

The Disciple

News & Events at Christ Church Charlotte

February 2016



An Invitation to Lent

Ash Wednesday

February 10

7:00 AM, Noon, 7:30 PM

Holy Eucharist and Imposition
of Ashes

Devotions for Lent

Receive daily readings and prayers.
www.christchurchcharlotte.org/lent

"The first Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord's passion and resurrection, and it became the custom of the Church to prepare for them by a season of penitence and fasting.... Thereby, the whole congregation was put in mind of the message of pardon and absolution set forth in the Gospel of our Savior, and of the need which all Christians continually have to renew their repentance and faith.

We invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word."

Book of Common Prayer, page 264

Healing a Broken World

He heals the broken-hearted, and binds up their wounds. Psalm 147:3

OUTREACH and MISSION

Christmas Offering: Thank You!

Because of the amazing generosity of Christ Church parishioners, we collected \$18,115.51 during the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services. We cannot thank you enough for such a beautiful expression of the true meaning of Christmas. These funds will be shared between two worthwhile causes:

Rama Road Elementary School STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Groups

Once a week for an hour, a group of first- and second-grade girls meet together for STEM club. Led by a teacher from Discovery Place, these girls learn in interactive and fun ways, like dissecting an octopus or building a circuit. Every two weeks, they welcome "women in science" speakers into the classroom to share about their careers and work. It is a single-gender but diverse class targeted towards girls who are at grade level, have good attendance and behavior, and could use some assistance with the enrichment gap. Both a pre and post assessment will be done to evaluate the impact on performance for these students. Christ Church funds will allow Rama Road Elementary School to begin a second offering this spring so that both boys and girls can participate in this project.

Nurse-Family Partnership (Care Ring)

Nurse-Family Partnership® (NFP) is an evidence-based community health program that helps transform the lives of vulnerable mothers pregnant with their first child. Each mother served by NFP is partnered with a registered nurse early in her pregnancy and receives ongoing nurse home visits that continue through her child's second birthday. Independent research proves that communities benefit from this relationship: every dollar invested in NFP can yield more than five dollars in return. In Mecklenburg County, NFP has served 365 mothers since 2008 and boasts national results of 89% of babies born at full term and at a healthy weight. Also, 44% of mothers who entered the program without a high school diploma have since earned one, and another 26% are working toward one.

Room in the Inn

We are two months into this annual ministry and yes, we're still going strong! We have two more months of hosting our neighbors who are homeless every Sunday night at Christ Church. If you haven't already jumped in to participate, you still have time! Feel free to sign up to help bring food, set up beds, or drive the van. Our most needed volunteers are those who are willing to spend the night. This is also a great ministry for your family to serve together. Learn more and sign up at www.christchurchcharlotte.org/riti.

Habitat for Humanity: Build for Van

In celebration and thanksgiving for the life of Van Hill, we are dedicating our Habitat build this year to his memory. For all who knew Van, words like hospitality, welcome, and building community immediately come to mind. His life was defined by giving, whether through bridge classes or solutions to problems or tips for the best restaurants. His life was one of service in every sense of the word. Help us celebrate his memory by building a home with a family through Habitat for Humanity.



Here are the important dates for our build this year:

Habitat Kick-Off Dinner

February 11, 6:00 - 7:30 PM (All are welcome)

Kick-Off Build Days

February 18, 19, and 20, 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Build Days, 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Saturdays, February 27 - March 19, and April 2 - 23

Friday, March 4

Habitat Dedication

Saturday, April 23, Noon

Learn more and sign up at www.christchurchcharlotte.org/habitat.

Costa Rica Mission Trip

We currently have a group of 12 missionaries in San Jose, Costa Rica working on the construction of The Church of the Ascension. Please keep this group and Bishop Hector Monterroso in your prayers:

Mary Babcock
Amy Cole
John Crehore
Marty Hedgpeth
Genie Hufham
Rueben Hufham
Brad Kutrow

Bill Lowry
Winston Paschall
Sue Schenck
Anne Schmitt
Anne Stolz
Janie Metts
Tasse Little

Ash Wednesday Worship

Please worship with us on Ash Wednesday, February 10, when we will offer Holy Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes at 7:00 AM, Noon, and 7:30 PM worship services in the Church. These services are a meaningful way to begin the season of Lent.

Capturing Lent through Music

by Rob Ridgell

During Lent, we do not play music at the end of worship services. After the congregation proclaims "Thanks be to God," nothing else audible happens except the sound of people walking out. It feels like Lent!

Silence is an effective catechesis. During Lent, perhaps less is more. But, more is also more: less music, more silence. The Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) certainly know how profound silence can be and so will we, when on Easter Day – the congregation joins in singing "Jesus Christ is Risen Today!"

Music has the power of capturing the spirit of a season in a profound way. Here are a couple of other things you'll notice in the days from Ash Wednesday to Good Friday:

- The band and choirs will be singing the same service music (Kyrie – Lord have mercy; Sanctus – Holy, holy, holy, Lord; and at the Breaking of the Bread – O Lamb of God) but, in different styles.
- The organ, piano, and band instruments will likely be played much more quietly during Lent. Sometimes, more a cappella (singing without accompaniment) pieces will be used.
- Our Lenten Exile: We do not sing the "Gloria" (Glory to God in the highest) or speak/sing "Alleluia" in Lent, so for now, we bury the "Alleluia" and look for this great word of praise to return forty days later!

The Christ Church Choir will sing for the 7:30 PM Ash Wednesday Service on February 10 with music by Randall Thompson and Cristóbal de Morales. On the First Sunday of Lent, February 14, the choirs will offer Herbert Howells' beautiful setting of Psalm 42, "Like as the hart." The following Sunday, February 21, is a little more dramatic with Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's "Benedictus" from the Requiem in D Minor. The Third Sunday of Lent is February 28, when the choirs will offer the spiritual "Oh, Sinner Man," which has been recorded by a number of performers over the years, including Les Baxter, Nina Simone and The Wailers.

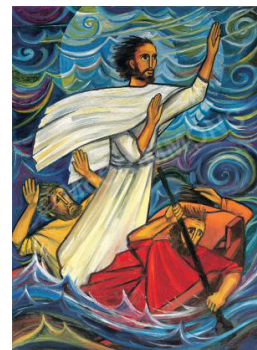
Our Choral Scholars from UNCC

We are blessed to have several University of North Carolina at Charlotte (UNCC) voice students who sing in our choir program: Katherine Eckard, Joey Gilewicz, Lucas King, James Matens and Stephanie Patterson. The Choral Scholar program at Christ Church is intended to introduce young and talented vocalists to quality choral music in a church setting. Through their involvement in the Christ Church Music Ministry, not only do they have the opportunity to sing some challenging repertoire, but also to be formed as musical leaders in a spiritual home. Thank you, Christ Church for supporting this important and vibrant ministry!

Music Clubs "Informance"

Wednesday, February 24, 5:00 PM

Our Music Clubs will share their interpretation of three New Testament stories through singing, playing, and narration. One of the stories describes how Jesus called Simon Peter, James, and John to be his disciples. Another tells of how Jesus calmed the storm, as we listen to His words "Be Still," and the third teaches us how to pray using the words of St. Matthew and St. Luke. We will spend time praying the Lord's Prayer during rehearsal. If your child would like to be part of Music Club (Pre-K and K) or Music Club Plus (first and second grades), please contact Allison Schommer at 704-714-6957 or schommer@christchurchcharlotte.org to register your child.



Summer Arts Camp

Christ Church is excited to host our second annual Summer Arts Camp July 18 - 21. Each day (9:00 AM - Noon), rising kindergarteners through fifth graders will participate in different sessions, including art, movement, choral singing, liturgical drama, and percussion. Join us as we celebrate God through color, sound and movement! Cost of registration is \$95, which covers all art materials and a snack each day. Register at www.christchurchcharlotte.org/artscamp or contact Allison Schommer at schommer@christchurchcharlotte.org for details.



Healing a Broken World

Join us on Sunday mornings for these opportunities to learn and be led in our Lenten journey toward healing a broken world.

Clergy Class: Faith Forum Rewind

February 7, 10:00 AM, All Saints' Hall

Did you miss one of the Faith Forums in January? Do you want the opportunity to engage on a deeper level about what Stuart Hoke, Becca Stevens, or Barbara Brown Taylor said? If so, join us for this Faith Forum Rewind as we play back short video clips from the past month and have an interactive conversation with the clergy. Bring your questions and we will seek out the answers together.

Clergy Class: Justice & Reconciliation

February 14, 10:00 AM, All Saints' Hall

The Reverend Martha Hedgpeth

Christ Church strives to help heal the world by establishing and maintaining relationships with individuals whose lives are challenged by poverty and related issues, including homelessness, hunger, addiction, mental illness, and unemployment. In this class we will journey through the Bible to understand the justice to which God calls us, which is revealed in Jesus, and explore how that justice might be calling us to greater advocacy and deeper commitment to those in need in our city and beyond.



Devotions for Lent

The season of Lent is a time when we are invited to pay special attention to our life with God and with one another. To help you make room for God in your daily life during this year's Lenten season, we have compiled a collection of Lenten devotions by Christ Church parishioners. For each day of Lent, parishioners from all walks of life and areas of ministry have written devotions based on the lectionary to aid your reading of the Bible and support you in your daily prayers. *Devotions for Lent 2016* will be available as a daily email (subscribe at www.christchurchcharlotte.org/lent), and in booklet form (available in the Church office beginning February 7).

Forty Days, Forty Ways to Practice Your Faith

To receive a daily text message offering a different spiritual practice each day, text @lent40 to 81010.

Faith Forum: Bryan Stevenson

February 21, 10:00 AM, All Saints' Hall

Bryan Stevenson is the founder and Executive Director of the Equal Justice Initiative in Montgomery, Alabama, and a professor of law at New York University School of Law. He has won relief for dozens of condemned prisoners, argued five times before the Supreme Court, and won national acclaim for his work challenging bias against the poor and people of color. He has received numerous awards, including the MacArthur Foundation "Genius" Grant. His book, *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption*, chronicles his experiences defending those most desperate and in need: the poor, the wrongly condemned, and women and children trapped in the farthest reaches of the criminal justice system.



Faith Forum: The Reverend Canon Nicholas Porter

February 28, 10:00 AM, All Saints' Hall

Nicholas T. Porter is the founder and Executive Director of Jerusalem Peacebuilders, an interfaith nonprofit focused on uniting Israeli, Palestinian and American youth and providing them with the opportunities and skills they need to become future leaders for peace in the global community.



An Episcopal priest and educator, Nicholas has lived, worked and traveled extensively throughout Europe and the Middle East. His latest projects are to open summer peace camps in Lebanon for refugee teens from Syria's warring sects and to design a Youth Peace and Leadership Empowerment curriculum for use in Jerusalem.

Confirmation and Inquirers Class for Adults

Sundays, February 7 – April 24, 10:00 AM

(Excluding Palm Sunday and Easter, March 20 and 27)

This class is for any adult who wishes to be confirmed in the Episcopal Church, or who simply wants to explore what we believe. The class explores the basics of Christianity, taught by Christ Church clergy. Everyone is welcome and questions are encouraged.

Confirmation is Sunday, June 5, at 8:30 AM. If you are unable to be confirmed that day, we can make arrangements for you to be confirmed at a different church or next year when the Bishop visits. To learn more or sign up, contact Erin Cowles, cowlese@christchurchcharlotte.org or 704-714-6972.

ADULT FORMATION

Wednesday Nights

Join us for a great dinner buffet in the Blue Room on Wednesday nights starting at 5:30 PM, and then stay for any of these excellent programs:

Young Adult Women's Bible/Book Study

Every Wednesday, 7:00 – 8:00 PM, M206

Young adult women (ages 21 - 35) meet most Wednesdays for Bible study. We use a variety of study materials. For more information, visit www.christchurchcharlotte.org/youngadults, or contact The Reverend Patty Willett at willettp@christchurchcharlotte.org.

Living With Grief and Hope

**Wednesdays, February 17 and 25, March 9 and 16
7:00 – 8:15 PM, M204**

A four-week series for those coping with grief and loss. Grief can be a pathway to growth, not in a way that justifies the pain or loss, but in a way that pays homage to our loss. No one need carry grief alone either; knowing that others understand how we feel can lessen the hurt and strengthen the hope. Each meeting will be led by The Reverend Lisa Saunders. Register by contacting Lisa at saundersl@christchurchcharlotte.org.

The Last Week of Jesus' Life

**Wednesdays February 17 – March 16
6:00 – 7:00 PM, Location TBA**

Join The Reverend John Porter-Acee as he leads a conversational Bible Study exploring the details of the last week of Jesus' life. Using the book *The Last Week* and the Bible as a guide, we will walk through the events that led to Jesus' crucifixion. Come be informed, challenged, and inspired, as we meet not only the historical Jesus, but also a new Jesus who engages us and invites us to follow him. Registration required. Free childcare available by reservation.

Virtual Pilgrimage: Paul's Dangerous Journeys

**Wednesdays, February 17 – March 23
6:30 – 8:00 PM, All Saints' Hall**

Join The Reverend Matt Holcombe as he leads a virtual pilgrimage to the places in which Christianity was born. Using pictures he has taken on recent pilgrimages to Turkey, Greece, and the Holy Land, Matt will help ancient biblical cities come alive using scripture and pictures of what these pilgrimage sites look like today. Registration is required. Free childcare available by reservation.



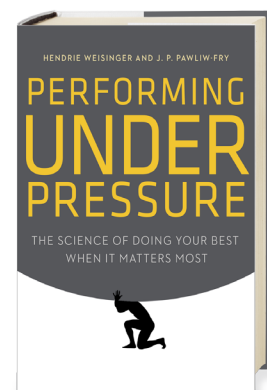
More About Lent

Find details about all Lenten opportunities to worship, learn and nurture your spirit at www.christchurchcharlotte.org/lent.

Men's Ministry

**First Friday for Men: "Performing Under Pressure"
Friday, February 5, 7:00 – 8:00 AM, Blue Room**

After taking a break for the New Year, we will be resuming our First Friday for Men breakfasts on February 5 with Jim Horton, a physician on the faculty at Carolinas Medical Center, father, husband, and Christ Church parishioner for 20 years. Over eggs and grits, Jim Horton will discuss the book *Performing Under Pressure* by Drs. Hendrie Weisinger and J. P. Pawliw-Fry, exploring the way pressure affects us and our relationships — and, ultimately, what science and the Bible say about managing the stress pressure puts on us. Breakfast is \$8 at the door. RSVP to Erin Cowles, cwlese@christchurchcharlotte.org, 704-714-6972.



Men's 2016 Golf Retreat

March 4 - 6, Pinehurst, NC



Join other men of Christ Church for a wonderful weekend of golf and God, March 4 - 6 at the Pine Crest Inn in Pinehurst, NC. Weekend package includes two nights of accommodations, breakfasts and dinners, two rounds of golf (Friday, Saturday or Sunday), great fellowship, and faith conversations about "Driving the

Distance." Cost for the weekend is \$415, double occupancy, or \$485, single occupancy. Transportation and lunches are not included.

Register by February 15 at www.christchurchcharlotte.org/men. Contact Donal Simpson, drsfaia@gmail.com, or Scott Griffin, sgriffin306@gmail.com, for more information.

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Operation Sandwich

Junior Youth Connect (JYC)

Tuesday, February 23

5:00 - 6:30 PM, Blue Room

All fourth and fifth graders are invited to roll up those sleeves and get ready to dive into the challenge of making more than 400 sandwiches for our homeless neighbors. Bring \$5 as a way to pay it forward. Although 400 sandwiches sounds like a lot, the Urban Ministry Center needs 800 sandwiches each day. How many boxes do you think we can fill? Come join us and find out!



What is a Commission?

Christ Church has a long-standing history of lay leadership, because the most important ideas and ideals of any community are reflections of the people in it. Many of the areas of ministry (liturgical, spiritual growth, and outreach, for example) have a "commission," a group of parishioners with a particular passion and history of involvement in that ministry and its programs. They are our "eyes and ears" among the parish, and bring their own perspective and plenty of fresh ideas, and even critique where needed. They are a dedicated bunch who commit their time, talent and ideas for a three-year term. The commission for Children and Family Ministry welcomes these newest commission members joining our team:



Gray Setaro



Billy Morton



Sally Wyche



Katy Harvey



Wes Hutchinson



Kim Ellison

YOUTH

Faith Talks

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, February 10, 6:00 - 7:00 PM, All Saints' Hall

Middle and high school families are invited to join us for dinner and a program as we begin the Lenten season. We will participate in the Imposition of Ashes following the program. This is a great opportunity for confirmands to worship with their mentors.

