



January 2016

The Disciple

News & Events at Christ Church Charlotte



Love God

Care for Each Other

Serve the World

FAITH FORUM 2016: Soul and Body Wellness

“Come to me, all you that are weary and carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.” Matthew 11:28

Join The Reverend Chip Edens and the clergy of Christ Church as we kick off a six-week wellness series every Sunday at 10:00 AM in All Saints' Hall. In addition to focusing on the health and wellness of the body, we will be exploring how to nourish a healthy soul and what happens in our lives when we allow our values and practices to align with our soul purpose.



Soul Wellness

Sunday, January 3

How healthy is your soul? Looking down at our waist line, it is often easy to determine if we are in shape or if we could afford to lose a few pounds. However, determining the health of our soul can be a little more challenging. Join The Reverend Matt Holcombe as he leads a Bible-based class on “soul wellness” and offers real-life practices to help you focus on growing spiritually and feeding your soul in the New Year.



The Reverend Doctor Stuart Hoke

Sunday, January 10

Stuart Hoke is national leader in the Recovery Ministries of the Episcopal Church. He draws on his own experiences with addiction and recovery to help equip people and churches to minister to those dealing with alcoholism, addictive illness, and who are working towards spiritual recovery. Stuart currently serves as a part-time Vicar at All Saints' Episcopal Church in Hamlet, North Carolina.



The Landscape of Mental Health in Charlotte

Sunday, January 17

Join The Reverend Chip Edens and local mental health experts as they discuss the new face of mental health in Charlotte. Statistics report that one in five Americans lives with a mental illness and less than 60% get treatment. As the ever-changing landscape of mental health continues to evolve, learn about the resources that are available in our community and how you can join the conversation.



The Reverend Becca Stevens and Mary Stuart Smart

Sunday, January 24

Becca Stevens is an entrepreneur, author, social justice activist and an Episcopal priest. She is the Founder and President of Thistle Farms, a community of women who have survived trafficking, prostitution and addiction. She is a bestselling author and has been featured in *The New York Times*, *ABC World News*, NPR, PBS, and CNN. She was named 2014 Humanitarian of the Year by the Small Business Council of America and her latest book is *Letters from the Farm: A Simple Path for a Deeper Spiritual Life*.



The Reverend Barbara Brown Taylor

Sunday, January 31

Barbara Brown Taylor is a New York Times best-selling and award-winning author, professor and an Episcopal priest. In 2014, *TIME Magazine* listed her as one of its annual TIME 100 Most Influential People. To date, she has written over a dozen books focusing on faith and spirituality, including titles such as *Leaving Church* and *An Altar in the World*. In her most recent book, *Learning to Walk in the Dark*, she explores darkness in all of its manifestations: literal, emotional, and of course, spiritual.

See more about Faith Forum inside.

Faith Forum (continued from cover)

Clergy Class: Faith Forum Rewind

Sunday, 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.

Our next Faith Forum series will focus on Reconciliation and Justice. Here's a preview:



Bryan Stevenson

Sunday, February 21

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.



The Reverend Canon Nicholas Porter

Sunday, February 28

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 travelled 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.

Bible Studies

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 the Young Adults webpage, or contact The Reverend Patty Willett at willettp@christchurchcharlotte.org.

Young Adult Men's Bible Study

Every Wednesday, 7:30 – 8:30 AM, M205

Join The Reverend Matt Holcombe as he leads an interactive Bible study for young men on Wednesday mornings. Each week Matt peels back the layers of scripture to help young men study, learn, and deepen their faith in a casual and encouraging atmosphere. For more information contact Matt Holcombe at holcombem@christchurchcharlotte.org.

Christ Church Women's Bible Study (CCWBS)

January is a perfect time to join CCWBS. We are beginning our study of The Letter to the Romans in January. On Thursday mornings, resuming January 7, 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. For more information or to register contact Erin Cowles at cowlese@christchurchcharlotte.org.

Women's Evening Bible Study (WEBS)

The Women's Evening Bible Study (WEBS) gathers twice a month (first and third Mondays) to study scripture and literature, to enjoy fellowship, and to worship together. We have fun while studying and growing closer to God and to one another. We welcome women of all ages. Led by The Reverend Marty Hedgpeth and Jenny Beaumont. For more information, contact Jenny Beaumont at beaumontj@christchurchcharlotte.org.

