECEIVED,  
OR REAFFIRMED

**28**

BISHOP'S SPEAKING  
ENGAGEMENTS (OUTSIDE OF  
INDYDIO)

**350**

BISHOP'S MEETINGS IN  
INDYDIO OFFICE

**104**

BISHOP LEAD SERVICES OF  
HOLY EUCHARIST

# PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS



## CHURCH BUILDINGS FOR COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS (CBCP)

The CBCP project reached a major milestone at the beginning of May. Teams from congregations, diocesan staff, Indiana Landmarks, and Partners for Sacred Places have now visited and documented the shareable spaces of every Episcopal church building in the state of Indiana.

## DIOCESAN YOUTH MISSION TRIP

June 3-10 we had our first Diocesan Youth Mission Trip in more than four years. A group of thirteen people spent the week serving and learning about the city of New Orleans. We were able to form relationships with one another that can build a foundation for diocesan-wide events and ministry in the future.



Register for this year's [Youth Mission Trip!](#)

## EPISCOPAL AWAKENING

In 2020, Diocesan Convention passed a chapter-sponsored resolution to:

- study the “historic complicity” of the diocese, its congregations, members and partners “in acts of prejudice, discrimination, racism, and systemic oppression”
- present to all succeeding conventions a compilation of its work “in a video documentary presentation, an audio collection, and a digital collection,”
- make “recommendations for next steps in reconciliation, healing, and equity...”



[Read the resolution](#) & [view The Documentary](#).



# DIOCESAN YOUTH MINISTRY



## Diocese Comes Together to Cast 5-Year Vision for Revitalized Diocesan Youth Ministry at Vision Summit

The event brought together 40 individuals, including youth, youth leaders, clergy, and parishioners from across the diocese. Together, we formulated a mission statement and identified six core values for Diocesan Youth Ministry.

### Youth Faith Formation

Create a collection of resources for youth faith formation and make it accessible to congregations of all sizes and locations.

### Youth Organization Partnerships

Ensure that every congregation has developed or enhanced a relationship with at least one youth-serving organization.

### Christian Parenting and Caregivers Initiative Grant

Following a deep listening and research process to understand the challenges parents face to disciple their children, we will equip parents across the diocese to address their challenges in parenting. Led by Dr. Brian Steensland, sociologist, professor, and Rite 13 leader at Trinity Indy, this research will begin in early 2024.

### Youth Confirmation

Create a diocesan-wide youth confirmation preparation process and implement it with the first cohort in Fall 2024.

### Youth Leader Formation

Launch a youth leader development program (called “Youth Ministry University”) to train and equip parishioners, staff, and volunteers from congregations of any size, with the first cohort in Fall 2024.

