

DECEMBER 2017

# The Disciple

News & Events at Christ Church Charlotte



Love God  
Care for Each Other  
Serve the World



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**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.

December 3  
**Annual Meeting  
Advent Lessons and Carols**

December 10  
**Hush in the Rush**

December 17  
**Christmas Pageant  
Stations of the Nativity**

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## ADVENT WORSHIP & MUSIC

### Sunday, December 3

#### First 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  
5:00 PM Advent Lessons and Carols in the Church

#### Annual Meeting, 10:00 AM in All Saints' Hall

Our annual meeting is an important event in the life of our community, where we elect new leadership and learn more about important Church matters. All adults and confirmed youth are encouraged to participate.

#### Annual Meeting for Children and Youth, 10:00 AM, The Church

While parents are in the Annual Meeting, children and youth (four years old through twelfth grade) will gather in the Church to present their own reports. Children in a 2- or 3-year-old class will meet in their normal rooms.

#### Advent Lessons and Carols, 5:00 PM in the Church

The combined adult and youth choirs offer a traditional version of Advent Lessons and Carols. This year's music includes the beloved "Adam Lay Ybounden" by Boris Ord, and a jaunty arrangement of "Nova, Nova" by Bob Chilcott.

### Sunday, December 10

#### 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 Hush in the Rush, Various Locations  
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

#### Hush in the Rush, 10:00 AM

Need to slow down and take a deep breath? Join us for an opportunity to experience a holy 'hush' in the rush and busyness of the Christmas season. We will offer multiple ways for families and people of all ages to be still, meditate, pray, and enter into a quiet holiness. All ages are welcome.

### Do You Make Music?

The Christ Church Contemporary Band is always looking for new members! We are especially in need of a few more pianist/keybordists to fill out our rotations. Singers and instrumentalists of all ability levels: there's always a place for you to contribute! Contact Brian Sullivan at [sullivanb@christchurchcharlotte](mailto:sullivanb@christchurchcharlotte).

### Sunday, December 17

#### Third 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  
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  
5:45 PM Stations of the Nativity on the Church Lawn

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

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

#### Stations of the Nativity, 5:45 PM on the Church Lawn

We will recreate the nativity in freeze frames across the front lawn with children, youth, and live animals, followed by caroling through the neighborhoods near Christ Church.

### Monday, December 18

9:00 AM **Greening of the Church**  
Open to all

### Sunday, December 24

#### Fourth Sunday of Advent

10:00 AM Holy Eucharist in the Church

#### 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 Holy Eucharist with Contemporary Band in All Saints' Hall\*  
8:00 PM Holy Eucharist in the Church  
10:30 PM Choral Eucharist in the Church

#### Christmas Eve Choral Eucharist

Choral prelude begins at 10:00 PM.

*\*Nursery care provided for children up to four years old at the 3:00 PM and 5:00 PM services.*

### Monday, December 25

#### Christmas Day

11:00 AM Christmas Day Festive Eucharist in the Church

### Note from the Music Director

The Advent and Christmas seasons are my favorite time of year, a time of deep and enduring traditions. At Christ Church, these seasons are bookended with Services of Lessons and Carols: Advent Lessons and Carols, December 3, 5:00 PM and Christmas Lessons and Carols, December 31 during the morning Eucharist.

#### Lessons and Carols

The Reverend Eric Milner-White, Dean of Kings College, Cambridge, led the first service of Christmas Lessons and Carols in 1918. He said of it, "The main theme is the development of the loving purposes of God ..." seen "through the windows and words of the Bible." The service of Advent Lessons and Carols is equally intentional: "As we await the great festival of Christmas, let us prepare ourselves so that we may be shown its true meaning... that the good purpose of God is being mightily fulfilled."

For nearly 100 years, choirs and congregations have added their response to these readings by singing the many carols of the season. Choirmasters who prepared these services left their own marks that have become traditions. In 1919, Arthur Henry Mann started the service with a boy chorister singing the first stanza of "Once in Royal David's City" followed by the choir and congregation crescendoing verse by verse, climaxing in a glorious descant sung by all of the choristers. Perhaps the most famous choral descants for any of the carols, however, are Sir David Willcocks' arrangements of "O Come, All Ye Faithful" and "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing." All of our choirs at Christ Church are learning or brushing up on these in preparation for Christmas. There is a wonderful biography of Sir David Willcocks titled *A Life in Music: Conversations with Sir David Willcocks*, by William Owen, with many reflections on music-making in the church and especially on the 16 services of Lessons and Carols he produced.