Thursday Morning Worship and Bible Study

Join us for worship on Thursday mornings at 7:00 AM in the Chapel, followed by a clergy-led study of the Sunday lessons in M207. Breakfast is served for minimal charge. No registration needed; all are welcome any time.

Building Up the Body of Christ (Bodybuilders)

Through articles, world events, poetry, essays, book excerpts, and scripture, we connect our faith to everyday living and build up the body of Christ among us. Casual, no homework, come when you can. We learn, laugh, and pray together too. We meet most Mondays starting at 11:00 AM. For more information, contact Lisa Saunders at saundersl@christchurchcharlotte.org.

Wednesday Night Classes

The Enneagram: Going Deeper ... Towards Soul **Wednesdays, 6:00 – 8:00 PM, St. Francis A**

January 6, 13, 20, 27, February 3, 17, 24, March 2, 9, 16
The Enneagram is about people - how we are the same, how we are different, what makes us tick, how we get in our own way. In this second-level course taught by The Reverend Dr. Paul Hanneman, we'll take the initial nine personality styles and go deeper. Previous study of the Enneagram is recommended to get full benefit from this advanced course. Cost is \$25. Learn more and register at www.christchurchcharlotte.org/adult-classes, or contact Erin Cowles, cowlese@christchurchcharlotte.org.

Clergy Book Study: Learning to Walk in the Dark **by Barbara Brown Taylor**

Wednesdays, January 6, 13, 20 and February 3
6:00 – 7:30 PM, St. Francis C

Barbara Brown Taylor will be our featured Faith Forum guest on January 31, 2016. Join the Reverend Matt Holcombe for a four-week class based on Taylor's book, *Learning to Walk in the Dark*. Taylor says, "through darkness we find courage, we understand the world in new ways, and we feel God's presence around us, guiding us through things seen and unseen." Registration is required. Cost is \$15.00 and includes the book and light snacks. Learn more and register at www.christchurchcharlotte.org/adult-classes. Free childcare available by reservation.

Technologies of Purpose

Wednesdays, January 6, 13, 20, 27

6:00 – 7:00 PM, St. Francis B

The part of you that is God-like holds qualities of gratitude, joy, peace, connectedness, love, and much more. Learning how to tap into and carry these qualities can help us find meaning, significance, and purpose. In this four-week series taught by Karen Pierce, LCSW, you will receive tools based on scripture and research from the fields of neuroscience and cell biology. Free childcare available by reservation. Learn more and register at www.christchurchcharlotte.org/adult-classes.

Living Your Strengths

Mondays, January 11, 25, February 1, 8, 15, 22 OR

Wednesdays, January 20, 27, February 3, 17, 24, March 2

6:30 – 7:30 PM, St. Francis D

If you want to understand, appreciate, and better exercise your gifts and strengths, you will enjoy this course. Explore what makes you happy, alive, and energized, and how your gifts help you grow spiritually in all areas of life. The six-session course meets at 6:30 PM on Mondays or Wednesdays, and is appropriate for adults of all ages; several couples have enjoyed participating together. Class size is limited. For more information or to register for a class, contact Lisa Saunders at saundersl@christchurchcharlotte.org.

Other Offerings

Centering Prayer

Mondays at 5:30 PM, M206

Centering Prayer is an ancient prayer discipline that is enjoying resurgence in today's fractured, troubled world. It is a means of quieting the mind in order to cultivate interior silence. The intention of this form of prayer is to open oneself to the presence and healing activity of God at the center of one's being. We gather weekly. Just come; no registration is required.

Yoga for the Spirit

Sundays at 4:00 PM, St. Francis B

Calming, meditational yoga practice to deepen your relationship with your body, mind and spirit. Cost: \$10. Proceeds donated to Leap of Faith initiatives.

Communications Skills Training

The Communications Skills Class is a full three - day experience. Course topics include: DISC (communication - styles profile), the Communication Cycle, Nonverbal Communication, Reflective Listening Skills, and Effective Confrontation.

Participants describe the class as an "enriching experience" and "not to be missed." Christ Church will offer several classes in 2016:

January 12 - 14 (waitlist only)

April 12 - 14

June 21 - 23

July 12 - 14 and July 26 - 28

October 18 - 20

The class is open to Christ Church parishioners and the Charlotte community. Although there is no fee for the class, we appreciate participants creating time and space in their schedule to be fully present during the class and commit to attending the class as scheduled. The class meets from 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. The evening dinner on Thursday night from 6:30 - 8:30 PM is a requirement for participation in the class.

