

ADVENT 2019

# The Disciple

News & Events at Christ Church Charlotte



Love God  
Care for Each Other  
Serve the World

*“... in him was life,  
and the life was the light  
of all people. The light  
shines in the darkness,  
and the darkness did  
not overcome it.”*

- JOHN 1:4-5

# Advent

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# Advent

## For Everyone

**ADVENT** is a time to watch and wait for Christ's coming into our midst in human flesh. Each Sunday of this season we will offer opportunities to worship, learn and enjoy time together as we prepare the way of the Lord. We hope you'll be a part of these joyful and holy moments to usher in the season.

### Sunday, November 24

**Christ the King Sunday  
Advent Festival, 10:00 AM, Various Rooms**



All adults, children, and teenagers are encouraged to participate in our annual Advent Festival. We will have crafts to make Jesse Tree ornaments.

Candles and wreath forms will be available for purchase, and greenery is provided to make an Advent Wreath. We will also prepare toiletry kits for our Room in the Inn guests.

See page 4 for more details.

### Sunday, December 1

**First Sunday of Advent**

- 7:30 AM Holy Eucharist in the Chapel
  - 8:45 AM Holy Eucharist in the Church\*
  - 8:45 AM Contemporary Eucharist in All Saints' Hall\*
  - 8:45 AM Children's Chapel
  - 10:00 AM Faith Forum with Rob Mendez in All Saints' Hall\*
  - 11:15 AM Discovery Eucharist in All Saints' Hall\*
  - 11:15 AM Holy Eucharist in the Church\*
  - 5:00 PM Advent Lessons and Carols in the Church
- \*Nursery care available



**Advent Lessons and Carols,  
5:00 PM, The Church**

The Christ Church Choir, St. Nicolas Choir, and Christ Church Choristers will sing the annual service of Advent Lessons and Carols. Join us for an atmospheric evening of favorite hymns, carols, and anthems of the season interspersed with Old and

New Testament readings.

### Sunday, December 8

**Second Sunday of Advent**

- 7:30 AM Holy Eucharist in the Church
  - 8:45 AM Holy Eucharist in the Church\*
  - 8:45 AM Contemporary Eucharist in All Saints' Hall\*
  - 8:45 AM Children's Chapel
  - 10:00 AM Annual Meeting in All Saints' Hall\*
  - 11:15 AM Discovery Eucharist in All Saints' Hall\*
  - 11:15 AM Morning Prayer in the Church\*
  - 5:00 PM Holy Eucharist in the Church
- \*Nursery care available

(continued)

**Annual Meeting, 10:00 AM, All Saints' Hall**

An important event in the life of our community, we elect new leadership and learn more about Church matters. All adults and confirmed youth are encouraged to participate. (See pages 12 – 13 for more details.) Children and youth will report to their Sunday School classrooms, and then be led to the Blue Room for a large group gathering. Pick up children from their classrooms.

### Sunday, December 15

**Third Sunday of Advent**

- 7:30 AM Holy Eucharist in the Chapel
- 8:45 AM Holy Eucharist in the Church\*
- 8:45 AM Contemporary Eucharist in All Saints' Hall\*
- 11:15 AM Discovery Eucharist with Christmas Pageant in All Saints' Hall\*
- 11:15 AM Holy Eucharist in the Church\*
- 5:00 PM Holy Eucharist in the Church

\*Nursery care available



**Christmas Pageant,  
11:15 AM in All Saints' Hall**

Children will share the story of Jesus' birth during a family-friendly worship service.

### Monday, December 16

**Greening of the Church, 9:00 AM**

Join us for a fun morning of Christmas cheer, with hot coffee, donuts, and Christmas music to set the mood as we decorate the Church for Christmas. This is a fun, easy opportunity for fellowship with your Christ Church friends, guaranteed to boost your Christmas spirit. Questions? Contact Peggy Horne at 704-661-8783 or [peggy.horne1009@gmail.com](mailto:peggy.horne1009@gmail.com).

### Wednesday, December 18



**A Night in Bethlehem,  
5:30 – 7:00 PM, Christ  
Church Lawn**

Enjoy a drop-in experience of what it might have been like in Bethlehem on the night of Jesus' birth, complete with live animals. All ages are welcome. Drop in anytime.

### Sunday, December 22

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

- 7:30 AM Holy Eucharist in the Chapel
- 8:45 AM Holy Eucharist in the Church\*
- 8:45 AM Contemporary Eucharist in All Saints' Hall\*
- 8:45 AM Children's Chapel
- 11:15 AM Morning Prayer in the Church\*
- 11:15 AM Discovery Eucharist in All Saints' Hall\*
- 5:00 PM Holy Eucharist in the Church

\*Nursery care available

On this day before Christmas Eve, we invite you to worship and pray, watchful and waiting for the quiet coming of Christ. In that spirit, **Sunday School classes will not meet.**

**Collect for the Fourth Sunday of Advent** (Book of Common Prayer) *Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.*

### Tuesday, December 24

**Christmas Eve**

- 3:00 PM Holy Eucharist in the Church\*
- 3:00 PM Holy Eucharist for Families and Young Children in All Saints' Hall\*
- 5:00 PM Holy Eucharist in the Church\*
- 5:00 PM Contemporary Eucharist in All Saints' Hall\*
- 7:30 PM Festive Prelude†
- 8:00 PM Holy Eucharist in the Church
- 10:00 PM Festive Prelude†
- 10:30 PM Holy Eucharist in the Church

†Festive prelude of choral, harp, and brass music featuring favorite carols and anthems of the season.