#### Carols of Preparation

Throughout Advent, we will quiet our services by singing the hymns and carols of preparation, more gentle service music, and adding plainsong Psalms to our services. The intention is to clear the air before the trumpets arrive for Christmas Eve. As I prepare for my first Christmas at Christ Church, I have been asking, "What are our traditions?" I have gotten many answers but the most consistent is that we start Christmas Eve with "O Come, All Ye Faithful" and we end it with "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing." If you would like to share any of your memories of traditions at Christ Church, I would love to hear from you.

As Episcopalians whose worship traditions were written down in 1549, it is important to remember and honor our customs. After all, Advent is a time for us to remember from whence we came so that at Christmas we can join with Christ and turn full face into the future filled with hope.

– Ben Outen

### Children's Music at Christ Church

As we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Christ child, we reflect on the wealth of traditional sacred anthems and carols that we hear during the Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany liturgical seasons. It often seems that the season is far too brief for us to fully absorb the power and life of the texts and melodies. As you attend worship in the upcoming weeks, you will hear the beautiful, clear voices of our children and youth as they take part in the annual Christmas Pageant, the live Nativity, and Christmas Eve Eucharist.

Our program year has gotten off to a fresh and exciting beginning under the direction of Ben Outen. He brings a wealth of experience and dedication to teaching and mentoring singers of all ages in the time-honored traditions of Anglican choral music.

#### Graded Choir Program

The graded choir program includes Music Club, the St. Nicolas Choir, the Christ Church Choristers, and the Christ Church Singers. No doubt, you have already heard the choirs as they participated in worship during our fall semester. They are dedicated and eager to learn, as is witnessed when you hear them sing.

#### New Semester Begins January 3

We hope that you will consider enrolling your child or teenager in one of the choirs. Our new semester begins on Wednesday, January 3 and will include the opportunity to take part in the Royal School of Church Music graded choir program.

#### Royal School of Church Music

RSCM is a Christian music education organization dedicated to the promotion of music in worship, in particular the repertoire and traditions of the Anglican Church. RSCM offers wonderful summer courses in which children and youth are immersed in deep choral and musical experiences. We would love to share more about these opportunities with you. Ben Outen can offer expert information about how to enroll your child and which course would be the best. To learn more, visit [www.rscmamerica.org/training-courses.php](http://www.rscmamerica.org/training-courses.php).

More information about the Christ Church choirs for children and youth may be found at [www.christchurchcharlotte.org/children-youth](http://www.christchurchcharlotte.org/children-youth).

About singing, American composer and choral clinician Alice Parker says, "singing is the most human, most companionable of the arts. It joins us together in the whole realm of sound, forging a group identity where there were only individuals and making a communicative statement that far transcends what any one of us could do alone."

My prayer for all of us during this holy season is that we hear her words and worship God with our whole heart and voice.



## Christmas Pageant!

**Sunday, December 17, 11:15 AM, All Saints' Hall**

The tradition continues as our children recreate the birth of our Savior. You and your entire family are invited to witness this critical moment through the eyes of a child.

Four-year-olds through second graders are the **Pageant Ensemble** who sing dressed as angels, shepherds, and sheep. We ask these participants to attend a minimum of two out of three of these music rehearsals:

- Wednesday, December 6, 5:00 – 5:30 PM
- Sunday, December 10, Noon – 12:30 PM
- Wednesday, December 13, 5:00 – 5:30 PM

Third graders only are the **Stage Cast** who act on stage and narrate the Pageant story. We ask the cast to attend two comprehensive rehearsals. If your child cannot commit to these two rehearsals in their entirety, he or she will be asked to participate in the Pageant Ensemble. Rehearsals are set for:

- Sunday, December 10, 12:15 – 2:00 PM (lunch included)
- Saturday, December 16, 9:45 – 11:15 AM

Registration is open until December 6 at [www.christchurch-charlotte/pageant](http://www.christchurch-charlotte/pageant).

## Children and Youth Leader Gathering and Epiphany Party

**Thursday, January 4. 6:00 PM, Location TBD**

Leaders, save the date and watch for more information about this gathering celebrating Epiphany and entering a new season of light-bearing at Christ Church.

## Advent Sunday Opportunities For Children and Youth

**Advent Festival, Sunday, November 26**

Thank you to all of our teen and parent volunteers who helped make the day seamless in every way!

**Annual Meeting for Children and Youth  
Sunday, December 3, 10:00 AM, The Church**

While parents are in the Annual Meeting in All Saints' Hall, we will gather children four years old through twelfth grade in the Church to present their own reports and to participate in what we hope will become an annual event to spread Jesus' love at Christ Church.