Visit www.christchurchcharlotte.org/CST for details and registration.

Living With Grief and Hope

Wednesdays, February 17 and 25, March 9 and 16

7:00 – 8:15 PM

A four-week series for those coping with grief and loss, led by The Reverend Lisa Saunders. See details on page 11.

ADULT FORMATION

Sunday Morning Classes

Confirmation and Inquirers Class

Now is the time to register for the 2016 Confirmation and Inquirers Class. This class is for any adult who wishes to be confirmed in the Episcopal Church, or who simply wants to explore what we believe and the basics of faith.

What does the class cover? The class explores the basics of Christianity: God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, the Sacraments, the Bible, the Prayer Book, History of the Christian Church and being an Episcopalian. The class also addresses the way the Episcopal Church lives out that basic faith through worship, Bible study and service to others. Christ Church clergy teach the classes. Everyone is welcome and questions are encouraged.

When will the class meet? Sessions will be held for ten weeks on Sundays, February 14 - May 1, at 10:00 AM, excluding Palm Sunday and Easter (March 20 and 27).

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, 704-714-6972.

Men of Purpose

10:00 AM, Yellow Room

This class organizes and equips men of all ages to carry out lay ministry, with a group-led, scripture-based examination of our lives and a focus on fellowship and faith. Men of all ages are invited to attend. Learn more at www.christchurchcharlotte.org/men.

Young Adult Sunday School Class

10:00 AM, Parlor

Are you looking for a Sunday school class that explores the Bible, introduces you to other people in your age and stage of life and gives you tools to live a life of faith? Join the Young Adult Sunday School class! Each week we look at the Sunday readings and discuss how they apply to our lives. Find us on Sundays at 10:00 AM in the Parlor, September through May.

Annual Men's Retreat: "Climbing Your Ladder"

January 22 – January 24, Valle Crucis Conference Center

All men of Christ Church are invited to our annual weekend retreat in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains. This year's retreat, facilitated by The Reverend Matt Holcombe, will be centered on the seasons of life and what it looks like to "climb your ladder" of faith, family and profession during each



of these seasons. Please join us for a time of wonderful discussion, strengthened fellowship and some much needed retreat from our busy lives! We will depart for Valle Crucis from Christ Church at 4:00 PM on January 22 and return on January 24 after a Sunday morning Eucharist. We will be coordinating a carpool option to and from Valle Crucis. \$175.00 registration covers lodging and all meals. \$225.00 registration covers lodging, meals, and helps provide scholarships to other men in the Church. The registration deadline is January 14, 2016. Learn more and register at www.christchurchcharlotte.org/men.

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; 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, cowlese@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 before February 15 at www.christchurchcharlotte.org/men, or contact Donal Simpson at drsfaia@gmail.com or Scott Griffin at sgriffin306@gmail.com for more information.

Lynne McAdams to Retire



After six years of service as manager of the GoodNews Shop, Lynne McAdams is retiring this month so she can spend more time with her growing family of newly-wedded children and young grandchildren.

Lynne came to GoodNews with many years of experience as a gift store owner, buyer, and manager. She partnered with her dear friend, Peggy Horne, for her first five years as co-manager of the

Shop, and the two grew the business year after year. They initiated a variety of new ways to increase sales, including starting the volunteer-led frozen food section, utilizing social media, planning events around special guests, and gallery crawls to attract buyers to local artists' works. Lynne has devoted herself to the store, making it a fun place to shop while being deeply committed to its mission of disbursing all profits to organizations that help women and children in need.

As an active member of our parish, Lynne looks forward to continuing her involvement in other Christ Church ministries. When you see her, please thank her for her tremendous contribution to the mission of Episcopal Church Women, and to the entire Christ Church community.

February Art Exhibit

We look forward to welcoming artists Joana Wardell, Jane Gilbert, Karen Simpson, and Janice Mueller to the Christ Church Gallery in February. Please join us for the opening of their show, "Translations 4," on February 6, 4:00 - 6:00 PM.



