

The Messenger

320 Pollock Street • New Bern, NC

www.christchurchnewbern.com

November 13 - 20, 2022

252.633.2109



Grounded in Faith, Growing to Serve - The Gift of our Treasure



You might be wondering, "How will Christ Church use my gift of money?"

Staff Salaries and Benefits † Insurance † Utilities †

Building Repairs and Maintenance

Recovery Ministry † Pastoral Care † Christian Formation

Office Expenses † Parish Life Supplies † Diocesan Pledge

Music † Children & Youth Activities † Program Expenses & Supplies

RCS † Merci Clinic † Habitat for Humanity † Interfaith Refugee Ministry



Following the 11 am service on November 20, we will gather in the Harrison Ministry Center for lunch to celebrate our newest confirmands, as well as the conclusion of the 2023 Stewardship Campaign.

Fried chicken and beverages will be provided. Salads, hot side dishes, breads, and desserts are welcome. We ask that you bring a dish to share and a serving piece to go with it. Left-overs should be taken home.

Click on <https://www.perfectpotluck.com/meals.php?t=TUMP4912> to sign up to bring a dish. The link should take you directly to our sign up, but if you are asked to provide the coordinator name, type Bogle. The user number is 9633.

We are also looking for volunteers to assist with food and clean up. Six people are needed to help receive food. This shift runs will from about 8:15 am until just before the 11 am service. Six people are also needed to supervise the food line and serve drinks during the meal. Six people are then needed afterward for clean up, which involves moving dirty items to the kitchen, running the dishwasher and returning any clean items to their places. To sign up online go to the end of the Perfect Potluck list and view the available shifts. You can also call the Reception desk to volunteer.

If you prefer, sign-up sheets are also available in the church reception area. Please either sign up online OR on the sign-up sheets, not both. Questions? Call or email Jane Ashford (252.288.2838 / jane.ashford@neusewoods.com)

Countdown to Cookie Walk:

What is Santa's favorite Christmas Cookie? We asked the Cookie Walk Elves, and they said the classic sugar cookie. Why not invite some friends over and decorate cookies based on this recipe? www.foodnetwork.com/recipes/food-network-kitchen/the-best-sugar-cookies-for-decorating-7422971



We need bakers as well as volunteers to help package the cookies on Friday, Dec 9, all day at the Harrison Center. Pop in and package for an hour or two. Cookie Walk will be held from 9am to 3pm on Saturday, Dec. 10, and, of course, we'll need volunteers that day, too! All the proceeds from this event are returned to our community. Your contact for all things cookies is Pam Miller at pam.miller950@gmail.com.

Volunteer

<https://www.signupgenius.com/g409094daea928abff2-cookie1>

Bake

<https://www.signupgenius.com/g409094daea928abff2-cookie2>

GivingTuesday

GivingTuesday is a global generosity movement that was created as a simple idea: a day that encourages people to do good. Since its inception, it has grown into a year-round global movement that inspires hundreds of millions of people to give, collaborate and celebrate generosity. GivingTuesday is celebrated annually on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving.

This year we encourage you to remember Christ Church on Tuesday, November 22 -- and every day -- and consider how you can give some of your time, talent and treasure to enhance Christ Church and its community. Money donated to Christ Church GivingTuesday is added to the outreach grants, along with Pumpkin Patch and Cookie Walk funds. To learn more about GivingTuesday, visit their website at www.givingtuesday.org.

Stewardship Story: Nancy Mansfield

Joe and I are both professional fundraisers. We believe in giving. We give.

Both of us grew up in Christian families where giving was encouraged but pledging was not a part of our church experiences. We came to the Episcopal Church as adults, and one of the things we learned is that Episcopalians are expected to pledge. I honestly don't know how we decided how much to pledge in the past. I think we just decided on what we thought was an appropriate amount and signed the card. Done.

Something wonderful happened to us when we were living in Buffalo and active in St. Paul's Cathedral there. Joe got elected to the vestry. He went to his first meeting and came home with what has proven to be a life altering challenge. All of the Vestry there agreed to sign a pledge to work towards the tithe.

Like all of you, we knew what a tithe was—10 percent of your income. So, we, admittedly for the first time in our lives, sat down and looked at our giving. How much did we give and what percentage of our income was that?

It was not a happy answer. Even when you factored in all our charitable giving, not just to the church, we were way short of the tithe. Us generous folks were not so generous after all. We needed to do better!

Now here's the happy part of this saga — when we decided to look honestly at our stewardship, we were troubled. But when we started to do something about it, a wonderful change happened. We put our money where our mouth was, and we came to understand that what the Bible tells us is true — Where your treasure is, there will your heart be. We became cheerful givers!

As tithing became a permanent part of our lives, little by little we grew spiritually. We increased our stewardship of time and talent as well as treasure.

I encourage you to take a clear look at your stewardship. The little brochure you got in the mail offers some easy ways to approach your giving. Most of all I encourage you to let tithing be a joyful goal not a burden. In other words, don't give until it hurts — give until it feels good! As we remain grounded in faith, we will grow to serve.



Grounded in Faith
Growing to Serve

Stewardship Story: Joanie Bogle

When we were asked to chair the Christ Church stewardship campaign, I was pretty uncertain we had the qualifications and background to do it. We are fairly new to Christ Church and to being Episcopalians. And, believe it or not, until several years ago, we were even new to the idea of church stewardship and pledging!

Let me explain. Randy and I grew up going to church with our families in Illinois — he at Vine Street Christian Church and I at St. John's Lutheran. We both went to Sunday School and put our little white envelopes in the offering basket. And though we knew we were offering our thanks for God's blessings, the idea of pledging and stewardship were never mentioned.

As adults, we moved every two years or so with our young family while Randy pursued his career in the Navy. We'd no sooner settle on a church and get the kids into Sunday School, than we'd pack up and move again. Somehow, we missed the part about pledging and stewardship. In our last few Navy postings, we attended Navy chapels. Pledging? Stewardship? No. That never came up.

After Randy's retirement from the Navy, we moved near a small town east of San Diego and joined its little community church. The church was so small that nearly all of us held church board and committee positions, usually more than once. It was then we realized there was more required than participation alone and dropping an envelope into the plate

The church has bills to pay? Salaries and benefits and insurance? Maintenance and loan payments? Costs associated with the volunteer ministries the church supported? And these are paid by the congregation through pledging rather than by some synod or diocese?

I know that sounds very naïve, but now that we understand, we've come to embrace the idea of church stewardship in all its forms. We've come to realize that being part of this or any other church congregation means a commitment to stewardship to help it thrive and grow. Better still, we've come to realize how good that commitment feels in our hearts and how it lifts our spirits to outwardly give back the love God bestows on us.

One of my favorite Christian authors said we are not reservoirs, but rivers. The love and blessings we receive from God aren't stored in the reservoir of our hearts, but rather flow freely and joyfully through us and out to others. Pledging our time, talent, and financial support is both a spiritual and tangible way to let that love flow through us -- and through Christ Church -- to each other and to the community.

In Christ,
Joanie Bogle

CAMPAIGN UPDATE AS OF 11/9/2022

Pledge Amount Received: \$267,376

Number of Pledges Received: 68

In peace we pray to you, Lord God

For our ill and recovering parishioners: Barbara Willis, Jackie Barney, Mike Pridgen, Mary Hasell, Betty Jane Bonapartian, Bob and Joan Burnett,* Champ Mitchell, Janet Anderson, Joe Freemon*, Bob Kohn, Susan Rivenbark, Warren Meadows, Hal Cameron, Joe Mansfield, Barbara Odderstor*, Evelyn Dill, Jim Keeter, M. Carolyn Lawson, Evelyn Hunter, Katherine Gill, Kathy Blanchard, Pat McCotter, Ralph Cowan, David Watrous, Vicky Allen, Eileen Nelson, Lindy Emory, DJ Bessack, Carol Kross, Carol Athing, Rena Knott, CB Evans, Mike McCulley, Jack Browning-Henry, Willis Stevens, Betsy Primavera, Mollie Bales, Robert Lane, Sheridan Holstein, Judy MacDougall, Vickie Evans, Joan Kunkle, Margaret Scott*, Jim Banks, Jim Gruenebaum, Ann, Doug Sudduth, Kaye Frampton Brown, Myra Lewis, Sandy Valentine, Margaret Pollock, and Eugene Simon.

For our friends and families: Liesel, Niels, Trinity, Bill, Joan, Brooke, Mary, Ann, George, Anne, Bruce, Nancy, Lynda, Mike, Connor, Stephen, Lynne, J. Matthew, Inez, Ed, Jimmy, Karen, Bob, Cortney, Craig, Larry, Eleanor, Julie, Denni, Santa, Teresa, Monika, Margie, Laurissa, Paul, Stephanie, Pam, Ellen, Kate, Corey, Stephanie, Bambi, Justin, Judy, Polly, Nancy, Paula, Kelly Ann, and Lois.

For our deployed military: Lt. Christopher Miller, SSgt. Philip Buffa, III, SSgt. Hunter Lyon

For refugee families and those seeking asylum.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: St. Andrew's On the Sound, Wilmington

**These parishioners live out of the area but have requested to remain on the Christ Church prayer list. If you would like to add or remove someone from the list, contact [Betsy Downard](#).*

ECW November Meeting - Tomorrow

Join us tomorrow, Monday, November 14, for the next meeting of All Saints ECW. Our guest speaker will be Chief of the New Bern Police Department, Patrick Gallagher, who will update us on police activities in New Bern. We hope to see you in the Parish House at 10 am.



STEPHEN MINISTRY

Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

Galatians 6:2

JUST IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS

Christ Church online apparel store. View the collection and order at christepiscopal2022.itemorder.com/shop/home/ or scan the QR code. Advance payment required. Order deadline Dec. 4. Orders will be delivered Dec. 19.



THIS WEEK AT CHRIST CHURCH

Sunday, November 13

- 8:30 am: Eucharist Rite II (Nave)
- 9:30 am: Coffee available between services
- 9:45 am: Sunday School
- 11 am: Eucharist Rite II (Nave / [online](#))
- 12 pm: Coffee Hour
- 6 pm: EYC (Harrison Center, Kitchen)
- 5:30 pm: Choral Evensong

Monday, November 14

- 10 am: ECW All Saints Meeting (Parish House)
- 11:30 am: Contemplative Prayer Group (Pelletier Room)
- 1 pm: Staff Meeting
- 3 pm: Growing in Grace
- 5:15 pm: Stephen Ministry Meeting (Library)

Tuesday, November 15 - Crown Article Deadline

- 8:30 am: Eucharist (Chapel)
- 9:30 am: Endowment Meeting (Pelletier Room)
- 10 am: Women's Book Study (Second Floor Living Room)
- 3 pm: Growing in Grace
- 4:30 pm: Christ Church Friends (Music Room)
- 5:45 pm: 8:30 Choir Rehearsal
- 6:30 pm: Small Wonders NA Meeting (Pelletier Room)
- 7:15 pm: Handbell Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)

Wednesday, November 16

- 11 am: Rector's Bible Study (Library)
- 3 pm: Growing in Grace
- 4 pm: Pastoral Care Commission Meeting (Library)
- 4 pm: Wednesdays at Christ Church
- 6:15 pm: AA Meeting (Harrison Center)
- 7 pm: Parish Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)

Thursday, November 17

- 10 am: Chair Yoga (Harrison Center)
- 10:45 am: Truewood by Merrill Eucharist (Offsite)
- 3 pm: Growing in Grace
- 3:15 pm: Growing in Grace Thanksgiving (Harrison Center)

Friday, November 18

- EYC Fall Conference (Offsite)

Saturday, November 19

- EYC Fall Conference (Offsite)
- 2 pm: George Ives, Jr. Funeral
- 5 pm: Foyers (Offsite)

Sunday, November 20

Harvest Sunday / Confirmation / Bishop Visit

- EYC Fall Conference (Offsite)
- 8:30 am: Eucharist Rite II (Nave)
- 9:30 am: Coffee available between services
- 9:45 am: Sunday School
- 11 am: Eucharist Rite II (Nave / [online](#))
- 12 pm: Coffee Hour

THE GOODS

United Thank Offering

As we approach Thanksgiving and Christmas, it seems only right to consider all the blessings that God has bestowed on us. Since two Episcopal women initiated UTO in 1889, it has become a tradition in which even small children can participate. They enjoy putting their coins in the “mite boxes” provided by the church. A recent article pointed out that every US coin on which “In God We Trust” is engraved reminds us that we are putting our trust in God. With every coin dropped in our mite box, we are affirming that faith. Starting on Sunday, December 4, you will find mite boxes and UTO envelopes that will be collected on Sunday, December 18. The money collected is given in grants to missions and ministries throughout the Episcopal Church and Anglican Community.

Advent Wreath Making

On Sunday, November 27, we will be making Advent Wreaths at 9:45 am during the regular Sunday School time. We will talk about how to use them and how we can have more faith practices during a busy season. The church will provide the candles and foam. Please plan to bring some greenery to share.

Sacred Ground Starting In Jan.

Christ Church is starting another Sacred Ground circle. Sacred Ground is a film-and readings-based dialogue series on race, grounded in faith in Jesus. The 10-session class will begin meeting on January 22. The first session will include a potluck dinner in the Harrison Center. Meetings will take place via Zoom on Sundays at 5 pm and will be led by Mary Lynn Guidage. Visit www.episcopalchurch.org/sacred-ground/ to learn more about Sacred Ground. To sign up, go to www.signupgenius.com/go/409094daea928abff2-sacred1. In addition, the film, [Traces of the Trade](#), will be shown on Sunday, January 8 in the Harrison Center. More details to come.

Nursery Team Member Needed

We are looking to hire a new member of our Nursery Team. They must have experience working with children aged birth -- four (and a little older). Our nursery is open on Sunday mornings from 7:45 am - 12 noon and some Sunday evenings from approximately 2:30 - 6 pm. There might be other opportunities to work weekday church events but not on a regular schedule. Start date will be in December. Applicants will be asked to complete a background check, as well as abuse awareness and prevention training. Contact Meg Jones at megjones@christchurchnewbern.com if you have any questions.

Where Can You Plug In?

- **Worship:** To volunteer for our November Eucharists, click [here](#). Click [here](#) to serve in our December Eucharists. For more information about ushering, contact [Butch Ricks](#).
- **Volunteer Receptionists:** If you can help us answer the phones, welcome visitors, and complete odd jobs here and there, we'd love to have you! Click [here](#) for November dates. To reserve time slots in December, click [here](#).
- **Coffee Hours are back!** If you would like to volunteer to be a host, please click [here](#). Set-up instructions are posted in the Parish House kitchen.

Angel Tree

This year's Angel Tree is now up and located in the Reception Area. As we have done for the past two years, we are asking our church members to give money for Angel Tree in lieu of buying and wrapping gifts for the children of incarcerated parent(s). Our client families have responded very positively to this change. In addition, this year the majority of our children are not from New Bern proper but from surrounding counties, so the burden of higher gas prices also was a factor in this decision. Please be as generous as you can. We have 55 children and would like to give \$100 gift certificates for each child; if we have additional funds we will be giving grocery gift cards as well. If you have any questions, please contact Ellen Chance at 252.259.5214.

Flower Donations

This week's altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Larry Whitney by Connie Whitney and children; and in thanksgiving for Laine James Dutton on the day of her Baptism, and in loving memory of her grandfather, James Kevin Eisele and her great grandparents, Joseph Eisele, Fred and Sheila Cronin, Lois Monette and Laurence Dade Wall II. If you would like to give flowers in remembrance or thanksgiving of someone, please sign up on the bulletin board in the reception area, call the church office or sign up online [here](#). Please send all memorial or thanksgiving details to communications@christchurchnewbern.com. The cost is \$35 per Sunday.

Change in Annual Meeting

This year's Annual Meeting and Vestry election will now be held on December 11. The original date of December 4 will now become a “regular” Sunday with 8:30 and 11 am services and Sunday School at 9:45. Look for more details in the coming days.