**Hush in the Rush**

**Sunday, December 10, 10:00 AM, Various Locations**

Children three years old through fifth grade will be invited to the Blue Room to hear the story of St. Nicholas and participate in activities to help prepare them for the coming of the Christ Child. Sixth through twelfth grade students will be invited to the Youth Lounge to practice contemplative activities.

**Christmas Pageant**

**Sunday, December 17, 11:15 AM, All Saints' Hall**

Come worship with us as we recreate the birth of our savior!



## STATIONS OF THE NATIVITY

**Stations of the Nativity, a Live Nativity Experience**

**Sunday, December 17, 5:45 PM, Church Lawn**

Join us for this new opportunity for all parishioners! We will recreate the nativity in freeze frames across the front lawn with children, youth, and live animals, followed by caroling through the neighborhoods near Christ Church. Visit [www.christchurchcharlotte.org/advent](http://www.christchurchcharlotte.org/advent) for more information.

**Our regular Sunday School schedule will resume on Sunday, January 7, 2018.**

## YOUTH MINISTRY



### Youth Leader Gathering

Youth Leaders gathered at the deVries' home for a delicious pot luck dinner on the evening of October 22. It was a gorgeous night to sit outside and relax while they got to know each other better and celebrated the joys of working with our wonderful youth.

Joshua Case led us in a meaningful discussion about what it looks like to be faithful in our work together with the youth at Christ Church. Great ideas were shared as we learned from each other. Thank you to all the parents who encourage your children to be a part of the Youth Ministry. Without you, there would be no work to be shared.

### Youth Council

Youth Council met Sunday evening, November 5 to discuss upcoming events for the busy Christmas season. This dedicated group of high school students generously give of their time and energy to share their light with the Christ Church community. They will be playing a big part in Advent events. Join their contemplative space in the Youth Lounge on Sunday morning, December 10 during the Sunday School hour for Hush in the Rush.

The next Youth Council meeting will be Sunday, December 3 at 6:00 PM at the deVries' home.



## Faith Talks

### Pass It On!

#### Sharing Faith from Generation to Generation

**Wednesday, January 17**

**6:00 – 7:30 PM, All Saints' Hall**

Join Director of Children's Ministry Lindsay Masi as we engage, equip, and empower families to love God, care for each other, and serve the world. Sit in fellowship, enjoy a meal, and discuss real-life faith issues. Register at [www.christchurchcharlotte.org/faithtalks](http://www.christchurchcharlotte.org/faithtalks).



### Middle School Serve-a-bration Event

Sunday, November 5, during the Sunday School hour, our middle school youth packed snack bags for A Child's Place. There was a huge turn out. Many hands make light work! Thank you to everyone who showed up and generously gave of their time to provide snacks. It was a fun event full of good energy!

## LIFE GROUPS

#### Middle School EYC (Episcopal Youth Community)

**Sundays, 5:45 – 7:15 PM, Youth Lounge**

For more information, contact Betsy Parkhurst at [parkhurstb@christchurchcharlotte.org](mailto:parkhurstb@christchurchcharlotte.org) or 704-714-6972.

#### High School

**Wednesdays, 7:00 – 8:00 PM**

**Home of Alice deVries, 1930 Ewing Avenue**

For more information, contact Alice deVries at [devriesa@christchurchcharlotte.org](mailto:devriesa@christchurchcharlotte.org) or 704-714-6962.

## ADULT FORMATION

### Communication Skills Training (CST)

#### Upcoming Classes:

January 9 – 11, February 27 – March 1, April 17 – 19

Congratulations to our two new professors: Alice deVries and Makeda Pennycooke. Alice and Makeda taught their first class in October and were fully certified by the national CST team. Class participants were overwhelmed by their skills, devotion, and presentation.

We would also like to congratulate the graduates of the 33rd and 34th Communication Skills Training class.

It has been six years since Bob Chapman spoke at our Faith Forum and asked Christ Church to pilot the first classes of the nonprofit arm of Barry Wehmiller's organization now called "Our Community Listens." This CST class is Barry Wehmiller's gift to us and many other communities around the country, and it continues to transform people's lives. We now have over 400 graduates.

If you are interested in this three-day experience that will help you to enrich your relationships with others, please contact Jenny Beaumont at [beaumontj@christchurchcharlotte.org](mailto:beaumontj@christchurchcharlotte.org). Spaces available in our upcoming 2018 classes. Learn more and register at [www.christchurchcharlotte.org/CST](http://www.christchurchcharlotte.org/CST).