After-Christmas Sale

It's that time of year again! Time for the GoodNews Annual After-Christmas Sale. The sale begins Sunday, January 3 with discounts of 50% off all holiday merchandise and select everyday items. Come early to get the best bargains!



An Angel Among Us

On an ordinary day, Maggie Loselle is a volunteer *extraordinaire*, who manages the production of the delicious frozen foods for sale in the GoodNews Shop. She determines the pricing and packaging and also the number of volunteers needed to make it happen each month.

But over the last few months, Maggie also has quietly gone above and beyond by filling in for staff and volunteers who couldn't be there. She has figured out ways to make the foods not only better but more profitable. She has washed dishes, cleaned when needed, and cooked frantically and tirelessly before events like the Christmas Open House and the Christmas Bazaar in order to make more food available for sale. She does it all to benefit sales in the GoodNews Shop so that more can be donated to nonprofit organizations that support women and children.

You'll find Maggie in the kitchen or the Shop, volunteering long hours almost any time of day. When you see her, please thank her for her amazing service in support of the GoodNews Shop's mission and the Church. She is truly an angel in the kitchen!

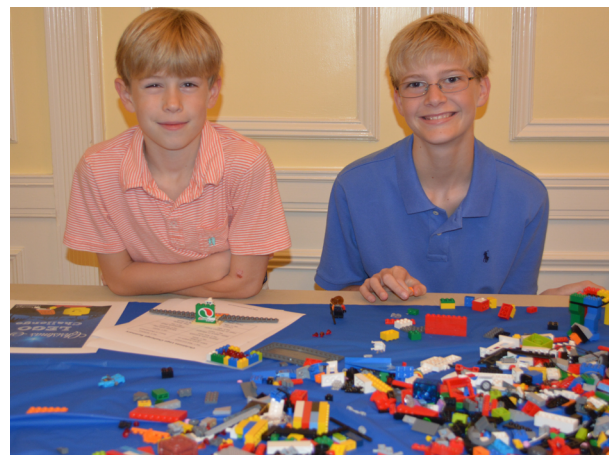
Advent 2015 at Christ Church



The Advent season was filled with opportunities to worship, learn, and enjoy time together, including a fresh twist on some of our beloved traditions, as well as several new ones. We are grateful to all who so generously gave their time and energy to help us prepare our hearts for Christmas.



The Christ Church bands and choirs shared their musical gifts during weekly worship as well as two services of Lessons and Carols and other events.



On the first Sunday of Advent (November 29), the Advent Festival included Jesse Tree crafts, gift-wrapping for our neighbors in Duff, TN, Advent wreath-making, and even a Lego challenge.

Advent 2015 at Christ Church



The St. Nicholas Festival on December 13 featured a special reading of *'Twas the Night Before Christmas* by The Reverend Chip Edens, and a visit from St. Nicholas himself! It was a fun way to learn about his history and how his spirit is connected to the jolly guy in the red suit.



This year's Christmas Pageant told the timeless story of Jesus' birth during our Discovery Eucharist on December 20. Christ Church children delighted us with their portrayal of shepherds, angels, wise men, and the Holy Family.



MUSIC & WORSHIP

Choir and Band Rehearsals Resume January 6

All are welcome to sing, grow, and make great friendship through music in the Christ Church Music Ministry. Our Youth Chorus will sing the National Anthem at a Charlotte Knights' Baseball game in April; our Youth Band will produce recordings in May; and our Music Clubs will share some amazing stories of Jesus with movement and Orff instrumentation. Join us for a musical journey of faith, love, and worship!

2016 Spring Preview

Youth Sunday: February 7, 8:45 AM and 11:15 AM. All music will be led by the Youth Band and Youth Chorus.

Music Club Informance Concert: February 24, 5:00 PM.

A Concert for Peace: April 27. The Queen City Youth Chorus and Music Clubs will be joined by area Youth Choirs.

Music Ministry Appreciation Dinner and Parish Day Rehearsal: May 18.

Spring Parish Day Festival Eucharist: May 22. This event will be led by Christ Church Music Ministry.

Meet Tim Mapp



We are pleased to announce the addition of our new sound engineer, Tim Mapp, a native of Charlotte. Tim is a graduate of Full Sail University and has held positions in other churches and venues giving him lighting, audio, video and information technology experience. With his warm personality and eagerness to serve, we welcome him to our music and worship team at Christ Church!

Music Brings Joy

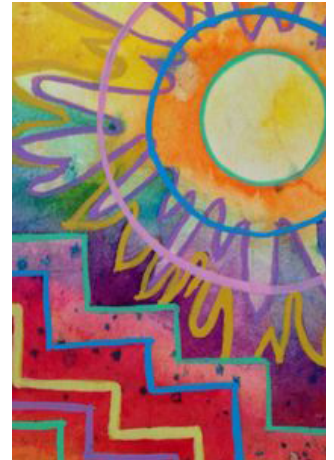
We are grateful for all who participate in the Christ Church bands and choirs, generously sharing their time and musical gifts with so many. On November 18, our youngest choristers in Music Club and Music Club Plus delivered their own interpretation of the Creation story through storytelling, music, movement and instrumentation. The Queen City Youth Chorus and Youth Band joined together to help us reflect and pray on Wednesday, December 2, as they led us through poems, music, and prayers in an Advent Service of Light in the Church. The Queen City Youth Chorus also had the opportunity to sing for nearly 500 people at the Charlotte Regional Realtors Association Holiday Awards Luncheon. The joy and spirit these groups bring is appreciated by all!

2016 Summer Arts Camp

July 18 – 21, 9:00 AM – NOON

Be sure to mark these dates on your calendar! Christ Church is excited to host the second annual Summer Arts Camp this July. Each day, rising K – 5th graders will have the opportunity to 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: \$95.00 per child. For more information, or to register visit www.christchurchcharlotte.org/artscamp, or contact Allison Schommer at schommer@christchurchcharlotte.org.



Time to Register for Children's Music

Music Clubs Winter Session

Wednesdays, January 6 – February 24 in M211

Music Club Pre-K & Kindergarten: 5:00 – 5:30 PM

Music Club Plus, Grades 1 - 2, 5:30 – 6:00 PM

Queen City Youth Chorus

Wednesdays, January 6 – May 18 in the Music Room

Grades 3 - 6, 4:45 - 5:30 PM

Grades 6 - 12, 5:30 - 6:15 PM

Youth Band

Wednesdays, January 6 – May 18 in the Band Room

Grades 6 - 12, 4:30 - 5:30 PM

To register, or for more information, contact Allison Schommer at schommer@christchurchcharlotte.org, or sign up online at www.christchurchcharlotte.org/music-signup.



YOUTH

Bishop's Ball

January 29 – 31, 2016

This year, Christ Church youth will participate in the Bishops' Ball. This is a Diocesan event and weekend retreat, held at Camp Walter Johnson in Denton, NC for middle and high school students, from 7:30 PM Friday to 11:15 AM on Sunday.

The event is planned and led by youth from the Chartered Committee for Youth (CCY). During the event, youth and adults will participate in small-group discussions and activities, large-group presentations, games, music (led by a professional musician), worship and more, including a possible campfire or talent show. All the bishops of our diocese participate in the weekend and are presenters of the theme throughout the weekend. In addition, there is a formal dinner, followed by a celebration Eucharist and dance, with a DJ, on Saturday night. Most participants dress up for Saturday evening's festivities. Learn more and register at www.dionc.org/digital_faith/events/3165329, or contact Betsy Zarzour at zarzourb@christchurchcharlotte.org.

Join us for EYC (Episcopal Youth Community)

Calling all middle school students! On Wednesday, January 13 we will resume our EYC programming. We typically meet 5:30 – 7:00 PM on Wednesdays, but check your mail for a full calendar of the winter/spring events in 2016.

Faith Talks: Daring Way for Families

Wednesday, January 20, 5:30 - 7:30 PM, All Saints' Hall

All middle and high school families are invited to join us as The Reverend Matt Holcombe guides us through Brene Brown's Daring Way. Dinner will be served at 5:30 PM and the class for students and parents will begin at 6:00 PM. The cost is \$8 per person. Please preregister for this event at www.christchurchcharlotte.org/faithtalks.

Middle School Dance

Friday, February 5, 7:00 - 9:30 PM

Our high school Youth Council is hosting Christ Church's 3rd middle school dance! All middle school students are encouraged to attend and bring \$5 for Rama Road Elementary. The dance will run from 7:00 – 9:30 PM with plenty of chaperones. Come dance with us!

