CHRIST CHURCH CHRISTIANA HUNDRED



December 8, 2024

IN THE SEASON OF ADVENT

THIS WEEK WE LIFT UP...

OUR MEDIA MINISTRY. The Church is called to keep the message of life in Christ relevant and meaningful as the world around us changes rapidly. We provide you with the resources needed to engage in ministry with us, whether attending services and events at Christ Church or from your own home. Visit our <u>website</u> to stay up to date on all that is happening at Christ Church. Review the bulletin and readings of scripture appointed for each Sunday, watch a service or sermon you may have missed, scroll through the calendar of events, and sign up for our weekly emails. Follow us on social media too on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u>, and <u>X</u>. Join the flow of information and connectivity that our Media Ministry provides with resources for the journey of faith. For more information or to join our A/V team that livestreams our 10:30 AM service each Sunday, please contact the parish office at (302) 655-3379.

175TH ANNIVERSARY SERVICE PROJECT

To celebrate Christ Church's 175th anniversary, Christ Church partnered with Lutheran Community Services (LCS) to address food insecurity in Wilmington. Over the past year, there have been numerous opportunities to participate in this work—from monthly collections and food packing to establishing food pantries in schools. Today, we conclude our monthly collections for LCS. Donations of toilet paper, children's diapers, adult pull-up diapers, feminine hygiene products, body wash, shampoo, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, laundry detergent, and dish soap are presented during worship and taken to Lutheran Community Services to be distributed. Then on Friday, December 20, volunteers are needed to pack grocery bags of healthy foods and distribute them to the cars of program participants. Click here to sign up, and look for information in the coming months on how you can be involved in this work in the New Year as Christ Church and LCS continue their relationship and work in the community. Questions? Contact Fr. Michael.

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 those 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 <u>here</u> 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.

COFFEE AND CONVERSATION – DECEMBER 11

Those of all ages are invited for Coffee and Conversation this 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 this Friday, December 13, at 7 PM. Tickets are \$35-\$45 and may be purchased <u>here</u>.

CHRIST CHURCH CHRISTMAS COOKIE EXCHANGE – DECEMBER 15

Join us this year as we celebrate Christmas with a cookie exchange next Sunday, December 15, at 9:30 AM in the Parish Halls as our Parish Fellowship Ministry hosts 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 during this time, so all ages can share in this fun intergenerational event.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP MEETING – DECEMBER 15

Christ Church's Grief Support Group meets next Sunday, December 15, at 12 PM. Those who have experienced the loss of a loved one and are moving through the grief process are encouraged to attend either in person in the Commons Room or online. Click <u>here</u> for the Zoom link.

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

This year's Christmas pageant takes place on Christmas Eve during the 2 PM service. Children and youth ages 3 and up are welcome to join the cast playing the townspeople, soldiers, animals, angels, and shepherds, up through the lead roles of the narrators, Mary and Joseph, the Innkeeper, the Magi, and other speaking roles. Children serve as ushers and stagehands too—roles without costumes or speaking parts. Parents are needed to help with costuming and stage directions. Those with speaking roles rehearse next 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. Please register your child's participation at <u>here</u>.

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. To volunteer for a shift, contact <u>Sam Greenberg</u>.

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

Christmas Eve

2:00 PM Christmas Pageant with Carols (no communion) in the Church
4:00 PM Holy Eucharist in the Church
4:00 PM Candlelight, Communion, and Carols in the Chapel
6:00 PM Christmas Lessons & Carols (no communion) in the Church and livestreamed to our website
10:00 PM Choral Eucharist in the Church

Christmas Day 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist in the Church

CHRISTMAS FLOWER DELIVERY – DECEMBER 27

Following our Christmas worship, we deliver flowers from our sanctuary to approximately 100 of our members who are in our thoughts and prayers at this time. On Friday, December 27, between 9:30 and 10 AM, we need drivers willing to help with the distribution (anyone with a vehicle, driver's license, and a little time to spare). This simple act of pastoral ministry brings Christmas cheer to those who need it most. To volunteer, contact Jane Rubini.

COMBINED 9 AM SERVICE – DECEMBER 29

The ARK and SANCTUARY services combine for worship in the Church on Sunday, December 29. Please join us for one service of worship on this day and in our separate sacred spaces for worship on other Sundays when The ARK gathers for young children and their families in the Chapel, and SANCTUARY gathers for older children, youth, and their families in the Church.

UPCOMING BAPTISMAL SERVICE – JANUARY 12

On Sunday, January 12, The Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord, the sacrament of Baptism will take place at the 10:30 AM service. A preparation meeting for parents and godparents will be held prior to this date. If you are interested in Baptism for yourself or your child, please contact Jane Rubini for an application.

MEMORIAL FLOWERS

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the Glory of God in loving memory of Helen M. and John Chabalko Sr. Elsie L. and Robert M. Dawson

The flowers in the chapel are given to the Glory of God in loving memory of Anne T. Marcial 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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