

CHRIST CHURCH CHRISTIANA HUNDRED



DECEMBER 1, 2024

IN THE SEASON OF ADVENT

THIS WEEK WE LIFT UP..

OUR INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING PROJECT. Each fall, members of religious communities in Delaware join forces to help those in need at Thanksgiving. Christ Church hosted this year's gathering, which included Thanksgiving meal packing and a potluck dinner. Members of each congregation contribute whole bag meals for distribution by area nonprofits along with \$20 grocery store gifts cards for the purchase of turkeys. We are delighted to announce that 264 meals were assembled this year. Over the course of the event's 26 years, we have distributed 4,236 meals and \$59,275 in grocery store cards. Thank you to all who contributed! This gathering of interfaith partners in ministry is a special time of giving and sharing. Each major religion teaches that service and sharing from our bounty is a tangible sign that the divine is at work in us, and this event highlights the beauty in diversity and the respect and commitment to relationship with one another that is the foundation of a strong community.

ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS

Advent Lessons & Carols will be held today at 5 PM in the Church. Patterned after the great service in Salisbury, England, members of our parish read the lessons, and the Christ Church Choir leads our singing. Join us as we allow the light, scripture, prayer, and music to open our hearts to the coming of Christ this Advent and move us toward the true joy of Christmas.

REMEMBERING LOVED ONES AT CHRISTMAS - SUBMIT NAMES BY TOMORROW

To remember someone with a contribution for special flowers or music at Christmas this year, please submit your names and contribute [online](#), place your donation and memorial names in the offering plate today, or deliver them to the parish office by tomorrow, December 2. All memorials will be listed in the Christmas bulletins.

2024 YEAR-END GIFTS & 2025 PLEDGES TO CHRIST CHURCH

Please help us meet our 2024 ministry budget by completing your financial pledge for the year. We count on every member to make our ministry possible, and donations are fully tax-deductible.

Thank you to the 317 households that have made a financial pledge to Christ Church for the coming year! Christ Church is a place for inspiration, celebration, sharing, service, and worship where all are welcome, and your gift to God makes this place possible. We rely on contributions and pledges like yours as our primary source of income to support our ministries as we care for our parish family and serve the community around us. Please join us in making your pledge, and know that wherever you are on your spiritual journey, there is a place for you here.

Click [here](#) to give online, make a pledge, and for instructions on giving a gift of stock. In addition, you may mail checks to Christ Church, P. O. Box 3510, Wilmington, DE 19807.

PARISH ADVENT DEVOTIONAL AVAILABLE

Advent ushers in our new liturgical year and is a season that calls us to slow down, prepare, and wait for the coming of Christ. This year, members of our parish contributed writings for each day of Advent, and we've compiled these into a Parish Advent Devotional. You are invited to pick up your copy from the back of the Church or Chapel today and to set aside time each day during Advent to consider how the day's devotion supports you on your Advent journey. Copies are available [online](#) as well.

THE GREEN SHOW IS FRIDAY & SATURDAY

Find the perfect gifts for those on your Christmas list, decorate your home for the holidays with our beautiful greens, and enjoy fun and fellowship—with all proceeds supporting local social service agencies. The Green Show takes place this Friday, December 6, from 6 to 9 PM and Saturday, December 7, from 10 AM to 2 PM. Click [here](#) to purchase tickets to Friday's Preview Party, taking advantage of our advance registration pricing through Thursday, December 5. Then bring your family on Saturday for a day of fun with a visit from Santa, children's activities, brunch, and more. If the Green Show isn't already a Christmas tradition for you and your family, this is the year to make it one!

Silent Auction bidding opens this week to Preview Party ticket holders and continues until 8:45 PM on Friday, December 6. Again this year, auction bidding is online (with the exception of a few featured items), so you can join in wherever you are from your computer or mobile device, and auction volunteers will be available to assist those placing bids in person in the Parish Halls on Friday night. Look through the catalog and start bidding this week! You will be notified by email if you are outbid, so you will be able to monitor your favorite items easily.

Click [here](#) for all you need to know about how to participate in the Green Show and this week's preparations leading up to the event.

MAKE A CHILD'S CHRISTMAS THIS YEAR: RETURN ADVENT DOVE GIFTS – BY DECEMBER 8

Again this year, we are collecting Christmas gifts for families of some of our outreach partners. Make a child's Christmas this year and sign up for an Advent Dove gift [here](#). Each Advent Dove contains gift suggestions for a specific child and instructions for participating, and the spending range is \$35-\$50 per child. Please return your wrapped gifts to Christ Church by next Sunday, December 8, so that recipients can enjoy a blessed Christmas.

175TH ANNIVERSARY SERVICE PROJECT – DECEMBER 8 & 20

Our 175th Anniversary Service Project with Lutheran Community Services (LCS) continues this month as we address food insecurity in Wilmington with two opportunities to participate.

Donations Needed on December 8: Next Sunday, we collect items to donate to LCS: toilet paper, children's diapers, adult pull-up diapers, feminine hygiene products, body wash, shampoo, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, laundry detergent, and dish soap. Items are presented during worship and taken to Lutheran Community Services to be distributed.

Volunteer on December 20: On Friday, December 20, volunteers are needed to pack grocery bags of healthy foods and then distribute them to the cars of program participants. Sign up [here](#).

COFFEE AND CONVERSATION – DECEMBER 11

Those of all ages are invited for Coffee and Conversation on Wednesday, December 11, from 10:45 to 11:45 AM in the Commons Room. Gather with friends for meaningful conversation and make new friends over coffee, tea, and snacks. Join us for this time of fun and fellowship and then stay for the 12 PM Eucharist in the Chapel.

NEAPOLITAN CHRISTMAS WITH TEMPESTA DI MARE – DECEMBER 13

Hear Alessandro Scarlatti's festive Christmas cantata plus seasonal music by Falconieri, Mancini, and Marchitelli performed by Tempesta di Mare's chamber ensemble of recorder, violins, lute, harpsichord, and cello. Guest soprano Rebecca Myers joins this performance at Christ Church on Friday, December 13, at 7 PM. Tickets are \$35-\$45 and may be purchased [here](#).

CHRIST CHURCH CHRISTMAS COOKIE EXCHANGE – DECEMBER 15

Join us as we celebrate Christmas with a cookie exchange on Sunday, December 15, at 9:30 AM in the Parish Halls during Coffee & Community. Please bring three dozen baked or store-bought cookies, labeled to exchange in bags of six each. No faith formation classes will meet at this time, so all ages can share in this fun intergenerational event.

PARTICIPATE IN THIS YEAR'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT – REHEARSALS DECEMBER 15 & 21

Each year our children and youth tell the story of our Savior's birth. The Christmas pageant is on December 24 at the 2 PM service. Christ Church has a long-standing tradition of high school students in the leading roles, but there are speaking parts and non-speaking parts for children and youth 3 and up, and parents are needed to help with costuming and stage directions. Those with speaking roles rehearse on Sunday, December 15, from 4:30 to 5:30 PM, and the full cast will rehearse on Saturday, December 21, from 9:30 to 11 AM. Click [here](#) to register your child's participation.

THE LONGEST NIGHT PRAYER SERVICE – DECEMBER 21

As we care for those who have lost loved ones, Christ Church offers a service on the longest night of the year. Join us in the Church on Saturday, December 21, at 7 PM for a candlelight prayer service for those who carry heavier burdens of sorrow into this season. Music is provided by Janet Witman on the harp.

CHRISTMAS ADORNMENT HELP NEEDED – DECEMBER 22 & 23

Help adorn the Church and Chapel on Sunday, December 22, from 12 to 2:30 PM or from 2:30 to 5:30 PM or on Monday, December 23, from 10 AM to 1 PM, 1:30 to 4:30 PM, or 4:30 to 6:30 PM. All experience levels are welcome, and any holiday greens donations are appreciated. Contact [Sam Greenberg](#) to volunteer for a shift.

MEMORIAL FLOWERS

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the Glory of God
in loving memory of

Robert Carter Wellford and Mercer Jackson Wellford
Walter Elton Rowland and Elizabeth Williams Rowland
Landon Hill Rowland, Leigh Anne Rowland

The flowers in the Chapel are given to the Glory of God
in loving memory of
Deborah Bonkowski

Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, Christ Church welcomes you into a loving and joyful community that serves others and seeks to grow deeper in relationship with God through Jesus Christ.



NEW HERE? Scan the QR code to let us know or complete the card in the pews and place it in the offering plate.

PARISH CLERGY

The Rev. Ruth Beresford, *Rector*
The Rev. Michael Kurth, *Associate Rector/Preschool Chaplain*
The Rev. David Beresford, *Interim Associate Rector*
The Very Rev. William Lane, *Pastoral Associate*

LAY MINISTRY STAFF

Sheila Abio, *Head of School*
Bruce Barber, *Director of Music*
Mason Cruz, *Minister for Children & Youth*
Jo Harney, *Director of Choristers*
Cameron Kuzepski, *Organ Scholar*

ADMINISTRATIVE & FACILITIES STAFF

Sherry Lawton-Fasic, *Parish Administrator*
Terri Carpe, *Finance Manager*
Jennifer Fordham, *School Administrator*
Denise Gilliam, *CCEP Administrative Specialist*
Deb Piper, *Philanthropy/Stewardship Associate*
Jane Rubini, *Administrative Associate*
Nigel Sanderson, *Livestream Technician*
Michael Sayer, *Facilities Manager*
Deborah Webb, *Communications Associate/Graphic Designer*
Leroy Folks, Andy Marine, Charles Parfitt-Simpson, *Sextons*

VESTRY & OFFICERS

Ran Barton, *Senior Warden*; Alexia Wolf, '26, *Junior Warden*
Mark Parsells, *Treasurer*; Bob Reardon, *Assistant Treasurer*
Jennifer O'Connor, *Clerk*; Alexander Maynard, *Youth Representative*
Chuck Arensberg, '26; Audrey Bruce, '25; Cindi Cozza, '27; Barbara King, '27
Ted Ledden, '25; Thorpe Moeckel, '27; Scott Nickle, '26; Eliza Phillips, '25
Jamie Poston, '27; Bart Reese, '25; Jaqueline Whalen, '26

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Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM