

In 2025, Christ Church is poised to give over \$80,000 to local agencies like the Fuller Center, Craven Literacy Council, and the Bike Box Project. These funds come from our budget, the Christ Church Trust, and the Grants Committee.

Christ Church, New Bern  
[www.christchurchnewbern.com](http://www.christchurchnewbern.com)



## Growing in Grace Looking Forward to New School Year

*“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.” - Nelson Mandela*

Christ Church’s Growing In Grace after school program is excited to begin a new school year on September 22, 2025. This will be our 9th year working with children of lower income families to enhance their educational success, encourage spiritual growth, and help them develop good behavior and work habits.

Our program is successful due to our amazing volunteers that come to offer their support and love as mentors to our children. The mentors work one-on-one with our children for about 45 to 50 minutes on homework, school work review or completion, study for tests and most importantly to offer the children a new friend in their life that cares about their success in school and in life. We also have volunteer van drivers and riders that ride as a monitor in our van to pick the children up from Brinson Elementary School.

We are always looking for new volunteers to join us. All volunteers must have a background check through the Episcopal church and complete an online program on safeguarding God’s children. These will be offered once you have signed up to join us this school year. We will also have a volunteer orientation that is required for new and returning volunteers on September 11, 2025 at 5:00 pm. If anyone is considering joining us for this school year, this would be a great time to hear more about our program. We are looking for:

- Weekly mentors to work with the children. Each volunteer is assigned a day(s) and a child/children. The amount of days put in is up to the volunteer.
- Substitutes to fill in when weekly mentors cannot be there
- Van drivers and driver substitutes
- Van monitors and substitutes (van monitors ride with the driver to pick up the children and help where needed)

Please contact the director of GIG - Debbie Fodrie ([debiefodrie@christchurchnewbern.com](mailto:debiefodrie@christchurchnewbern.com) / 252.675.8358) if you would like to join us this school year.



# Contemplative Prayer

*“What Makes You Come Alive:*

## *A Spiritual Walk with Howard Thurman”*

**When:** 11:30 AM – 12:45 PM on Mondays, 9/08/25 – 11/24/25 (no meeting 9/29)

**Sign Up:** Email [pastor.bornemann@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.bornemann@gmail.com)

**Meets In Person & On Zoom:** In person: Pelletier Room, upstairs at Christ Church

**Leader:** Rev. Barbara Bornemann

**Study Book:** *What Makes You Come Alive: A Spiritual Walk with Howard Thurman*

**Author:** Lerita Coleman Brown

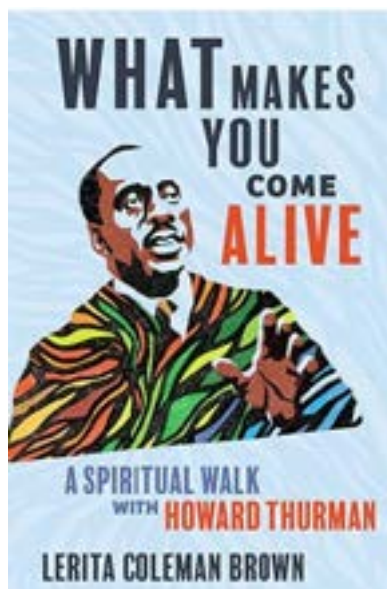
**Purchase Book:** Books Available Online

Starting September 8, the Contemplative Prayer Group will be exploring the spirituality of Howard Thurman, a Christian mystic, pastor, philosopher, author, educator, and civil rights leader. During the 1960's, Thurman served as a mentor and spiritual advisor to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. who was greatly influenced by Thurman's contemplative spiritual writings and his teachings on non-violent change. Author Lerita

Coleman Brown states, “One of Thurman's lifelong quests was to inspire hope. . . His quest for a profound experience of the presence of God, of connection to all living things, serves as a model for any spiritual seeker.”

Once when Thurman was asked by another theologian what needed to be done in the world, Thurman replied, “Don't ask what the world needs. Ask what makes you come alive and go do that, because what the world needs is more people who have come alive.” As the Contemplative Prayer Group meets this fall, we will take a spiritual walk with Howard Thurman. As we go on this walk together, we'll help one another discover, “What makes us come alive.” described as a weariness of soul.

