



CHRIST CHURCH

The Messenger

PO Box 1246 • 320 Pollock Street • New Bern, NC
www.christchurchnewbern.com



September 24 - October 1, 2023

252.633.2109

A Moment with Stewardship

“Today, I choose to live with gratitude for the love that fills my heart, the peace that rests within my spirit, and the voice of hope that says all things are possible.” — Anonymous

This week we are grateful for all the wonderful ministries that provide Pastoral Care to our congregants. We are also grateful for all the ways our rectors and deacon provide not only leadership but personal and group support to us. These are the conduits for Christ Church to provide love, peace, and hope to those within our parish.



Pray Gratefully | Serve Responsibly | Give Generously

The Prayer Shawl Ministry members knit or crochet shawls for people who are experiencing illness, loss, or other difficult life transitions. The shawls provide love as well as comfort and warmth. Nap blankets are provided to children in need of comfort; and prayer squares, given by the rectors, are available for people to carry in a pocket or purse as a reminder of God's love and care.

Stephen Ministers reach out to those in the congregation who are suffering from loneliness, anxiety or pain, or going through a difficult transition. They are trained to provide distinctively Christian individual, weekly, confidential care to other Christ Church members. Nothing says “I care” more than a willing ear to listen.

Lay Eucharistic Visitors take Holy Communion directly from communion at church to the home of those unable to attend, symbolically including them in communion with the congregation as the service comes to a close with them. Similarly, Christ Church Visitors visit homebound parishioners but on a monthly or bi-monthly social call, sharing the news from church, establishing friendships, and strengthening ties to the parish.

These very personal ministries allow volunteers to actively promote connections of love and caring. They are a way of “accepting the invitation to show up in life [which] is about moving from the bleachers to the field... about having things matter to us enough that we stop just thinking about those things and actually do something about them.” (Bob Goff) These ministries come from the heart of the giver and go to the heart of the receiver.

Lord God, we are thankful for Jesus, and his apostles after his Ascension, who showed compassion to the sick and the injured. We give thanks for the Pastoral Care Commission and our clergy for all the ways they carry on in the tradition of the apostles serving others. We pray that God will continue to open doors for their work to be the very heart of God to those who need it. Amen.

Invitation to Realm

As many of you know, we have moved to a new kind of church record-keeping solution at Christ Church, called REALM. It primarily serves the administrative needs of our staff but also offers some exciting opportunities to support the way you are involved in your church. Not only will this improve work life for our ministry staff, but it will also make it easier for our church family to connect with each other, remain informed, and grow as a connected community. You determine how much you want to make this part of your experience with your church, but we encourage you to participate.

In the coming week you will receive an email invitation to join Realm. As long as we have your current email address, you will receive the invitation.

Everyone in our church gets a unique profile. Your profile contains everything you want people in our church to know about you and enables you to join a small group, track your own giving, update your contact information, and change family details. By keeping your information current, you are helping our staff, group leaders and church community. Your profile includes:

- Contact information
- Family members
- Personal information
- Connections to social media accounts.

You have complete control over who can see your contact and personal information. You can also track your giving history and print your contribution statement.

But first you must click on the email invitation, update your profile, and OPT IN to Realm. Please review your entire profile and correct any errors. Make sure children in your household are entered on your family profile. Please be sure to check that your date of birth is entered and that there is an updated email address. We want to communicate with you better, and this is the best way to make sure that happens. Any questions, please contact Ellie Roberts, ellie.roberts@christchurchnewbern.com.

Church Yard Clean-Up — Thank You

Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who dedicated their time last Saturday in helping out with the Churchyard Clean-Up. We were able to accomplish more than expected. The church grounds look beautiful and are ready for the pumpkins!



Christ Episcopal Church 2023 Pumpkin Patch

Opens September 29

Seven Days a Week

10 am - 4 pm

Click [HERE](#) to volunteer.

All proceeds go to local charities.

PUMPKINS ARRIVE 3 PM, 9/28:
Please come help unload and bring your
wheelbarrow!

2023 Cookie Walk Preview

Helping our community, one cookie at a time.

Join us for the 24TH Annual Cookie Walk Preview on Sunday, October 8, from 8am to Noon in the Parish House.

Cookie Walk needs experienced and inexperienced bakers to help us bring some holiday spirit to New Bern. We need bakers, as well as volunteers to help decorate the Harrison Center, plate the cookies and of course, help on the day of Cookie Walk, **December 9th**. All the proceeds from this event are returned to our community as Outreach Grants. Come by and see us on October 8th to volunteer and eat a cookie or two. Point of contact is Sims Wayt at simswayt@embarqmail.com.



Third Annual ECW Trolley Tour

Once again this year enjoy a journey into New Bern's Historic past. Our first year was The Wonderful Women of New Bern and last year the Magnificent Men of New Bern. This year is for Nicholas Sparks fans – and who isn't??? We will tour the sites and hear the stories from the novels of our own Mr. Sparks! Join us aboard the Trolley as we visit the locations that inspired him to write of our fabulous town of New Bern.