\*Nursery care available

### Wednesday, December 25



**Christmas Day  
Holy Eucharist in the  
Church  
11:00 AM**



# ADVENT FESTIVAL

**Sunday, November 24, 10:00 AM**

At our parish-wide Advent Festival, we will have offerings and opportunities for people of all ages to get ready for the season of anticipation and waiting.

Join us for one or more of the activities below to prepare your heart for the New Year in the Church. They are open to all ages (parents will be asked to accompany children).

**Advent Practices, All Saints' Hall**

**Outreach Projects, M207**

**Jesse Tree Ornament Making, Blue Room**

**Make Your Own Advent Wreath, Green Room**

**Mindfully Walking Through Advent (for ages 10 and up), 10:00 – 10:30 AM, M213**

**Contemplative Practices led by Youth Council, Youth Room**



**Sunday, December 15, 11:15 AM, All Saints' Hall**

The tradition continues as our children recreate the story of the birth of our Savior. Everyone is invited to join us as we celebrate his coming into the world.

4-year-olds through 2nd graders are the Pageant Ensemble who sing dressed as angels, shepherds and sheep. We ask these participants to attend a minimum of at least two of three music practices in All Saints' Hall:

**Wednesday, December 4, 5:00 - 5:30 PM**

**Sunday, December 8, 12:00 - 12:30 PM**

**Wednesday, December 11, 5:00 - 5:30 PM**



3rd graders only are the "Stage Cast" who act on stage and narrate the Pageant story. Third grade cast members must be present the entire time for all three rehearsals listed below. Children who cannot commit to these three rehearsals in their entirety are invited to participate in the

pageant ensemble. Rehearsal dates and times are:

**Wednesday, December 4, 5:30 - 6:30 PM**

(Parts assigned, script read through)

**Sunday, December 8, 12:30 - 1:45 PM**

(Lunch included; blocking and costumes)

**Saturday, December 14, 9:45 - 11:30 AM\*\***

(Dress and sound rehearsal)

\*\*All pageant participants plus one parent are asked to attend rehearsal on Saturday, December 14, from 11:00 - 11:30 AM to go over seating and to receive costumes.

Register by Friday, December 1 at [www.christchurchcharlotte/pageant](http://www.christchurchcharlotte/pageant).

## A NIGHT IN BETHLEHEM

**Wednesday, December 18, 5:30 PM, Christ Church Lawn**

Have you ever stopped to think about what it was like in Bethlehem the night Jesus was born? When we recall the story of Christmas, feelings of anticipation, joy, and mystery surface. We hope you will join us for a drop-in experience complete with live animals, Middle Eastern-themed finger foods, and activities for children that mimic those from 2000 years ago. We look forward to recreating Bethlehem with you!



## Advent Prayers

Advent is a season of waiting, with great anticipation, for the birth of Christ. And while we know that Jesus was born more than 2000 years ago, this season still leaves us in awe of the mystery and wonder surrounding that holy night. In Children's Chapel we discuss the calendar of the Church year each Sunday and review with our children that it takes four weeks to get ready for the mystery of Christmas. Four weeks to prepare to give our hearts to something greater than we are. So, as you light the candles on your Advent wreath, set the pieces out for your crèche, or whatever your tradition is, please join us in these prayers each week.

**Advent I – Sunday, December 1**

*God of Hope, you invite us into this season of waiting with great expectancy. Just as the Israelites waited after the prophets shared the news of the coming of Your Son, so we wait. We wait with the hope of what is to come. Fill our hearts with your spirit as we long to draw you near and help us to remember that it is through the waiting that great things will come. This week, I pray for \_\_\_\_\_, that you fill him/her with the same great hope. Amen.*

**Advent II – Sunday, December 8**

*God of Peace, when we are faced with times of trial and change, you call us to become peace-filled instead of restless. You remind us that change brings growth, goodness, and light. Stay in our hearts as we continue to seek your peace. Please be with \_\_\_\_\_ this week to bring him/her a peace that passes all understanding as we wait, peacefully, for the coming of our Savior. Amen.*

**Advent III – Sunday, December 15**

*God of Joy, today we remember Mary who was courageous and faithful. Help us in moments of trial and difficulty to put our trust in you, just as Mary did. Fill us with joy, even in the most uncertain and busiest of times to remind us that You are always near. This week, I pray for joy especially for \_\_\_\_\_, that he/she may feel your warmth and light so that he/she may shine with joy in the world. Amen.*

**Advent IV – Sunday, December 22**

*God of Love, we rejoice in all that you are and all that you have done. Please be with us as we prepare for Christmas Day. Your love is the centerpiece and foundation of the birth of Jesus. Stir in our hearts that same great love so that we may be messengers of the Good News of Jesus through you. Amen.*

**Christmas Day – Wednesday, December 25**

*God of Miracles, we stand in awe as we remember the story of the birth of your Son. We are reminded that you are mighty and we are yours. We pray for continued hope for what is to come, peace in times of restlessness, joy when we feel weary, and love to share with all. We ask that you continue to fill us with courageous faithfulness as we walk with Jesus into this Christmas season. Amen.*

## Autobell Car Wash Gift Cards

Thirty of our tenth grade students will be walking the Camiño on their Pilgrimage next summer. Throughout the month of December they will sell Autobell gift cards to help defray the cost of their trip. You can support these pilgrims by buying the gift cards at the GoodNews Shop or directly from the pilgrims on the Rotunda porch on Sundays, December 1 and December 15. Gift cards are \$20 each and make wonderful stocking stuffers and Christmas gifts that don't expire. We hope you will support the pilgrims during this fundraiser. Please contact Lindsay Masi at [masiL@christchurchcharlotte.org](mailto:masiL@christchurchcharlotte.org) with questions.