### View the St. John's Bible During Hush in the Rush

We are privileged to host a volume of the St. John's Bible at Christ Church through February 4. This hand-written, hand-illuminated Bible is an amazing work of art that will inspire and delight you with its beautiful calligraphy and illustrations. The volume includes the four Gospels and Acts, and will be available for all ages to view at various times and locations around the Church over the next two months, including during Hush in the Rush on Sunday, December 10, in All Saints' Hall. Don't miss this opportunity



to interact with the Word of God in a whole new way.

To learn more, visit [www.christchurchcharlotte.org/stjohnsbible](http://www.christchurchcharlotte.org/stjohnsbible).

### Adult Confirmation and Inquirers Class

Sundays, February 11 – April 29, 10:00 AM

The Confirmation and Inquirers 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 how the Episcopal Church lives out that basic faith through worship, Bible study, and service to others. Classes are taught by Christ Church clergy. All are welcome and questions are encouraged.

The Confirmation and Inquirers Class is for adults who:

- wish to be confirmed in the Episcopal Church
- have undergone laying on of the hands by a Bishop in the Catholic, Lutheran or Eastern Orthodox Church and would like to be received into the Episcopal Church
- have been confirmed in an Episcopal Church and wish to learn the more about the basics of faith
- simply want to explore what we believe and the basics of faith

Confirmation is Sunday, June 3, 2018 at 8:30 AM. If you are unable to be a confirmed that day, we can make arrangements for you to be confirmed at a different church or next year when the Bishop visits.

For more information or to sign up for the class, contact Jenny Beaumont at 704-714-6945 or [beaumontj@ChristChurchCharlotte.org](mailto:beaumontj@ChristChurchCharlotte.org).

### Scotland/Ireland Adult Pilgrimage

April 19 - 29, 2018

Registration Deadline: January 5

Don't miss this unforgettable 11-day pilgrimage to the heart of Celtic Christianity that puts you in the footsteps of the mystics and saints.

We'll enjoy visits to Edinburgh Castle, St. Giles Cathedral, St. Andrews, and Glasgow, to name a few of our Scottish destinations. Then we'll ferry to Ireland and visit Belfast, Dublin, Blarney, and other sites. Castles, cathedrals, and breathtaking landscapes await!



To register, visit [www.christchurchcharlotte.org/pilgrimage](http://www.christchurchcharlotte.org/pilgrimage).

*You are invited to attend*

## Sages Christmas Luncheon

**Wednesday, December 13  
11:30 AM, Blue Room**

Reservations required. Please send your check for \$10 to: Christ Church, 1412 Providence Road, Charlotte, NC 28207, attn: Ainslie Wall.



## Newcomer Dinners

We are excited to offer the monthly opportunity for newcomers to gather together for dinner and conversation from 5:30 – 7:00 PM in M207 on the first Wednesday of the month, through April. A special guest will fill us in on what's going on around the Church. Childcare is available upon request. To register contact Kathryn Saunders at [saundersk@christchurchcharlotte.org](mailto:saundersk@christchurchcharlotte.org) or 704-714-6974.

## Christ Church Pictorial Directory

### Do We Have Your Correct Information?

**ATTENTION!** We will be publishing the new Christ Church pictorial directory in early 2018. Thank you to all who participated in the photo sessions. **All Christ Church member households** will be listed in the directory, with or without a picture. We will use the most current information in our database. The following details will be published, unless we hear from you:

- Name(s): Last, First
- Children: In birth order
- Address/City/State/Zip
- Preferred Phone Number for Head and Spouse
- Preferred Email for Head and Spouse



If you would like to confirm the information published or update your information, visit [www.christchurchcharlotte.org/directory](http://www.christchurchcharlotte.org/directory) to complete the online form. If you do not wish to be listed in the directory or wish to only publish certain information, you may indicate this on the form.

Oh the things we can do if we put our hearts  
and minds and resources to it.

For all who have made a 2018 pledge, thank you.

It's not too late to make a difference.

Make your pledge before December 31st.

Please let your generosity continue to flow.

*"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."*

— Matthew 6:21

**20  
18** | **ANNUAL  
STEWARDSHIP  
CAMPAIGN**

*Live Generously*

## WOMEN'S MINISTRY (ECW)

### ECW Advent Luncheon

*Let's Rejoice in the Season*

**Tuesday, December 5  
11:15 AM - 1:00 PM in All Saints' Hall**

All women are invited to celebrate together with a wonderful lunch and inspiring gospel music, featuring solo artist Kym Franklin from Chicago and the choir from New Emmanuel Congregational United Church of Christ in Charlotte. Get into the holiday spirit at this uplifting event!

Cost is \$20 per person. Reserve your space by Thursday, November 30. All tables will be filled on a first come, first served basis. You can reserve a table of 8 or 10, or as many places as you like, as long as you pay in one payment/reservation with all the names of guests included. We will do our best to accommodate requests to sit with friends on another reservation, but cannot guarantee placement at the same table.

**Register and pay online or download extra registration forms at [www.christchurchcharlotte.org/ecw-holidays](http://www.christchurchcharlotte.org/ecw-holidays).**

Questions? Contact Page Gatewood at bow829@aol.com or 848-979-5001; or Jennifer Chapman at jenniferhas3kids@gmail.com or 704-661-7648.

### ECW Advent Luncheon REGISTRATION

**Tuesday, December 5, 11:15 AM - 1:00 PM, All Saints' Hall**

Name(s)\* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*\*Tables may be reserved for up to 8 people. For table reservations please submit one check for all persons seated at your table.*

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Amount of Check:** (\$20 per person) \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

*Make checks payable to Christ Church.*

*Please write "Advent Luncheon" in the memo line.*

I would like to be seated at a table with an ECW host.  
*(These tables are open to all and will be hosted by ECW board members.)*

**Drop off registration and payment at the Church office by  
Thursday, November 30.**

**Save the Date:**

**Women's Retreat at Kanuga  
April 20 - 22, 2018**

### Volunteers Still Needed for Bazaar & Pop-up Shop!

We welcome your help! Opportunities to serve include cooking casseroles, decorating, and welcoming visitors the day of the event. Contact Wendy Cantey at [volunteers@CCBazaar.org](mailto:volunteers@CCBazaar.org) for more information, or sign up at [www.signupgenius.com/go/508084cafaa23a6f58-bazaar](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/508084cafaa23a6f58-bazaar).

### ECW Mission Funding Spotlight

ECW is pleased to support Charlotte Bilingual Preschool.

According to its mission statement, Charlotte Bilingual Preschool (CBP), formed in 1999, prepares Spanish-speaking children for success in school and life by providing superior dual-language early childhood education. The preschool also supports students' families with parenting, life skills and English-language classes, enabling them to sustain and nurture their children's educational and emotional development.

According to Executive Director Banu Valladares, CBP is now serving 108 preschoolers, many more than when it began, but she knows there are many more children in Charlotte who could benefit from the program. They've also worked to meet state licensing standards and are very proud to have become a five-star preschool in September 2014. This is the highest ranking by the North Carolina Division of Child Development.

The school is located in the Hickory Grove Elementary School Annex. It is a very happy place! You can learn more about CBP at [www.bilingualpreschool.org](http://www.bilingualpreschool.org).





A CHRIST CHURCH TRADITION



# Christmas Memorials

Every Christmas we adorn our spiritual home with fragrant wreaths and bright poinsettias in loving memory of those who have died, and in thanksgiving for special people in our lives. These decorations remain in place in the Church and All Saints' Hall through January 6.

To participate in this time-honored tradition, please complete this form and return with your payment to the address below by December 7.

Each memorial is \$40.

Memorials will be printed in the Christmas worship service bulletins.

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*I would like to donate a Christmas Memorial...*

to the glory of God and in loving memory of:

to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for:

MEMORIAL NAME
---------------

*(Please print clearly)*

GIVEN BY
----------

YOUR NAME
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YOUR TELEPHONE
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YOUR EMAIL OR MAILING ADDRESS
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**PLEASE USE A SEPARATE FORM FOR EACH MEMORIAL.**

You may photocopy this form, or download and print at [www.christchurchcharlotte.org/christmas-memorial](http://www.christchurchcharlotte.org/christmas-memorial).

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:**

Christ Church Charlotte

Mail completed form with your payment to:

Denise Beasley, 1827 Cassamia Place, Charlotte, NC 28211

Questions? Contact Denise Beasley at 704-364-9078 or [dcb@carolina.rr.com](mailto:dcb@carolina.rr.com)

**ANNUAL PARISH MEETING  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2017  
10:00 AM in ALL SAINTS' HALL**

Please join us for the Annual Meeting, Sunday, December 3, 2017 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 2017 and acknowledge the mission and ministry that took place during the past year, and to look ahead to 2018 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 2020 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 last year, 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 21), at which time the nominations are closed. As of the date of this notice (November 16), 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



Norfleet Pruden, Senior Warden

## VESTRY & ANNUAL MEETING

The election of the 2018 Vestry Members will be held at the Annual Meeting on Sunday, December 3 at 10:00 AM in All Saints' Hall. (There will be no worship experiences at 11:15 AM that Sunday, but other services will be held as regularly scheduled.) Five people will be elected to the 15-member Vestry. The following slate of parishioners has been nominated:



### **Nikki DeVillers**

Nikki DeVillers and her family joined Christ Church in 2010. She has served on the Executive Board of Christ Church Kindergarten, was in the first CORE class and has been a Sunday School Teacher. Presently she serves as a co-chair of the 75th Anniversary Celebration Committee. Nikki has been an active volunteer at her children's school. She is currently an Independent Strategy and Operational Management for Non-Profits consultant. Nikki and her husband, Andy, have three children, Maddie, Lucy, and Charlie.



### **Alex Kelly**

Alex Kelly is a life-long Episcopalian and has been a member of Christ Church since he moved to Charlotte more than 18 years ago. He has been active in a number of Christ Church ministries serving as Chair of the Christ Church Kindergarten Board, helping launch the current young men's Bible study program, volunteering at Room in the Inn and ushering at worship services. Alex has been involved in commercial real estate development for his entire professional career, affording him a sound understanding of business operations, financial underwriting and project implementation. He is currently a principal at Stanchion Asset Partners. Additionally, Alex has enjoyed tutoring at the Charlotte Rescue Mission and volunteers with the Urban Ministry Center. Alex and his wife, Catherine Ruth, are the parents of Bonner and Gardner.



### **David Kern**

David Kern has been a member of Christ Church for over 39 years. He has previously served two terms on the Vestry and was Senior Warden in 1993. David presently heads the Buildings, Grounds and Memorials Committee, which he has chaired since 2003. He also currently serves as a Lector/Reader for Sunday services. David has been Chair of the St. Francis Fund Board and Chair of the Seeds of Hope Board, and has served on the One in the Spirit Steering Committee. David is a partner with the law firm of James, McElroy and Diehl and has leadership, administrative, financial and management experience. In the community, he has previously served on the Board of the Charlotte Housing Authority Scholarship Fund and the Board of Penick Village. David and his wife, Tori, have adult twins, Alexandra and Zach.



### **Sally Mitchener**

Sally Mitchener has been an active member of Christ Church for 35 years. She is currently serving as a Young Adult Leader and Mentor, a Matthew 25 Guild co-leader, a member of the 75th Anniversary Committee and is participating in this year's CORE class. Sally was the Every Member Canvas Chair with her beloved late husband, Steve, in 2007. Outside of Christ Church, she has served on the Parent Advisory Boards at Charlotte Country Day, Woodberry Forest and Wofford College. Formerly in the broadcast industry, for 17 years, and the travel industry, she also has experience in communication and leadership development. Sally has two sons, Jay and McNair.



### **Jane Showalter**

Jane was baptized and confirmed at Christ Church in Savannah, GA. She has been a member of Christ Church Charlotte for 34 years. Since joining the church she has been a Sunday School teacher and has served on the Nursery Committee, the Personnel Committee, and numerous Care Teams. She has chaired the Christmas Bazaar, was ECW President and was Co-Chair of the One in the Spirit Steering Committee. Jane has been active at her children's schools serving on the Parent Advisory Boards at Charlotte Country Day, Elon University and Rhodes College. As a community volunteer, she is currently on the Board of HopeWay Foundation and is an Artist in Residence at Braitman Studio. She previously worked as a law firm recruiting coordinator and administrator. Jane and her husband Carl have three adult sons, Vic, Ward and Pete.

## Noted Care

IDEAS THAT HELP. STORIES THAT INSPIRE.

### Tips for a More Peaceful Christmas

**Drop expensive, high-stress rituals. As Elsa sings in Frozen, “Let it go.”** Focus on what’s most important. Less can be better. Delegate tasks. Remember the Whos in Whoville?

*Every Who down in Whoville, the tall and the small,  
Was singing without any presents at all!  
It came without ribbons! It came without tags!  
It came without packages, boxes, or bags!  
Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn't  
before.  
Maybe Christmas, he thought doesn't come from  
a store.  
Maybe Christmas, perhaps, means a little bit more!*

**Do something that makes you happy.**

Add something that makes you feel good. Join the choir for a season. Serve at soup kitchen. Get a massage. Visit a friend. Go see the Nutcracker... or don't go see it. If the season doesn't fulfill your dreams, don't hang onto resentment into January and beyond. If we can let go – even a little – of our expectations, we can give ourselves the freedom to enjoy life without them or to enjoy the holidays more. Seasonal depression is a real thing, but some people may write off signs of serious depression as mere holiday stress. It's unwise – even dangerous – to ignore depression symptoms for weeks or months in the hopes that they'll just disappear come January. If your holiday anxiety seems severe or is interfering with your job or home life, talk to your doctor or to a counselor.

**Devote 5 minutes each day to be still: quiet, breathing, being.**

*Better is a handful with quiet than two handfuls with toil, and a chasing after wind. Ecclesiastes 4:6.* Give time for God to reach you. Don't fill the time with many words. Wait for God within to speak or to bring calm and strength to accompany you through the day.



### Even at the Grave

“I started off wanting to write down my story for my grandchildren and great-grandchildren,” Lisa says. “How I wish my forbears had done the same. Dementia runs in my family, so it seemed like I better get started sooner rather than later! Chip has been encouraging me to write a book of my sermons, but that sounded like an exceedingly dull project, and the sort of book that puts people to sleep. As I mulled over how to tell my story, I decided to center it around what has become a surprising theme in my life. So I tell my story of being a wife, mother and priest, one funeral at a time. Oddly enough, officiating at funerals has become the defining and most compelling work of my career.”



Christ Church parishioners and Charlotteans will recognize many of the names and stories in the book. Through burials Lisa writes about her marriage and struggle to be a working mother, making peace with tragedy, and understanding suicide and mental illness. She grapples with the effects of racism and learns from those with the courage and verve to grow old with gusto. From burying eight horses destroyed in a fire, to AIDS victims abandoned

by their families, and an 82-year-old woman who was cared for in her final years by the birth mother of her adopted son, Lisa discovered generosity and grace, even at the grave. This is not a sad memoir. It might make you cry, but you will laugh out loud too. You will meet people at their best and at their last, and you will be the better for it.

Lisa Saunders' new memoir, *Even at the Grave*, is available at the the GoodNews Shop in December, and available online at Amazon and Barnes and Noble in the new year. All proceeds of books purchased at GoodNews will go toward the shop's year-end grants to agencies and ministries benefiting women and children.



## Holiday Shopping at GoodNews

It's the most wonderful time of the year at GoodNews! We have something for everyone and would love to help you with great gift ideas for all of those special people on your Christmas list!

You can also get your copy of *Even at the Grave*, a memoir by Lisa Saunders. As always, all proceeds will go towards organizations that support women and children.



## Christ Church 75th Anniversary Ornament Now Available

Proceeds from the sale of this 75th Anniversary commemorative ornament will fund Christ Church outreach initiatives. The ceramic ornament was designed and produced by artists Adrienne Dellinger and Greg Scott of Clayworks, a non-profit organization dedicated to the promotion of ceramic arts, advancement of artists and students, and enrichment of the communities it serves. Visit the GoodNews Shop to purchase this special item (\$16).



**December Hours:**  
Monday – Friday, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM  
Saturday, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM  
Sunday, 9:45 AM – 1:00 PM

**We will be closed December 24 – January 1**

## MISSION & OUTREACH



### With Thanks

Our fourth annual Serve-a-bration was a huge success thanks to your generosity that allowed us to pack hundreds of snack bags for children experiencing homelessness, build new friendships with the women of the YWCA's Women In Transition program, update the duplex used by our neighbors at Charlotte Family Housing, and so much more. We saw what it looks like when Christians answer Jesus' invitation in Matthew 20: *"Whoever wishes to be great among you must be your servant... just as the Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."* Thank you for being an example of Christ's love.



### A Parishioner's Serve-a-bration Experience

In the Gospels, Jesus tells us that service is at the heart of Christian mission. When we respond to Christ's invitation to service, we can find our lives changed in unexpected ways. Here's how a Serve-a-bration event impacted one parishioner:



*I wanted to share with you the terrific experience I had working with the Navigators (fourth and fifth graders) as part of the Serve-a-bration snack-packing event for A Child's Place. A leader from A Child's Place explained to the 50 or so young people in the Blue Room what A Child's Place does and what it is like to be a child without a home. As part of the event, the children did a team poverty simula-*

*tion, imagining how they would pay for food, transportation, laundry, shelter, etc. with a very limited amount of money. One young boy exclaimed, 'Some kids only get two meals a day?' We then decorated and packed snack bags for 150 children experiencing homelessness. The bags said things like, 'You are awesome, God Loves you, Have an amazing day!'*

*It was a great lesson for these children and I was so happy that I participated. A few weeks ago, Associate Rector Joshua Case talked about the decline of places where generations and families can come together, but at this event I saw how Christ Church could be a different sort of place. He is so right!*

### Room in the Inn (RITI) is Here!

During the coldest months of the year, Christ Church partners with the Urban Ministry Center's RITI program and other communities of faith to ensure our homeless neighbors have a safe, warm place to sleep. Each Sunday night December 1 – March 31, we will host 14 people overnight and we need your help! There are plenty of ways to participate: setting up, providing dinner or breakfast, driving neighbors to/from Urban Ministry, and serving as an overnight host. For more information, please visit [www.christchurch-charlotte.org/riti](http://www.christchurch-charlotte.org/riti). For questions, contact our RITI coordinators, Thurman Brooks at [tbrooks@providencigroup.com](mailto:tbrooks@providencigroup.com) or Sarah Lathrop at [sarahplathrop@att.net](mailto:sarahplathrop@att.net).

### Costa Rica Winter Trip

Our winter Costa Rica trip is only three months away! It will take place February 3 – 10. Our trips to Costa Rica are opportunities to experience the country's beauty and hospitality, build new friendships with other parishioners, and be a part of helping build a bright future for the children at Hogar Escuela. The approximate cost is \$1800, which includes airfare, lodging, and most meals. A deposit of \$500 is required. Register now before spots fill up! You can find more details and the application at [www.christchurchcharlotte.org/costarica](http://www.christchurchcharlotte.org/costarica).



## STAFF

### Welcome New Staff Members



**Laura Konitzer**  
**Assistant to Outreach  
and Mission**

Laura is a self-described Army brat and cradle Episcopalian, having attended Episcopal Churches all over the U.S. and Europe.

In July, Laura, husband of 19 years Tom, and son Mac (14) relocated to Charlotte from Houston, Texas and

found a Church home at Christ Church.

A graduate of East Carolina with a background in Public Relations, Laura has had a variety of public relations and community relations jobs through the years. The bulk of the past 14 years, however, have been spent raising her son and volunteering in the Church, schools and with the Junior League of Houston. Laura is passionate about her family, music and the arts, travel, reading, and serving the community.

We are thrilled to have Laura join our Outreach and Mission ministry.

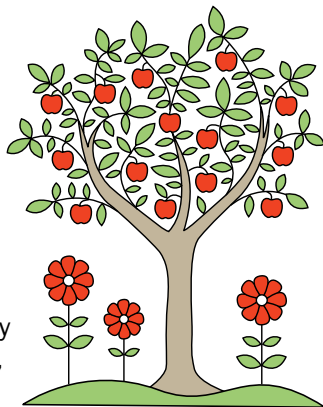
### Christ Church Preschool & Kindergarten (CCK)

#### Registration for 2018 – 2019

Christ Church Preschool and Kindergarten is gearing up for 2018 – 2019 registration, which begins January 3, 2018.

Tours are held every Wednesday at 9:30 AM. To schedule a tour, contact Meredith Sorrell, Assistant Head of School, [sorrellm@christchurchcharlotte.org](mailto:sorrellm@christchurchcharlotte.org).

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



# In the Parish

## New Members

Alex Butler  
Paul, Carolyn and John Donohue  
Roddey Dowd  
Aaron Greene  
Debbie and David McCarthy  
Sarah and Ross Peters and Family  
Lauren Pershke  
Tricia and Jim Whiteside

## Births

Charles William Moose, son of Becca and Jay Moose  
Mark Maxwell Gilbert, son of Lauren and Grant Gilbert  
Anne Sullivan Austin, daughter of Caroline and Chase Austin  
Robert Daniel Sellers, grandson of Janie and Dan Sellers  
Whitaker Boykin Rose II, son of Tiernan and Whitaker Rose

## Baptism

Lucas Albert Abbe  
Laura Mildred Boisture  
Elizabeth Scott Fain  
Naomi Wanjiru Harding  
Ethan Ngugi Harding  
Alexandra Lorraine McGuire  
Stephen James Rhyne

## Marriage

Elizabeth Mead Osborn and Patrick Matthew Squires Sissman, daughter of Dawn and Eric Osborn  
Bethany Anglin and David Rhyne, son of Steve and Patty Rhyne  
Leah Andress and John David Brady Jr., daughter of Margaret and Welton Andress

## Deaths

Herman Hallet "Hal" Daniels, father of Kim Cherry  
Doris Broadway, sister of Bill Browning  
Walter Woodson, cousin of Joe Kluttz  
Maude Fern DeCurtins, mother of Bob DeCurtins

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CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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*Greenery ~ Decorations ~ Topiaries ~ Homemade Foods ~ Handcrafted Gifts*



**CHRIST CHURCH BAZAAR**

*and Pop-Up Shop!*

**Saturday, December 2**  
**9:30 AM – 1:00 PM**  
**All Saints' Hall**

Wonderful vendors, fantastic handcrafted gifts, fabulous holiday greenery, Christmas decorations, delicious homemade foods and more to get you in the Christmas spirit. All proceeds will benefit ECW outreach efforts.

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