Tickets are \$25, payable in advance (which includes driver and guide gratuity), and we will leave promptly at 10 am from the Christ Church parking lot. The tour is 1.5 hours. Tickets are non-refundable but feel free to find a replacement (or make it a donation to our Episcopal Church Women's fund for charities). Seats may go quickly, we had such a wonderful time the past two years, so make your plans now.

To reserve your seat(s) or for more information please contact Rodney Hayes at either rodneyfhayes@yahoo.com or text/call 203.640.2638

One-on-One Prayer

Beginning in October, we will add an opportunity for one-on-one prayer near the end of both the 8:30 and 11:00 worship. We will have two people available in the Chapel during and after Communion pray for any special need or intention one might have. These prayer ministers will maintain the strictest of confidentiality, so whatever your prayer needs are will be between you, them, and God.

If you would like to be one of the prayer ministers, please reach out to the Rev. Paul Canady (paulcanady@christchurchnewbern.com or 252.631.5861) for more information. Our orientation and training will be on Monday, October 2nd at 6:00pm in the Chapel.

In peace we pray to you, Lord God

For parishioners who have requested prayers: Mike Pridgen, Mary Hasell, Betty Jane Bonapartian, Bob and Joan Burnett,* Champ Mitchell, Janet Anderson, Bob Kohn, Susan Rivenbark, Warren Meadows, Hal Cameron, Joe Mansfield, Barbara Odderstol*, Jim Keeter, M. Carolyn Lawson, Evelyn Hunter, Katherine Gill, Kathy Blanchard, Pat McCotter, Ralph Cowan, David Watrous, Vicky Allen, Lindy Emory, DJ Bessack, Carol Kross, Carol Athing, Rena Knott, CB Evans, Mike McCulley, Willis Stevens, Betsy Primavera, Mollie Bales, Robert Lane, Sheridan Holstein, Judy MacDougall, Vickie Evans, Joan Kunkle, Margaret Scott*, Jim Banks, Jim Gruenebaum, Ann, Kaye Frampton Brown, Myra Lewis, Sandy Valentine, Eugene Simon, Frank Rice, Margaret Wright, Bruce Baker, Geoff Wood, Maggie Bagg, and Charlie Henke.

For our friends and families: Liesel, Niels, Trinity, Mary, Ann, George, Anne, Bruce, Nancy, Lynda, Mike, Connor, Stephen, Inez, Ed, Karen, Bob, Cortney, Craig, Larry, Eleanor, Julie, Denni, Santa, Teresa, Monika, Margie, Laurissa, Paul, Stephanie, Pam, Ellen, Kate, Corey, Stephanie, Bambi, Justin, Judy, Nancy, Paula, Kelly Ann, Lois, Laurissa, Martha, Melissa, Melissa, Anna, Dave, Elle, Halle, Mariya, Laura, Christina, Mary Ann, Billy, Bob, Ted, Rosemary, Bill, Naomi, Carol, Joseph, Jimmy, Grant, Eunice, William, Marie, Melanie, Sylvia, Aline, Rose, Rosemarie, Shelly, Susie, Larry, Anne Marie, Ginny, Lisa, Louise, Selma, Jackie, Kathi, Julia, Ardean, John, Peggy, Patty, Margaret, Jackson, Julie, Butch, Jim, Joan, Wes, Joe, June, Gerry, and Dan.

For our deployed military: Lt. Christopher Miller

For refugee families and those seeking asylum.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Holy Trinity, Fayetteville; and St. Andrew's, Columbia

**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](mailto:Betsy.Downard).*



REQUESTS FOR PRAYER

THIS WEEK AT CHRIST CHURCH

Sunday, September 24

Stewardship Kick-Off

8:30 am: Eucharist Rite II (Nave)

9:30 am: Coffee available between services

9:45 am: Sunday School for all ages

11 am: Eucharist Rite II (Nave / [Online](#))

12 pm: Coffee Hour

12:30 pm: Cursillo Reunion (Chapel)

2:30 pm: EYC at CROP Walk (Union Point Park)

3 pm: CROP Walk (Union Point Park)

4:45 pm: Youth Confirmation Class (Library)

6:30 pm: Sacred Ground (via Zoom)

Monday, September 25

1 pm: Staff Meeting

3 pm: Growing in Grace (GIG Room)

Tuesday, September 26

7 am: Al-Anon Meeting (2nd Floor Living Room)

8:30 am: Eucharist (Chapel)

10 am: Women's Book Study (2nd Floor Living Room)

3 pm: Growing in Grace (GIG Room)

6:30 pm: Small Wonders NA Meeting (Pelletier Room)

7 pm: Handbell Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)

Wednesday, September 27

11 am: Rector's Bible Study (Parish House)

3 pm: Growing in Grace (GIG Room)

5:30 pm: 8:30 Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)

6:15 pm: AA Meeting (Harrison Center)

7 pm: Parish Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)

Thursday, September 28

Pumpkins Arrive

3 pm: Growing in Grace (GIG Room)

3:30 pm: Director of Music Search Committee Meeting (Library)

Sunday, October 1

Birthday and Anniversary Sunday

8:30 am: Eucharist Rite II (Nave)

9:30 am: Coffee available between services

9:45 am: Sunday School for all ages

11 am: Eucharist Rite II (Nave / [Online](#))

12 pm: Coffee Hour

4 pm: POD (Purple Pineapples Room)

4:45 pm: Youth Confirmation Class (Library)

6 pm: EYC (Youth Room)

6:30 pm: Sacred Ground (via Zoom)

Sprucing Up the Sunday School Rooms

Put your DIY skills to use by helping us paint the chalkboards in the Education Rooms. All paint and materials have been purchased, we are just looking for someone to complete the job. On-the-job guidance is available. For more information or to volunteer, contact Ellie Roberts (ellieroberts@christchurchnewbern.com) or Rick Miller (rickmiller950@hotmail.com). Thank you in advance!

GIG Seeking Van Drivers

GIG has started back up for the school year and is seeking a volunteer van driver for Mondays and Tuesdays. No CDL is required, just a valid state drivers license. Volunteers will need to undergo a background check and complete the Safe Church, Safe Communities series. Come join our GIG family. Contact Debbie Fodrie at debbiefodrie@christchurchnewbern.com if you're interested.

THE GOODS

Holiday Market Committee Seeking Volunteers

The Holiday Arts and Crafts Market will be held on Saturday, December 9, 2023, from 9 AM until 4 PM, and we are looking for some creative volunteers for the planning committee. The event will be on the church grounds bordering Middle and Pollock Streets. More information and a vendor application can be found [here](#). Proceeds from the space rentals will support the ministries of Christ Episcopal Church. Contact Tony Embrey at 828.774.9592 if you're interested in volunteering.



CROP Walk Today!

It's not too late to register. Click [here](#) to join the Christ Episcopal Church team. Step-Off time is 3 pm at Union Point Park. Proceeds benefit local and international hunger and humanitarian programs.



Rothermel Foundation Fall Lecture

The Rothermel Foundation will host James C. Peterson, PhD, for their Fall lecture. His topic will be *Human Gene Editing for the Good Life*. Peterson will give a first-hand report of how geneticists across the world have been meeting to discern and encourage the best use of Gene Editing technology for healing human disease, and maybe even enhancement. He will describe in particular how the most influential religious traditions, such as the Christian faith, have thought about the roles of genes and gene editing.

The lecture will take place at 2 pm, Sunday, October 22, 2023, at First Presbyterian Church, New Bern. For more information on the speaker and topic, click [here](#).

Where Can You Plug In?

- **Worship:** Volunteer to serve in our upcoming services. October services can be found [here](#). November services are available [here](#). For more information contact Sarah Risty Davis at sarahristydavis@christchurchnewbern.com.
- **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! Reserve your September dates [here](#). Click [here](#) for October dates and [here](#) for November dates.
- **Gas Cards for RCS:** Religious Community Services is in need of gas cards of \$10 or more to use to reimburse peer support volunteers who take RCS guests and clients to appointments and interviews when they have no other transportation. The cards can be dropped off at RCS or delivered to Terry Brubaker (terrytb49@gmail.com).
- **Coffee Hour Hosts Needed:** Coffee Hours have returned. We need hosts, however, in order to make Coffee Hours happen. To volunteer to host an upcoming coffee hour, click [here](#). Hosting instructions are included on the Sign Up Genius page. Many thanks to this week's hosts, Rodney Hayes, Jane Broaddus, Margi Thompson, and Joanie and Randy Bogle.
- **Christ Church Cooks:** The Christ Church Cooks have been busy, which means the freezer is full. Do you know of someone who could use a prepared, frozen meal due to sickness or other situation? Please stop by the freezer and pick up a meal (or two) and help someone out in their time of need.

Christ Church Local Charity Grants

For the past number of years, Christ Church has made two separate Donation Grants to Local Charities -- The Christ Church Trust in the Fall and Outreach (combination of Pumpkin Patch, Giving Tuesday, and Cookie Walk) in the Spring. Starting this fall, these two donation grant processes are now being combined. The new title is CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH Christ Church Trust and Outreach Grants.

There will be a single Grant Application Form for local charities to apply, as well as a common application deadline that will occur in the fall. All grant distributions will be determined and distributed by the end of every calendar year.

If you know of a local charity, that could benefit from this opportunity, please forward the name of the charity along with contact information to Ellie Roberts at ellieroberts@christchurchnewbern.org.