## Youth Council Retreat: A Reflection

by Emma Cutter Stark

I have been lucky enough to experience Glory Ridge twice with Christ Church Youth Council. This thin space allows us to explore and strengthen our relationship with God and each other. It's a rarity nowadays to truly experience complete peace and be able to rest in God's presence. The North Carolina Mountains offer the perfect space for silence and serenity. The fellowship experienced on this retreat was like no other, from taking responsibility to help run and clean the camp grounds, to promising to be present and open with one another.

One of my favorite parts of the retreat was getting to know my peers in such a special place. Whether we were hiking up the creek to the waterfall, or stargazing while listening to guitar melodies, I enjoyed every moment. This place gives us room to explore our spirituality through meditation and worship. I, along with the other Youth Council members, am grateful for the people who make it possible every year. This retreat is centering for everyone who is lucky enough to participate and is by far my favorite experience with Christ Church.



# THE Good Book Advent

Prepare for Christmas as you read the Gospel of Mark. During the season of Advent, learn what happened once upon a time by entering into the story itself, its patterns, and surprises for your life. The Reading Guide includes an overview of the book, daily reading schedule, and daily invitations for spiritual practices to meaningfully transform your season. Guides are available at the Church beginning November 27. You can also download a copy at [www.christchurchcharlotte.org/goodbook](http://www.christchurchcharlotte.org/goodbook).

## Men's Midweek Bible Study

**Wednesdays, 7:00 – 8:00 AM, Blue Room**

Led by Craig Cmiel, David Dean, Jon Kochmond, and Christ Church Clergy, this Bible study is an opportunity for men to gather weekly and develop a deeper understanding of their faith. We will rotate through God's Word, Jesus' Teachings, and The Holy Spirit on a quarterly basis. The format includes an opening prayer, weekly readings, historical narratives, education, and group discussion. (We will join in with "BIG Breakfasts" on first Wednesdays of the month.) For more information, visit [www.christchurchcharlotte.org/adult-formation](http://www.christchurchcharlotte.org/adult-formation).

## Men's Big Breakfast

**Wednesday, December 4, 7:00 – 8:00 AM, Blue Room**

Join us as The Reverend Matt Holcombe leads a discussion on Anthony Ray Hinton's book, *The Sun Does Shine*.

All men of Christ Church are invited to breakfast with good food, great fellowship, and an inspiring speaker. Come as you are. Donations accepted at the door for breakfast; no RSVP required. We will begin at 7:00 AM and end promptly at 8:00 AM. Invite a friend! To learn more, visit [www.christchurchcharlotte.org/men](http://www.christchurchcharlotte.org/men).



## Introduction to the Enneagram

**Wednesdays, January 8 – 22, 6:30 – 8:00 PM**

Join Jenny Beaumont for this three-week introductory course on how the Enneagram can impact your life. No registration is required. For more information, visit [www.christchurchcharlotte.org/enneagram](http://www.christchurchcharlotte.org/enneagram).

## Christ Church Women's Bible Study (CCWBS)

**New Study begins Thursday, January 9, 2020**  
**Large Group Gathering: 10:00 – 11:00 AM, Blue Room**  
**Optional Small Group Gatherings: 11:00 – 11:45 AM**

On Thursday mornings, women of all ages gather to study, learn, and grow together, with clergy and guest speakers. We start with a lecture and then move into small groups for discussion and to grow closer to one another in Christ. The small groups help us make the connection between



scripture and our lives. This spring our study includes the Letters of James, Peter, John and Jude. For more information, visit [www.christchurchcharlotte.org/bible](http://www.christchurchcharlotte.org/bible).

## The Space Between Us

**January 14 – 16 or March 3 – 5**  
**Tuesday – Thursday, 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM - Workshop**  
**Thursday, 6:30 – 8:30 PM - Closing Dinner**

Communication is essentially the way we share ourselves in this epic conversation called life. It is how we connect with others, self and God. Inspired communication is about awareness, attitude, powerful listening, and a desire to strengthen bonds and extend grace.



You are invited to develop this life-giving skill with this three-day experience that will transform the way you communicate at home, at work, and in the world. Grounded in learning theory and current research, this program gets to the heart, as well as the science, of communication. Lunch is included.

To register for these or other dates in 2020, visit [www.christchurchcharlotte.org/tsbu](http://www.christchurchcharlotte.org/tsbu).

## 2020 Vision Board Workshop

**Saturday, January 18 or 25, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM**

Makeda Pennycooke leads this annual workshop. Learn how this simple tool can support your current spiritual practices in uncovering God's plan for you. You'll come away with a vision board that will inspire and motivate you toward living your best life. Registration is \$35 and covers all materials. To learn more and register, visit [www.christchurchcharlotte.org/adult-classes](http://www.christchurchcharlotte.org/adult-classes).

## Men's Retreat

**January 24 – 26, 2020, Valle Crucis Conference Center, Banner Elk, NC**

Men of all ages are invited to spend a weekend away for fun and fellowship: a time for reflection, recreation, and relaxation. Questions? Contact Henry Ijams at 704-525-5763 or [henryijams@gmail.com](mailto:henryijams@gmail.com), or Gorrell Cheek at 704-560-6786 or [gorrell.p.cheek@ieee.org](mailto:gorrell.p.cheek@ieee.org). To register, visit [www.christchurchcharlotte.org/men](http://www.christchurchcharlotte.org/men).

## Adult Confirmation and Inquirers Class

**Sundays, February 9 – April 26, 10:00 AM, Green Room**  
 (No classes on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday)

This ten-session class is offered 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 and how the Episcopal Church lives out our beliefs through worship, Bible study, and service to others. Christ Church clergy teach the classes. Everyone is welcome and questions are encouraged. Visit [www.christchurchcharlotte.org/confirmation](http://www.christchurchcharlotte.org/confirmation) to learn more and register.

## Christian Essentials for Young Adult Women (Group 11)

**Wednesday, January 29, 7:00 – 8:30 AM, St. Francis C**

Young adult women (20s and 30s) are invited to explore, grow and deepen their faith and life with God by participating in Christian Essentials. Modules 2 (Care for Each Other) and 3 (Serve the World) will be covered in the spring session. This course also is a pathway to confirmation in the Episcopal Church. Register at [www.christchurchcharlotte.org/christian-essentials](http://www.christchurchcharlotte.org/christian-essentials).

## Lenten Devotion Writers

Did you know that 50 parishioners write for our Lenten devotional book each year? With input from parishioners, commission members, clergy and staff, we compile a list of over 100 potential writers who represent the diversity of ministry at Christ Church.

Would you like to write for the 2020 Lenten book? Let us know of your interest or tell us about someone you think might enjoy writing. To submit your request, visit [www.christchurchcharlotte.org/lenten-devotion-writers](http://www.christchurchcharlotte.org/lenten-devotion-writers).

**Sunday, December 1, 10:00 AM, All Saints' Hall**



## Rob Mendez Beating the Odds

Rob Mendez sounds like any other football coach on any other field across America — passionate, authoritative, knowledgeable — but he is like no other coach you know. Coach Rob has no arms or legs. He moves in a custom-made wheelchair that he operates with his shoulders. Coach Rob diagrams plays on a smartphone attached to the chair, using a stylus that he maneuvers with his mouth. Coach Rob first learned football playing Madden video games, and that is just one incredible detail of his remarkable story. Born without limbs, an extremely rare condition called Tetra-amelia, Coach Rob has been beating the odds for 30 years.

**Mark Your Calendar**

## JANUARY FAITH FORUMS

Our January 2020 Faith Forum series will focus on matters of wellness.



**The Reverend Scott Stoner**



**The Reverend Dr. Jane Tillman**



**Dr. Warren Kinghorn**



**SUNDAYS, 10:00 AM, ALL SAINTS' HALL**



## Do a World of Good with Alternative Gifts

This year, as you choose gifts for Christmas, birthdays, or anniversaries, consider gifts that give to the world. Honor or remember people with gifts that empower women and children, build positive relationships between diverse peoples, care for creation, provide healthcare and wellness, and so much more. As always, do your own investigations into the worthiness of organizations. A good place to start is [www.charitynavigator.org](http://www.charitynavigator.org) or [www.guidestar.org](http://www.guidestar.org), though not all agencies will be listed with them.

**Christ Episcopal Church** – [www.christchurchcharlotte.org/giving](http://www.christchurchcharlotte.org/giving) – Christ Church Foundation (our Endowment Fund), clergy discretionary funds, or just a gift to the general operating fund.

**The Good News Shop at Christ Episcopal Church** – [www.christchurchcharlotte.org/goodnews](http://www.christchurchcharlotte.org/goodnews) – All proceeds benefit the Episcopal Church Women (ECW) Mission Fund: Food, candles, accessories, baby items, books, kitchen accessories, and much more.

**Episcopal Relief and Development** – [www.episcopalrelief.org](http://www.episcopalrelief.org) – Gifts for Life Catalogue, 1-855-312-4325: Gifts supporting and empowering women, children and the climate, including seeds and tools, livestock, clean water, fruit trees, bicycles, mosquito nets, vitamins and preventative medicine, micro credits for women, and more.

**Episcopal Church United Thank Offering (UTO)** – [www.episcopalchurch.org/uto](http://www.episcopalchurch.org/uto): Fostering gratitude and providing grants for projects throughout the national Church.

**The National Cathedral** – [www.nationalcathedral.org](http://www.nationalcathedral.org) – Our nation's spiritual home, gifts can support programs, advocacy, or maintenance; or you can shop in their gift shop.

**American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem** – [www.afedj.org](http://www.afedj.org) – An organization to transform lives of the vulnerable and displaced in the Middle East by supporting schools, hospitals, and centers for children with disabilities.

**Thistle Farms** – [www.thistlefarms.org](http://www.thistlefarms.org) – books, soaps, candles, lotions and personal products, as well as hand-crafted items made by women from all over the world to help heal incarcerated, trafficked, and addicted women, and to give them a second chance at life.

**Shima of Navajoland** - [www.shimaofnavajoland.com](http://www.shimaofnavajoland.com) – Soaps, personal products and jewelry from Navajoland (UTO grant recipient), with proceeds benefitting indigenous clergy and job training and employment for the Navajo people.

**Five Talents** – [www.fivetalents.org](http://www.fivetalents.org) – Born out of the Anglican Communion as a way for churches to respond wisely to the realities of global poverty. It provides micro-loans and financial literacy and business acumen to help develop communities worldwide.



**Habitat for Humanity of Charlotte** – [www.habitatcharlotte.org](http://www.habitatcharlotte.org) – Building strength, stability and self-reliance through shelter.

**Serrv** – [www.serrv.org](http://www.serrv.org) and **Ten Thousand Villages** – [www.tenthousandvillages.com](http://www.tenthousandvillages.com) – Both offer jewelry, fashion, food, garden items, and more handcrafted items from the US and around the world through Fair Trade practices.

**Bread for the World** – [www.bread.org](http://www.bread.org) – ‘Have faith, end hunger’ – Christmas cards are available.

**Heifer International** – [www.heifer.org](http://www.heifer.org) – Similar to Episcopal Relief, with livestock, clean water, trees, more efficient and less polluting stoves, women's empowerment opportunities.

**Kiva** ([www.kiva.org](http://www.kiva.org)) and **Oiko Credit** ([www.oikocredit.coop](http://www.oikocredit.coop)) are similar to **Five Talent** but not church-related, and provide micro-financing for entrepreneurs and cottage industries around the world.

**GreaterGood** – [www.greatergood.org](http://www.greatergood.org) – Protects people, pets and the planet.

**88 Bikes** – [www.88bikes.org](http://www.88bikes.org) – Providing bikes for young girls, many of whom have been exploited in slave trade, in countries from Eastern Europe to Southeast Asia, helping them to become self-sufficient and on par with males.

Or give to any cause or organization you support (e.g., our local outreach partners, Teach for America, Peace Corps, etc.) in someone's honor and let them know. Or, help the local economy with a gift card to a local restaurant, for something fun (movies, bowling, etc.), or for relaxation (a membership to our state parks, massage, manicure, etc.). Most of us have far more ‘stuff’ than we need. Let's begin to change our way of gift-giving, and help our community and the world in the process.

## Room in the Inn Begins December 1

Christ Church, along with over 100 other churches and organizations, provides emergency winter shelter for 12 homeless neighbors (men, women, children, and/or families experiencing homelessness) every Sunday, December through March.

Parishioners host our neighbors by assisting with bed set-up, picking up neighbors, making, serving, and sharing dinner, serving as overnight hosts, and making sack lunches. We provide hospitality for those who have no place to call home. Nearly 150 volunteers give over 1,000 hours to provide 240 beds for a single season of Room in the Inn.

Consider serving at Room in the Inn (RITI) this season. This is a perfect volunteer opportunity for families, especially for those with young children. For more information or to sign up, visit [www.christchurchcharlotte.org/riti](http://www.christchurchcharlotte.org/riti) or contact Laura Konitzer at [konitzerl@christchurchcharlotte.org](mailto:konitzerl@christchurchcharlotte.org).

## Jubilee Store

**December 7 - 8**

During the holidays we partner with Charlotte Family Housing to offer a reduced-cost holiday store for their families. We purchase and donate gifts which are used to stock the store. Look for Christmas ornament tags in the Church and All Saints' Hall listing items needed. There will also be many opportunities to volunteer. For details, go to [www.christchurchcharlotte.org/jubilee-store](http://www.christchurchcharlotte.org/jubilee-store) or contact Laura Konitzer at [konitzerl@christchurchcharlotte.org](mailto:konitzerl@christchurchcharlotte.org).

## Adult Mission Trip to Costa Rica

**February 1 – 8, 2020**

The February mission trip to Costa Rica is filling up fast. Register by December 10 to ensure a spot. Don't miss this opportunity to be a part of the new Christ Church mission experience in Limón. For more information or to register, visit [www.christchurchcharlotte.org/costarica](http://www.christchurchcharlotte.org/costarica).

## Legacy & Justice Pilgrimage Registration Now Open

**February 27 – March 1, 2020**

Join us as we explore the history of race in America and learn how we can participate in the work of justice. Visit [www.christchurchcharlotte.org/montgomery](http://www.christchurchcharlotte.org/montgomery) for details.

## A Successful Serve-a-Bration

Thank you for making Serve-a-Bration 2019 a huge success. Christ Church impacted Charlotte in so many ways and had fun serving at Rama Road, Crisis Assistance Ministries, Charlotte Family Housing, The Relatives, The ROC, A Child's Place, Habitat, The Men's Shelter and Urban Ministry Center, Supportive Housing Communities, YWCA, Galilee Ministries, and Loaves & Fishes. We hope that Serve-A-Bration provided inspiration for new and meaningful ways to give of your time.

## WORSHIP AND MUSIC



## Join Us for an Evening of Choral Music

**Sunday, December 1  
5:00 PM, The Church**

The Christ Church Choir, St. Nicolas Choir, and Christ Church Choristers will sing the annual service of Advent Lessons and Carols. Join us for a beautiful evening of favorite hymns, carols, and anthems of the season interspersed with Old and New Testament readings.





You save humans  
and animals alike,  
O Lord.

– Psalm 36:6

### Christ Church Pet Memorial Garden

Many of us share an intense love and bond with our animal companions, so it is natural to feel grief and sadness when a cherished pet dies. Christ Church now has a Pet Memorial Garden, thanks to the Eagle Scout project of Christ Church member Eddie Cassels.

The garden is located in a green space around a bench next to the upper parking lot. If you wish to bury the ashes of your pet in the Pet Memorial Garden at Christ Church, here is important information to know:

- We provide a brochure that can help if you wish to offer prayers or to conduct a funeral for your pet. (If you have a home burial, this brochure can also be helpful.) Copies are available at the Church office.
- Notify the Church of the date and time you wish to bury your pet's ashes, to be certain it is not a time that conflicts with other events at Church and with the use of the parking area near the Pet Memorial Garden.
- Only pets that have been cremated may be buried in the Christ Church Pet Memorial Garden. No urns, boxes, or other containers may be buried in the garden. The ashes must be placed directly into the ground. Pet owners are responsible for digging a hole 6 – 12 inches deep in any of the mulched areas of the garden to place the ashes. Our Church staff and clergy encourage pet owners and their families and friends to handle all matters related to the burial and/or service.