Youth Sunday

Sunday, February 7

We are looking for preachers, readers, acolytes, chalice bearers, and more! Contact Betsy Zarzour at zarzourb@christchurchcharlotte.org if you are interested in being a part of Youth Sunday at Christ Church this year.

NEWCOMERS

Connect Class

Are you interested in connecting more deeply to your spiritual home? Come join us for our Connect Class on Sunday, January 10. We are thrilled to offer this opportunity to get to know other parishioners, as well as a few clergy members, on a more personal level. This class is designed for newcomers, but is ideal for anyone wanting to have a deeper connection to Christ Church. We'll explore several topics and give you insight into what's here for you. This will be the final offering this program year for this class. Lunch is provided and childcare available upon request. For more information or questions, please contact The Reverend Patty Willett at willettp@christchurchcharlotte.org or 704-714-6940 or Kathryn Saunders at saundersk@christchurchcharlotte.org or 704-714-6974. To register, please contact Courtney Cabaniss at cabanissc@christchurchcharlotte.org or 704-333-0378. We hope you will join us for this fun class!

Newcomer Dinners

On the first Wednesday of the month, through April, we invite any and all newcomers to join us in M207 for dinner from 5:30 – 7:00 PM. It is a chance to meet other newcomers and some staff members as well, and each month we will have a speaker from either the staff or parish discuss a little of what's going on around Christ Church. We would love to have you join us, as often you like! Please register with Courtney Cabaniss at cabanissc@christchurchcharlotte.org. Childcare is available upon request.



2016 Outreach and Mission Calendar

Is your New Year's resolution to serve more in 2016? Below are some upcoming outreach and mission opportunities at Christ Church. Learn more and sign up at www.christchurch-charlotte.org/outreach.

January 3, 8, 28: Men's Shelter of Charlotte

January 3, 10, 17, 24, 31: Room in the Inn

January 17 - 21: Elizabeth House Hosting

January 20: Matthew 25 Delivery Day

January 30 - February 6: Adult Costa Rica Trip

February 7, 12, 25: Men's Shelter of Charlotte

February 7, 14, 21, 28: Room in the Inn

February 11 (Tentative): Habitat Kick-off Dinner

February 17: Matthew 25 Delivery Day

February 18, 19, 20 (Tentative): Habitat Build Begins

March 3: Rama Road Curriculum Night

March 5, 12, 19: Habitat Build Days

March 6, 11, 24: Men's Shelter of Charlotte

March 6, 13, 20, 27: Room in the Inn

March 16: Matthew 25 Delivery Day

March 17: Rama Road Career Day

April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30: Habitat Build Days

April 3, 8, 28: Men's Shelter of Charlotte

April 16: RamaFest

April 17: Bishop Hector (Costa Rica) and Bishop Griselda (Cuba) Visit

April 20: Matthew 25 Delivery Day

April 24 - 28: Elizabeth House Hosting

Boys of Distinction

A fantastic group of fifth grade boys from Rama Road Elementary School ventured uptown for their annual Boys of Distinction field trip during the month of December. Hosted by parish member Harry Shaw, the boys were able to visit the Duke Energy Center and learn about the world of finances. All who attended had a fantastic time and were able to experience a part of Charlotte and the corporate world that many had never experienced before. Thank you, Harry and Wells Fargo!

Room in the Inn

Instead of walking away feeling "less than," you'll feel blessed. Every Sunday night, December through March, we offer hospitality in our Spiritual Home to our neighbors who need a safe, warm place to sleep. Beds are made, tables are set, food is cooked, packaged, delivered, and served. Each week, we work hard to fill ALL of the required needs to pull this night off. Please visit www.christchurch.org/RITI for details and a link to sign up.



Thank You from Duff, Tennessee

On Saturday, December 5, a large truck navigated up winding mountain roads to deliver Christmas to the small community and coal town of Duff, Tennessee. There were 233 plastic storage containers full of gifts to be exact! Thanks to the overwhelming generosity of over 200 Christ Church parishioners who sponsored a child, each container provided one child with new clothes, socks and underwear, a winter coat, gloves, and hat, toothbrush and toothpaste, a book, markers and paper, and a toy!

The Duff Christmas Angel project started some forty years ago with an angel incarnate named Tilda. Today Tilda's granddaughter, Tammy Rose, has taken over the project. All the bins of presents were unloaded at her house, where they filled the hallways, bathrooms, and the living room of her home. Tammy Rose personally delivers each gift to the children—children she knows by name and has seen grow up in her community! She says that without these gifts many of the children in Duff would have no Christmas.