Join us Tuesdays from 10:00-11:00 am in the 2nd Floor Living Room. Women of all ages are invited to attend. We open our time together with prayer, followed by reading the book aloud, and discussing. No preparation is necessary. You can join the group at any time.



# Stephen Ministry

The Pastoral Care Commission for Christ Church has professionally trained Stephen Ministers, who offer their services to fellow parishioners. These ministers are trained to be good listeners and periodically meet with care receivers on an individual basis.

This is a confidential ministry in which the care receiver can be sure his or her identity and what is discussed remains private. Those who receive the ministry are parish members dealing with life issues who need to talk with someone who is compassionate and can listen unconditionally. Listen--- that is the key.

There are many of us who carry burdens and issues that need to be talked about, who could benefit from this wonderful service. We all, men and women alike, might need confidential, compassionate help at some time in our lives and these wonderful, giving ministers are ready to assist you.

Please remember that Christ Church has Stephen Ministers that are trained and willing to listen to you at any time for any issue in your life. All referrals go through our clergy to maintain clergy awareness and support. If you feel you could use the service of a Stephen Minister, please contact Suzanne Hood (252-633-2109 or [suzannehood@christ-churchnewbern.com](mailto:suzannehood@christ-churchnewbern.com)) or Mary Parrish (252-514-8199). Either of them would be happy to answer any of your questions.

## Taizé Service - August 31

Christ Church will hold a Taizé service at 5 pm, Sunday, August 31, in the Chapel. Taizé is an ecumenical, Christian, monastic community located in Taizé, Saône-et-Loire, Burgundy, France. Founded in 1940 by Brother Roger Schütz, the community is composed of about 100 brothers, from Catholic and protestant traditions, who originate from about 30 countries around the world.

A Taizé worship service involves sung and chanted prayers, meditation, a period of silence, and liturgical readings. The prayers consist of “short chants, repeated again and again,” according to an introduction in a Taizé song-book.





# In peace we pray to you, Lord God

## For parishioners who have requested prayers:

Mike Pridgen, Mary Hasell, Betty Jane Bonapartian, Janet Anderson, Bob Kohn, Susan Rivenbark, Warren Meadows, Hal Cameron, Joe Mansfield, Barbara Odderstol\*, Jim Keeter, Evelyn Hunter, Kathy Blanchard, Pat McCotter, Ralph Cowan, Vicky Allen, Lindy Emory, Carol Kross, Rena Knott, Mike McCulley, Robert Lane, Vickie Evans\*, Joan Kunkel, Margaret Scott\*, Jim Gruenebaum, Myra Lewis, Sandy Valentine\*, Geoff Wood, Charlie Henke, Ken McCotter, Bob Nelson, Liz Praul, Cathy Monid, Betsy Phillips, Nicholas Pridgen, Pat Robinson, Pat Holmes, Cathy O'Brien, Charles Peterson, Helen Shine, Palmer Noonan, Steve Phillips, Linda Bullock, Ann Bustard, Nancy Mansfield, Pat Polk, DJ Besack, and Rebecca Liberty.

**For our friends and families:** Liesel, Niels, Trinity, Danny, Phyllis, Mary, Otto, Henry, Jim, Howard, Jahna, Debbie, Will, Lucy, Kelsey, Kenny, Yuri, Julia, Valeria, Valentina, Carly, Richard, Bob, Peggy, Gene, Dolores, Beth, Nolan, Denise, David, Sam, Larry, Bobby, Joan, Corey, Denni, Elizabeth, Jenna, Peter, Bob, and Janis.

**For our deployed military:** Charles Lewis, Jr.

**For refugee families and those seeking asylum.**

**Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:** Grace Church, Plymouth; Interfaith Refugee Ministry; Lower Cape Fear Deanery

*\*These parishioners live out of the area but have requested to remain on the Christ Church prayer list.*

In an effort to keep our prayer lists current and accurate, names of friends and family members will normally remain on the list for six months. If you would like to add or remove someone from the list, please contact [Betsy Downard](#).

## Thank You for Your IRM Backpack Generosity

Wow! What an amazing response! All 20 of our back-to-school backpack bags benefiting IRM have been picked up. Thank you so much. As a reminder, please return all items to the Reception Area on or before August 18. Again, your generosity is much appreciated!



## CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

Please note that not all weekly church events are listed here. If there are no changes to your regularly scheduled event, it might not appear below. The entire Christ Church calendar can be found at [www.christchurchnewbern.com/calendar](http://www.christchurchnewbern.com/calendar) and in the Sunday morning email. Signs with the complete calendar are posted on the kiosk in the Reception Area and the bulletin board across from the Library. Daily calendar signs are posted on the church's exterior doors.

### Sunday, August 10

- 8 am: Eucharist Rite II (Nave)
- 9:15 am: Psalms in the Summer Class (Library)
- 10 am: Eucharist Rite II (Nave / [Online](#))
- 11 am: Lemonade on the Lawn
- 11 am: Cursillo Reunion (Chapel)

### Monday, August 11

- 8:30 am: Morning Prayer (Chapel)
- 1 pm: Staff Meeting (2nd Floor Conference Room)

### Tuesday, August 12

- 7 am: Al-Anon Meeting (2nd Floor Living Room)
- 8:30 am: Eucharist (Chapel)
- 11:30 am: Chair Yoga (Parish House)
- 6:30 pm: Small Wonders NA Meeting (Pelletier Room)

### Wednesday, August 13

- 6:15 pm: AA Meeting (Harrison Center)

### Sunday, August 17

- 8 am: Eucharist Rite II (Nave)
- 9:15 am: Psalms in the Summer Class (Library)
- 9:15 am: Pop-Up Choir Rehearsal (Nave)
- 10 am: Eucharist Rite II (Nave / [Online](#))
- 11 am: Lemonade on the Lawn
- 11:30 am: Stephen Ministry Meeting (Pelletier Room)



## ICE CREAM SOCIAL

- Sunday, August 31 after 10 am service
- In the Harrison Center
- Stop by and check out our recent renovations
- *NOTE: Only one service 8-31-2025 at 10 am*

# Young Adults and Young Families Brunch

The Young Adults / Young Families group will host a brunch between the 8 am and 10 am services on August 24. Weather permitting, this will take place outside on the church yard with picnic tables set up on the playground side of church. RSVP at <https://tinyurl.com/YA-YF-Fall-Picnic>.



## Where Can You Plug In?

- **Worship:** To volunteer for August services, click [here](#). Click [here](#) for September services. For more information contact Sarah Risty Davis at [sarahristydavis@christchurchnewbern.com](mailto:sarahristydavis@christchurchnewbern.com).
- **Volunteer Receptionists:** Come join us at the Reception Desk. Reserve your August shifts [here](#). September shifts can be found [here](#).
- **Receive emails and texts from Christ Church:** Click [here](#) to receive text messages and/or emails from Christ Church. *Standard text messaging rates apply.*
- **Lemonade on the Lawn:** Summer Lemonade on the Lawn takes place after 10 am service. Hosts put lemonade and cups on a cart and take it from the Parish House kitchen to the courtyard. Lemonade is provided. Sign up here at <https://tinyurl.com/Lemonade2025>. Many thanks to this week's host, Tony Embrey.

## August Faith Connection

Faith Connection will hold its August meeting on TUESDAY (usually held Thursdays), August 26th at First Presbyterian Church, from 4:00-5:30. The speaker is Roberta Smith from Church World Services. CWS is responsible for Crop Walks around the country. Funds raised from the New Bern Crop walk, scheduled for September 28, are portioned between RCS and Church World Services. With food uncertainty becoming more prominent, supporters of this year's Crop Walk are needed more than ever.

Learn more about Church World Services and Crop Walk at <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/crophunger-walks>.

## Cursillo Weekend

Pilgrim applications are currently being accepted on a first come - first served basis for the East Carolina #106 Weekend, which will take place November 6-9, at Trinity Center in Pine Knoll Shores. Cursillo Ministry is a spiritual formational retreat for piety, study, and the practice of leadership and service. These tools are continued forward by building a lifestyle of transformational skills and assisted with laity through ministry friendships.

Weekend fee is \$300 and includes room and meals. Scholarships are available. The weekend consists of five meditations, 15 talks, a healing service, a Spiritual Advisor on site, and Eucharist every day. Cursillo Ministry is advised under the bishop. The weekend is served by Laity and also led by Clergy and a Lay Weekend Rector.

If you're interested or would like more information, please contact a member of the Christ Church Vestry or Mary Lynn Guidage or visit <https://www.cursillodec.org>.