Passover Seder Meal

Wednesday, March 16, 6:00 - 7:00 PM, All Saints' Hall

Did you know the Seder Meal is a ritual feast that marks the beginning of the Jewish holiday of Passover? We hope you and your family will join us for our March Faith Talks as we learn how this ritual ties into the roots of our Christian Eucharist. We will enjoy a traditional Seder meal and explore our faith together.

Register your family for either or both of these programs at www.christchurchcharlotte.org/faithtalks.

SAVE THE DATE for Vacation Bible School

June 20 - 23

Registration will open March 1. Visit www.christchurchcharlotte.org/vbs for more information, or contact Katherine Vest at vestk@christchurchcharlotte.org.



CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Caring for Aging Parents

Medicare Plans and Supplement Choices

Wednesday, February 17, 7:00 - 8:00 PM, M207

A guest speaker from the Shepherd's Center will talk with us about the differences in Medicare plans and how to look at supplements and choose what is right for you or your loved one. Open to the public and no reservations are needed. For more information, contact The Reverend Lisa Saunders, 704-714-6952 or saundersl@christchurchcharlotte.org.



PARISH LIFE & NEWCOMERS

Pancake Supper is Back!

Shrove Tuesday, February 9, 5:30 – 7:30 PM

We are excited to bring back the Pancake Supper – Mardi Gras style! Sadly cancelled due to weather last year, we are twice as happy to celebrate this year. In conjunction with the Music Department, the Hospitality Committee welcomes all parishioners to enjoy pancakes, as well as delicious New Orleans-style foods. We will be entertained with jazz music by our own Rob Ridgell and friends. So grab your family or friends and come celebrate in Mardi Gras fashion as we prepare to welcome the season of Lent. This hearty dinner, served buffet-style, will cost \$9 for adults and \$6 for children (ages 4 - 12). No reservations are necessary.

College and Seminary Scholarships Available

Christ Church Foundation scholarships are designated for college and seminary studies. Applications are available in the Rotunda wall rack and at www.christchurchcharlotte.org/foundation. Deadline for applications is April 30, 2016. Return by email to Kimberly Mize at mizek@christchurchcharlotte.org or by mail to 1412 Providence Road Charlotte, NC, 28207.

In the Parish

New Members

Liza and Jonathon Calder
Julia and David Cheatwood
Mary Louise Kilroy

Marriage

Patricia Courtney Cox to James Paul Houser, Jr.

Births

Virginia ("Ginger") Phillips Ferguson, daughter of
Lindsey and Rob Ferguson
Samantha Catherine Warley, granddaughter of
Jeanne Trexler

Baptisms

Brantley Michele DuBose Alvey
Vivienne Sophia Aerin Andersson, daughter of
Suzanne and Mikael Andersson
Lydia Jan Brincefield, daughter of Sarah and
Neal Brincefield
Charles Barnwell Fish, son of Margaret and Eric Fish
Andrew Michael Gatto, son of Jennifer and Michael
Gatto
Estelle Marie Hiltz, daughter of Stephanie and Peter
Hiltz
Graham Gregory Licausi, son of Marta and Gregory
Licausi
Hayden James Van Stratt, daughter of Kristin and
Nicholas Van Stratt

Deaths

James Thomas McCorkle, father of Catherine
Houghland
Dorothy Gayle Hill Jefferis
William Franklin Johnson, Jr.
Berleen Burnette, mother of Diana Dean
Tom Hutchins
John Ashby Taylor, grandfather of Brandon Taylor
Thomas Simpson, grandfather of Anna McMahan
Marty Starr, mother of Carter Starr
Caroline Winburn Mountcastle, mother of Randall
Mountcastle
Martha Holton Cross, mother of Marty Hedgpeth
Beth Rayburn

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Pancake Supper

... with a Mardi Gras Twist!

Shrove Tuesday, February 9

5:30 - 7:30 PM in All Saints' Hall

Adults \$9 · Seniors \$8 · Children \$6 (4-12) · No reservations necessary

Music by Rob Ridgell and Friends

Enjoy pancakes, New Orleans-style food and Crafts!