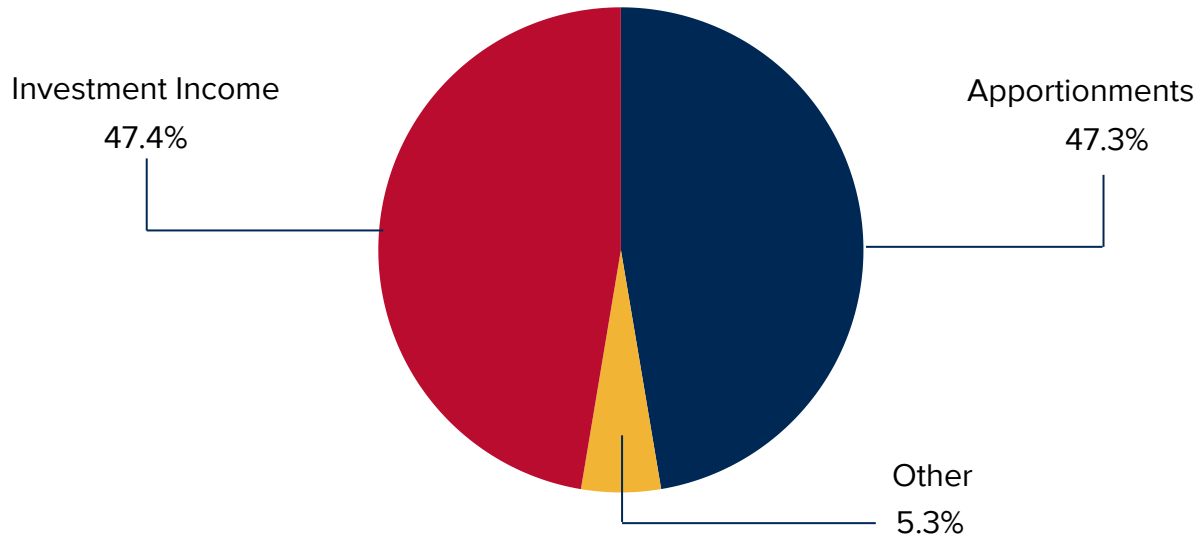
### Youth Ministry Investment

Create an endowment of \$10 million to fund and support the mission and goals of youth ministry, at both the congregational and diocesan levels.

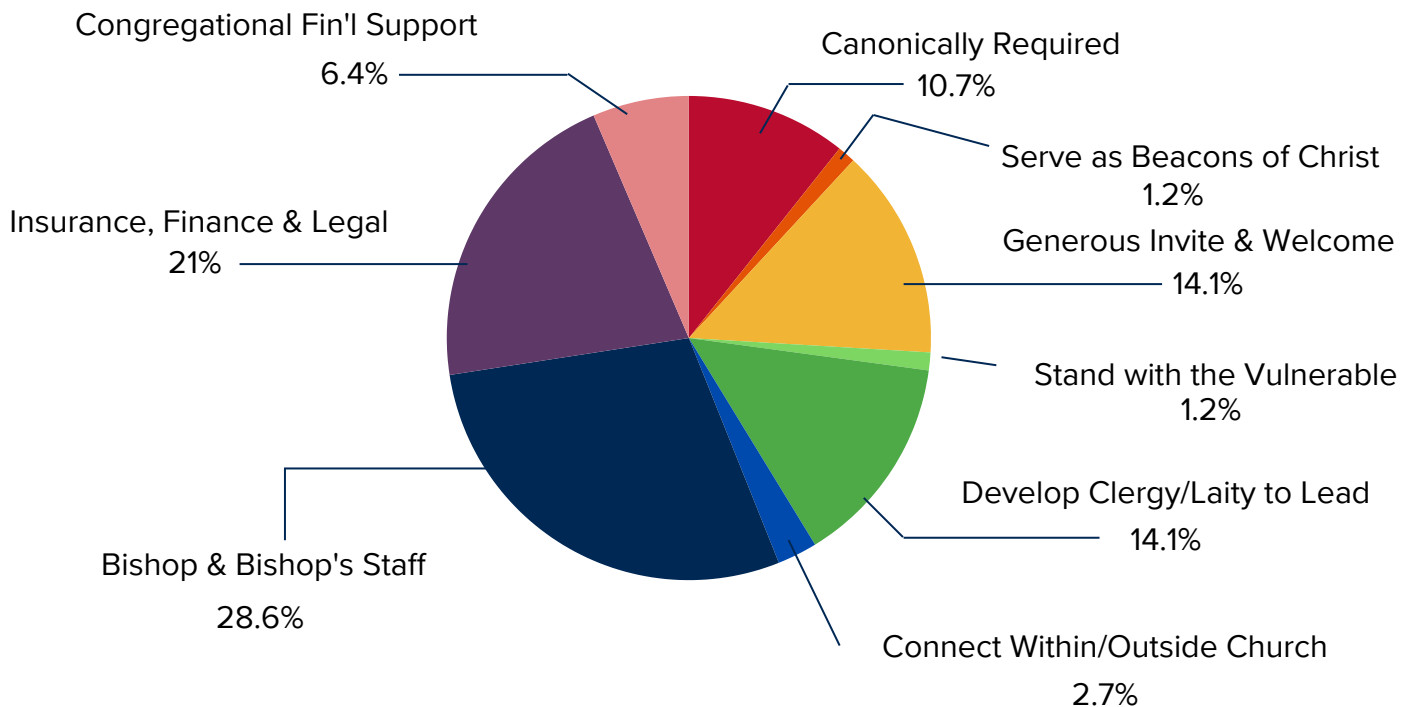


# KEY FINANCIALS

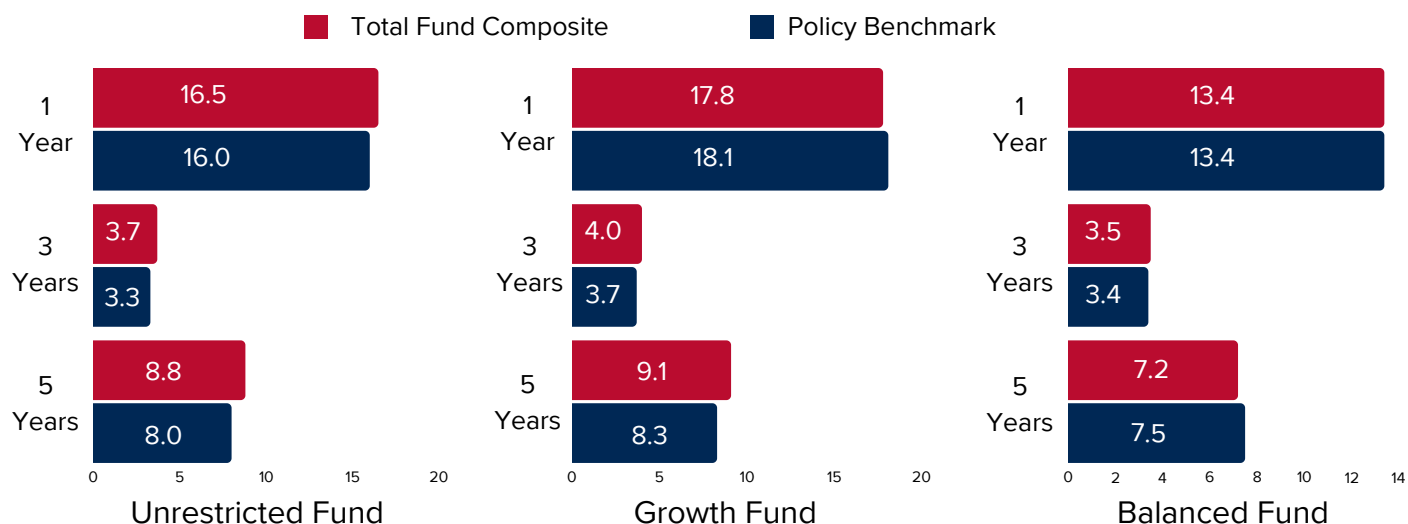
## Revenue \$4,143,086.99



## Expenses \$4,143,086.99



# KEY FINANCIALS



## Diocesan Investments

The investment assets of the Unrestricted Fund, commonly referred to as the Endowment, support approximately half of the operations of the diocese. Diocesan investments have been professionally managed by Marquette Associates since 2022. The Unrestricted Fund has a balance of approximately \$32.5 million.

## Investing with Our Values

Starting in 2022, the Investment & Finance Committee, in consultation with Executive Council, began to better align our portfolio with the stated values of the church. To start, the portfolio has eliminated investments that profit from predatory activities that are an offense to human dignity, namely, for-profit incarceration, tobacco, and gambling. In 2023, we initiated an investment in a bond fund that finances affordable housing in the state of Indiana.

## Investing Alongside the Diocese

The diocese offers congregations and affiliated institutions the opportunity to invest alongside it in two pooled funds, also managed by Marquette Associates. The Growth Fund has a long-term return target of inflation +5%. The Balanced Fund has a long-term return target of 5%. The diocese pays all investment fees on behalf of pooled fund investors. Approximately \$16 million is invested in the two pooled funds.

## Making Gifts of Securities

Individuals can make gifts of appreciated securities to the diocese, congregations, and affiliated institutions, using the diocese’s brokerage accounts. For additional information about how to make such a gift, please contact [Canon Brendan O’Sullivan-Hale](#). There is no charge for this service.



# THANK YOU!



We give thanks for all lay and clergy leaders and their ministries of bold witness to the love of God, radical welcome into relationship with Christ, and service to the community and to the world. Please let your Diocesan staff know how we can be of service to you!



Phone  
317-926-5454



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