Did you know?

- Clairfield, TN (in which Duff is a small community) has a population of 1,002 people and a population density of 14 people per square mile.
- The racial makeup of the community is 99.5% white/.5% Hispanic.
- The estimated median household income is \$20,260, as compared to \$44,361 for state of Tennessee.
- The estimated median price of a house is \$23,400.



CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Caring for Aging Parents

Wednesday, January 20, 7:00 PM in M207

A speaker from The Ivey Adult Daycare will be here to discuss caring for the caregiver. This will help anyone who is caring for a loved one, either at home or in a facility, or those who are lending support and love to a caregiver.

.....

Living with Grief and Hope

A four-week series for those coping with grief and loss will be held on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 - 8:15 PM February 17, 24 and March 9 and 16 (skipping March 2). A daytime offering will be held on the same Wednesdays from 1:00 - 2:15 PM.

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 for the course by contacting Lisa at saundersl@christchurchcharlotte.org or 704-333-0378.



2016 Annual Stewardship Campaign

The 2016 Annual Stewardship campaign continues. We need your pledge! if you have not yet made a 2016 commitment, please visit www.christchurchcharlotte.org/pledge to do so at your earliest convenience.

Last month we listed names of those who had submitted a 2016 pledge by November 15. We regret that some names were not listed due to early print deadlines. Please know that a complete list will be printed in the March *Disciple*. We are so very grateful for every single pledge.

In the Parish

New Members

Betsey Dillon
Kathy Fletcher
Rupert Croker Poole
Graye and Cameron Todd

Births

Amelia Rebecca Ryan,
daughter of Elizabeth and David Ryan and
granddaughter of Betsy and Charlie Keiger

Sedley Savannah Wilson and
Hezekiah Charles Grindle,
grandchildren of Gretchen and Ed Easton

Marriage

Emily Sloan Hull to John Huske Anderson White

Deaths

Carla Vaughn
Jean Spratt
Helen Adams
Toyce Meyers, mother of Lois Ann Partridge
Linda Jennings, stepmother of Fran Teter
Jason David
Van Hill



The Disciple (USPS#679-610)
Published monthly by Christ Episcopal Church
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to
Christ Episcopal Church
1412 Providence Road
Charlotte, NC 28207-2543



Christ Church Charlotte
CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Office Hours:
Monday - Friday 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
704-333-0378

Periodical Class Postage
PAID
at Charlotte NC
USPS No. 679-610

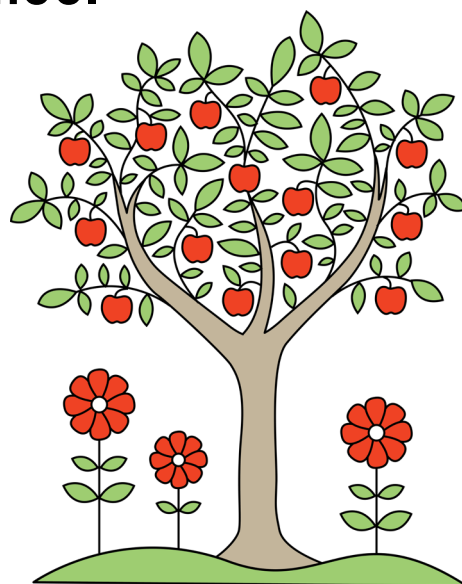
Christ Church Kindergarten & Preschool

Registration is Open

**We are now accepting applications
for the 2016-2017 school year.**

Since 1963, our half-day program has set the benchmark in our community for the highest standards in early childhood education within a Christian environment full of love and support. Christ Church Kindergarten and Preschool (CCK) is a NAEYC accredited half-day program that emboldens each student to develop socially, emotionally, intellectually, physically and spiritually. Children ages 12 months through Kindergarten are encouraged to be active participants in their learning by exploring their abilities, expressing ideas and developing friendships.

For more information, visit www.christchurchcharlotte.org/cck
or contact Kelly Coley, Head of School:
coleyk@christchurchcharlotte.org or 704-333-5818



Registration deadline: February 5, 2016
Tours: Wednesdays at 9:15 AM