Your Christ Church family understands that the death of a pet is a deep loss, and we encourage pet owners to trust that God cares for all of creation in life and in death.

## Noted Care

IDEAS THAT HELP. STORIES THAT INSPIRE.

To quote House Stark in *Game of Thrones*, “Winter is coming.” Although the holidays can be joyous occasions, this time of year can be a difficult season for many people. As many as one in six people experience a subsyndromal seasonal depression, which is commonly referred to as the winter blues.

Be aware of family and friends who may be having their first holidays without a loved one, or who seem more withdrawn, and reach out to them with a call, text or note. Include them in a meal, a walk, or an evening out.

For some, winter can mean increased feelings of fatigue, tiredness, excessive sleepiness, appetite changes, and weight gain. Some feel more irritable, less socially engaged, or lonely. Others may feel disinterested in activities that they normally enjoy. It may be harder than usual to get out of bed in the morning or to make it to work on time. Others may experience increased feelings of depression, sadness, or anxiety. Many may feel as though this is normal and may feel unsure about what they can do. Sound familiar?

#### What Can We Do?

If you or a loved one experience the winter blues, there are intentional activities that can help. The very things we resist, ironically, are often what restore light in us. Regular social activities and quality time with family, friends, and loved ones can have a positive effect on mood and energy level. Consider scheduling time to walk, talk, or have dinner with a friend. Taking the time to share our thoughts, feelings, and concerns with a trusted person can help us process our experience. Regular sunshine exposure has been shown to decrease some physical symptoms. Make time to be outside during daylight hours. Regular exercise has also been shown to positively influence our mood. In the spirit of Thanksgiving, the intentional expression of gratitude through prayer, writing, or conversation with others can have a positive influence on our mood. Consider keeping a gratitude journal.

For some, the winter blues can turn into a major depressive episode. If you are experiencing difficulty functioning, feelings of hopelessness, or thoughts of suicide, know that help is available. Many people find that counseling can be helpful in addressing seasonal depression. If you are interested in counseling but are unsure of where to start, please contact Wellness Director Mollee Reitz, at 704-714-6979 or reitzm@christchurchcharlotte.org.



### Trunk or Treat Fun

On October 28, children and adults gathered to enjoy hot dogs, games and Halloween fun at our annual Trunk or Treat event. After parading around the circle in costume, the children went trick-or-treating for candy among the wonderfully decorated car trunks in the upper parking lot (Bible-themed and Halloween-themed). A huge thank you to all who participated and volunteered, and a special thank you to our co-chairs, Jannell Dunaway and Mary Catherine Zito! We are already looking forward to next year!

### Hello My Name Is ...

Wearing name tags is an act of hospitality. We would love to provide all adult parishioners with a magnetic Christ Church name tag to wear when you are here. To receive yours, simply email Ainslie Wall at walla@christchurchcharlotte.org and specify your first and last name. We will notify you when your name tag is ready for pick-up in the Welcome Center. (Replacement name tags are \$5; non-magnetic tags are available upon request.)

### Newcomer Dinners


We enjoyed getting to know some new parishioners better in October and November, while sharing a wonderful meal prepared by Chef Mary. These monthly dinners are a great way to get to know others who are new to the Church, in addition to some clergy and staff, in a casual and relaxed setting. Each month we welcome a special guest who shares some of what's going on around Christ Church.

Our next dinner will be Wednesday, December 4, 5:30 – 7:00 PM in the Green Room. We hope you can join us! To register, contact Kathryn Saunders at saundersk@christchurchcharlotte.org or 704-714-6974. Childcare is available upon request.

Thank You For Your  
**Living Generosity**

Thank you for your generous gifts. Your generosity grows and sustains each and every ministry at Christ Church. If you haven't already made your 2020 pledge, now is the time!

**Three Ways to Make Your Pledge:**




**ONLINE**

Visit [www.christchurchcharlotte.org/pledge](http://www.christchurchcharlotte.org/pledge).




**TEXT2PLEDGE**

Text your full name and amount of pledge to 980-221-4035.



**PLEDGE FORM**

Complete your pledge form and return to the Church office any time.



20  
20

ANNUAL  
STEWARDSHIP  
CAMPAIGN



**ANNUAL PARISH MEETING  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2019  
10:00 AM in ALL SAINTS' HALL**

Please join us for the Annual Meeting, Sunday, December 8, 2019 at 10:00 AM in All Saints' Hall. The Annual Meeting is the one time during the year we gather to hear "the state of Christ Church." It is a time to reflect on 2019 and acknowledge the mission and ministry that took place during the past year, and to look ahead to 2020 and all the promise it holds for our spiritual home. We will hear reports from the Rector, the Vestry and other parish leaders.

During the Annual Meeting, the parish will elect five new members of the Vestry for the 2022 class that will serve for the next three years. The Vestry Nominating Committee has worked faithfully to present a slate of five nominees that assures our Vestry has the skills it needs to lead our parish, rounding out the experience of continuing Vestry members. Those skills include holding leadership positions in one of the Church's many ministries, understanding the governance and traditions of our Church, and the ability to see the big picture as decisions are made. The committee also considered the need to ensure a balance of genders and ages on the Vestry.

Please take the time to read about these very capable and willing candidates and be ready to vote at the Annual Meeting on their tenure. Their pictures and biographical information are on the facing page.

Under our Bylaws as adopted by the parish in 2017, any additional nominations must be duly made and received in writing by the Rector no later than twelve days prior to the Annual Meeting (that is, by November 26), at which time the nominations are closed. As of the date of this notice (November 13), no such additional nominations had been received. If any additional nominations are duly made and received within the time permitted by the Bylaws, information about the additional nominee(s) will be provided on the Christ Church website and at the Annual Meeting.

Your service and participation at the Annual Meeting is reflective of this "generous community" that we call Christ Church. We are grateful for your gifts of time, talent and treasure and ALL that encompasses. Blessings to all who engage in the mission and ministry of this amazing place!



Chip Edens, Rector  
edensc@christchurchcharlotte.org  
704-333-0378



Hooper Hardison, Senior Warden

**VESTRY & ANNUAL MEETING**

The election of the 2020 Vestry Members will be held at the Annual Meeting on Sunday, December 8 at 10:00 AM in All Saints' Hall. Five people will be elected to the 15-member Vestry. The following slate of parishioners has been nominated:



**Louise Bonner** joined Christ Church in 1985. Since then she has served in numerous capacities, including as a CCK Board member, Christ Church Bazaar co-chair, Duff Christmas outreach coordinator, Outreach Commission member, Middle School EYC leader, Music Search Committee member, and Costa Rica mission trip participant. Most recently she has been a leader and mentor with our young adult ministry, and is in the Friends of Music group. Louise and her registered therapy dog, Sally, volunteer at Thompson Child and Family Focus and Montclair Elementary's summer Freedom School, where they visit the children and participate in Harambee. Louise and her husband, Jim, have three adult children: Stuart (and wife Martha and son Stuart), Wilson, and Elizabeth (and husband, Alec Covington).



**Jane Coulter** is a lifelong Episcopalian and member of Christ Church for 14 years. She and her husband co-chaired the 2019 Annual Stewardship Campaign. She has served as chair of the Congregational Care Commission and was a member of the first CORE class. She participated in the most recent Food Service Director search, and is the volunteer coordinator for the GoodNews To Go cooks. She loves to help cook in the kitchen. She has chaired the Low Country Boil and has traveled with our mission team to Costa Rica. In the community, Jane serves on the LifeShare of the Carolinas Advisory Board and the Selwyn Elementary PTA. She is an interior designer. She and her husband, Carrington, have two daughters, Louie and Martha.



**Geoff Peters** was senior warden of the student vestry when he was a student at St. Paul's Episcopal School in Baltimore. He has been a member of Christ Church for 24 years, and currently serves on the Liturgical Commission. He is also a lay reader and head usher for All Saints' Hall services. Geoff taught Sunday school for 15 years, and has served on the Mission and Outreach Commission and as a Living Your Strengths instructor. Geoff is the CEO of Wikoff Color Corporation. He and his wife, Susan, have two daughters, Katherine (confirmed and married at Christ Church, now living in NYC), and Caroline (baptized and confirmed at Christ Church, now in graduate school at Wake Forest).



**Ken Thompson** joined Christ Church in 1983 when he married his wife, Kathylee. From 1987 to 1996 he was a member of St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Jacksonville, Florida, where he served on the Vestry and as chair of the Day School. Since returning to Christ Church in 1997, he has participated on the One in the Spirit capital campaign committee, and is currently in the Christ Church CORE class. Ken, who recently retired, is the former CEO of Wachovia Corp. He has been an active community volunteer, having served as chairman of the Foundation for the Carolinas, Charlotte Latin School, on the Charlotte YMCA board, and as a trustee of the Morehead Cain Foundation at UNC. He and Kathylee have three grown children, Kenny, Statia, and Scotty.



**Chris Ullrich** and his family have been members of Christ Church since they moved to Charlotte over 20 years ago. Chris presently serves as co-chair of the 2020 Stewardship Commission, has served on the Outreach Commission, was in the first CORE class, and participated for several years in music programming for young children during Sunday School. Chris is also a Trustee of the Charlotte Ballet, where he serves on the corporate development and audit committees, and has served on parent advisory boards at UNC Chapel Hill and Episcopal High School. He is a Managing Director with North Inlet Advisors. Chris and his wife, Margaret, have three daughters, Tinsley, Annie, and Caroline.



## Episcopal Church Women (ECW)

### Advent Luncheon

**Tuesday, December 3, 11:15 AM – 1:00 PM, All Saints' Hall**

This annual event features great fellowship and an inspiring talk and prepares our hearts for Christmas.

### Feast and Flora Pop-Up Shop

**Saturday, December 7, 9:30 AM – 1:00 PM**

Get a head start on your Christmas shopping at our largest fundraiser of the year, with fresh holiday greenery and delicious prepared foods.

#### Save the Date

### Women's Retreat

**March 13 – 15, 2020**

We will journey to Kanuga in the beautiful North Carolina mountains for a weekend of faith, fellowship and fun. Wellness Director Mollie Reitz will join us for a wellness-oriented program. Stay tuned for details.

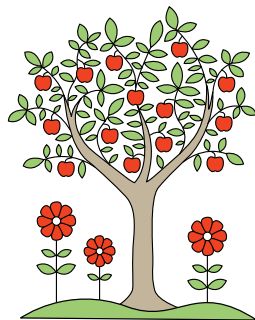
For more information about any of the above events, visit [www.christchurchcharlotte.org/women](http://www.christchurchcharlotte.org/women).

## CCK (Christ Church Preschool & Kindergarten)

### Prospective Parent Tours Are Underway

**Wednesdays, 9:30 AM**

RSVP to Meredith Sorrell, Assistant Head of School, at [sorrellm@christchurchcharlotte.org](mailto:sorrellm@christchurchcharlotte.org).



### CCK Kindergarten Open House

**Tuesday, December 3, 9:30 AM, Green Room**

RSVP to Kelly Coley, Head of School, at [coleyk@christchurchcharlotte.org](mailto:coleyk@christchurchcharlotte.org).

### 2020-21 School Year Registration

**Opens January 8, Closes January 31, Noon**

For more information, visit [www.christchurchcharlotte.org/cck-enroll](http://www.christchurchcharlotte.org/cck-enroll).

## GOODNEWS SHOP



### Join Us at the Feast and Flora Pop-Up Shop!

**Saturday, December 7, 9:30 AM – 1:00 PM**

We have great gift ideas for everyone on your list. Come see our wonderful selection of seasonal items for your holiday décor.

We are thrilled to offer unique and beautiful items from Dewdrop Designs, Dogwood Smocking Company, and artist Kamie Rudisill of Dizzy Daisy Designs in our GoodNews Café. As always, all proceeds from sales will benefit organizations that support women and children.



(Top) Dizzy Daisy Designs, (inset) Gillian Stevens of Dewdrop Designs, and (bottom) Brittany Luther of Dogwood Smocking Company.



## In the Parish

### New Members

Mary Carpenter  
Stephanie and Charles Fountaine and Family  
Chris Goelz  
Chris Hughes  
Sarah and Colin Jenest  
Lynn Lau  
Karen and John Mellon  
Carolyn Mitchell  
Vicky and Bill Mitchener  
Alex Papson  
Georgia Ann and Philip Porcher  
Ben Sellers  
Jenner Wood

### Births

Lauriston Jane Woodruff, daughter of Katheryn and Kyle Woodruff  
Emily Marie Goelz, daughter of Kelly and Chris Goelz  
Eleanor McCall Adams, daughter of Brooke and Frank Adams  
James Killian Gallagher, son of Alison and Ric Gallagher

### Baptisms

Ann Harrington Carter, daughter of Lauren and George Carter  
William Charles King, son of Danielle and Will King  
Holland Ann Mister, daughter of Chelsea and Brian Mister  
Watson Edward Mister, son of Chelsea and Brian Mister  
Elizabeth Seeley McCarter, daughter of Meredith and Craig McCarter  
Hazel Hansen Leazer, daughter of Lauren and Justin Leazer  
Sebastian Loosz Murphy, son of Zuzana and Kevin Murphy  
Corrine Blythe Riggins, daughter of Meredith and Tyler Riggins  
Charlotte Leslie Rhyne, daughter of Kristin and Stephen Rhyne  
Blair Marcia Whiteside, daughter of Neely and Brooks Whiteside  
Henry Stephen Williams, son of Christianna and Matt Williams  
Amber Brook Troxell  
Adeline Grace Troxell, daughter of Amber and Kevin Troxell  
Lilian Louise Troxell, daughter of Amber and Kevin Troxell  
Wesley Tanner Troxell, son of Amber and Kevin Troxell  
Edward Louis Popp, son of Allison and Ryan Popp  
Amelia Grace Gatto, daughter of Jennifer and Michael Gatto  
Anna Blythe Papson  
Logan Christine Papson, daughter of Anna and Alex Papson  
Margaret Ann Papson, daughter of Anna and Alex Papson  
Brennan Elliott Papson, son of Anna and Alex Papson

### Marriages

Ann Lyndon Griffin and Michael Jonah Duckworth  
Emily Hylton and Yates Marr  
Rachel Elizabeth Powell and Connell Wesley Maloney  
Emily Laurel O'Hara and Harrison Linehan Steele  
Caitlin Elizabeth Whalan and Robert Joel Jones  
Kendra Rudeen Armstrong and Charles Scott McAdams  
Sarah Courtney Howie and Robert Patrick Myers, Jr.

### Deaths

Edgar Allen Fleetwood, Jr.  
Norma Hearne Cowell  
Edith Moore Hamilton, mother of Blanton Hamilton  
Susan Cadden Watson, mother of Susan Bolyston  
Willard Coffron, father of Steve Coffron and Tracey Coffron Cook  
William Daniels, father of Kim Lloyd  
David Dorminey, brother-in-law of Tishe Wolfe  
Ruth Waters Bond Conger  
Elizabeth Shalcom Shildt, mother of Mike Shildt

### New Reserved Pew Markers In the Sanctuary

Christ Church now has twelve new pew markers for use at weddings, funerals, baptisms, and other special events. They were designed by Jane Hudson at Two's Company Needlepoint in Rock Hill.

After they were needlepointed, they were finished by our very own talented and generous Reuben Hufham. Reuben used Pilon wood which is grown in Costa Rica, one of our missions. The markers slide onto the aisle side of the pews. Many thanks to all the hands that made these a reality.





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CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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Phone: 704-333-0378

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**Saturday,  
December 7**

**9:30 AM –  
1:00 PM**

**More information at:  
[www.christchurch  
charlotte.org/  
ecw-holidays](http://www.christchurchcharlotte.org/ecw-holidays)**



**Feast & Flora  
Pop-Up Shop**