CHRIST CHURCH CHRISTIANA HUNDRED



DECEMBER 29, 2024

THE SEASON OF CHRISTMAS

THIS WEEK WE LIFT UP...

CHRIST CHURCH SUPPORT GROUPS. Support groups at Christ Church provide compassionate Christian care to people in need within and beyond our church family. Our hybrid Grief Support Group meets monthly for those seeking the support of others who have lost a loved one, and Alcoholics Anonymous and Al-Anon meet here during the week for those dealing with alcoholism and recovery. These groups offer refreshment and comfort and provide a place of safety, prayer, and mutual support. Click here or call the parish office at (302) 655-3379 for more information.

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. If you haven't made a 2024 pledge to contribute, we welcome your offering. All donations received on or before December 31 will be credited to your 2024 contribution statement. Donations received or postmarked after December 31 will be gratefully accepted as 2025 gifts. All donations are fully tax-deductible.

Thank you to those households that have made a financial pledge to Christ Church for 2025! 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.

NEW YEAR'S/HOLY NAME DAY SERVICE - JANUARY 1

Join us for our New Year's/Holy Name Day celebration on Wednesday, January 1, at 12 PM in the Chapel. This communion service commemorates the naming of the child Jesus eight days after his birth.

NEW THEOLOGY SMALL GROUP MEETS - JANUARY 2 & 16

A newly-formed Theology Small Group meets every other Thursday in the Commons Room from 5:30 to 6:30 PM and explores theological writings from the earliest days of the Church up to the present. Topics include the doctrine of the Trinity, grace, salvation, and age-old questions such as: Why does suffering exist? Is evil merely the absence of good? and How much free will do we have? The conversation and company are lively, and no prior understanding of theology is needed—there is space for all people. New members are welcome on January 2 and 16.

CELTIC EUCHARIST ON THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY – JANUARY 6

In our hurried and noisy world, Celtic Eucharist offers gracious space and time to enjoy the holiness of God, gently touched by candlelight, music, and prayer. This spirituality, part of our Anglican/Episcopal tradition, took root in Scotland, Ireland, Wales, Northumbria, and their coastal islands. Through moments of reflection and calm, quiet words, and the sacrament of Holy Communion, we bring this tradition to Christ Church on Monday, January 6, at 7 PM as we seek to draw more deeply into God's presence. Join us as we welcome harpist Janet Witman and guitarist Trevor Koenig Sr. to play during this service in the Chapel.

COFFEE AND CONVERSATION - JANUARY 8

Those of all ages are invited for Coffee and Conversation on Wednesday, January 8, 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.

JOIN OUR INVITATION WORKSHOP – JANUARY 15

Did you know that 66% of Americans say they would accept an invitation to join a friend or family member at church? The challenge for us is building our courage and skills to make that invitation. To help, Christ Church parishioners are invited to join members of our Invite Welcome Connect Team on Wednesday, January 15, at 6 PM for an Invitation Workshop in Parish Hall C. Together, we will discover our own story of knowing God's love and will learn tactics for listening to others' stories and inviting them into life at Christ Church. Dinner will be provided. Please RSVP for this special offering here.

CARD-MAKING WORKSHOP - JANUARY 16

Now is the time to check off a New Year's resolution and clear out your stockpile of old greeting cards and paper products! Have fun and get creative as you start the New Year with a card-making workshop with artist Leslie Davis Guccione. Join in on Thursday, January 16, from 9 to 11 AM in Parish Hall A as she gives us tips on repurposing old cards, paper, and materials in our homes to create all-occasion cards to use throughout the year—just in time for Valentine's Day. Click here to RSVP.

EPIPHANY LESSONS & CAROLS – JANUARY 19

Services of Lessons & Carols focus on the story of God's actions in the world for each season of the Church year. Epiphany is a multifaceted season where we see the young Christ Jesus in the manger, being presented in the Temple, being baptized, shining forth as the light of the world, and ultimately revealing his glory in dazzling brightness on the holy mountain. Join the Christ Church Choir on Sunday, January 19, at 4 PM in the Chapel as we hear and celebrate these stories of Epiphany.

CHAPEL MEMORIAL FLOWER DATES AVAILABLE

Memorial flowers for the altars at Christ Church are donated in memory of loved ones each week. With weekly services in the Chapel, there are numerous dates available to donate flowers in 2025. If you wish to offer flowers for the Chapel in memory of a loved one, please contact Jane Rubini or call (302) 655-3379.

2025 FUNDING APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE

The Outreach Committee has begun its 2025 funding cycle. Each year, Christ Church provides funding to nonprofit agencies that feed, clothe, house, educate, and advocate for our neighbors in need. Those who work with nonprofit agencies may download an application here. Completed applications must be submitted by Friday, January 31.

OUR MINISTRY OF CARING

Christ Church's Pastoral Care ministries provide Christian care and hospitality to people in need within and beyond our parish family. Everyone at Christ Church can participate in reaching out to those who could use help, especially during this holiday season when many find it to be a time of sadness, loneliness, and anxiety. Another option is to share concerns or issues that you hear about in the lives of parishioners and friends with a member of the church staff by emailing the <u>parish office</u> or calling (302) 655-3379. This small act will help ensure that when a need arises, the church can wrap its arms of love and assistance around those who could really use it.

HOSTS NEEDED FOR COFFEE & COMMUNITY

Volunteers are needed to host Coffee & Community each Sunday from 9:30 to 10:30 AM. This is a fun way to contribute to the life of our parish while extending generous hospitality, and it's a great activity to do as a family or with a group of friends. Click <u>here</u> to sign up for a date in 2025.

WEAR YOUR CHRIST CHURCH NAME TAG

Help us build community as we get to know fellow parishioners and newcomers by wearing your Christ Church name tag when you come to church. Tags are hard plastic with a magnetic clip, and donations are welcome to offset the \$8 cost to the church. Order yours here.

HEARING LOOP SYSTEM

Our nave is equipped with a hearing loop system that provides clean, clear sound without a headset and transmits sound from our microphones directly into hearing aids and cochlear implants with telecoils of those in the pews. If you have hearing loss but no telecoil device, please ask an usher for a loop receiver.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the Glory of God in celebration of the lay staff at Christ Church

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

CHRIST CHURCH CHRISTIANA HUNDRED P. O. Box 3510, 505 E. Buck Road Wilmington, Delaware 19807-0510 Phone: (302) 655-3379

Website: www.christchurchde.org Facebook: ccchde / Instagram: christchurchde / X: christchurchch Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM