



THE CROWN

April 2025

| Issue 44 |

Christ Episcopal Church, New Bern

APRIL IS UTO MONTH

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THE GOODS

What is UTO? We are daily confronted with Acronyms such as TSA, SSA, FBI and most of us know what they stand for. But do you know what UTO stands for? It is UNITED THANK OFFERING.

April is UTO month at Christ Church and again, do you know what that means?

It is a time for us to pause daily to give God thanks for our blessings, large and small. We often say "thank God" but this is a time to put those words in action by setting aside a portion of our blessings to help people across the country and the world.

Started by two Episcopal women in 1889, who envisioned a way to collect small thank offerings, UTO has grown to be an Episcopal Church ministry to the whole world.

Some of us like to physically put coins or bills into a special Mite Box provided by the church and others write a check. Those funds will be collected on April 27th. In the Reception Area, there is a display of Mite Boxes and envelopes for you to take home. There is also a donation box with the display so you can make your contribution whenever you like. Last year Christ Church donated \$2,539.74!

Don't forget to let your children participate by putting aside some of their coins in a Mite Box. It can be an evening discussion at the dinner table to talk about something good that happened during the day which made us thankful.

UTO collects these monies and awards grants to organizations that are in need.* The 2025 campaign is focused on water-related projects, drawing inspiration from Jesus' words "I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink" (Matthew 25:35), with the goal of funding initiatives that address water access, quality as well as education issues within communities; needs of unhoused people and related health concerns.

Please plan and prayerfully consider your many blessings and how you can be a party to making lives better in our community and around the world.

- Jane Broaddus, UTO Chair

**From the Episcopal Church United Thank Offering*

Decorating the Church for Easter

Please join us on **Saturday, April 19, at 10 am** to decorate the church for Easter. All ages are welcome to help. Easter flowers may be taken home on Sunday, April 27, after each service. We will do a final cleanup at 12:15 pm on that day.

ALSO, don't forget to bring a small flower on Easter Sunday morning to place on the cross in front of church.

ABOUT CHRIST CHURCH



CHRIST CHURCH
AN EPISCOPAL CHURCH
IN THE DIOCESE OF EAST CAROLINA
FOUNDED 1715, NEW BERN, NORTH CAROLINA
Our Vision: To be a church that loves the way God Loves

MISSION

The mission of Christ Episcopal Church is to welcome and inspire all people to faith, hope and spiritual growth through worship, Christian fellowship, and service to one another and to the community beyond.

CHRIST CHURCH CLERGY

Rector: The Rev. H. Paul Canady, III
Associate Rector: The Rev. Suzanne Hood
Deacon: The Rev. Deacon Lisa Kirby

CHRIST CHURCH STAFF

Director of Church Life: Jimi Paderick
Director of Music: Jacqueline Nappi
Director of Christian Formation: Hannah Hutchens
Director of Growing in Grace: Debbie Fodrie
Finance Coordinator: Cindy Tripp
Communications Coordinator: Betsy Downard
Volunteer Coordinator: Sarah Risty-Davis
Facilities Coordinator: John Peterson
Nursery Staff: Heidi Powell, Allison Robinett
Custodial Services: Terry Pitner

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursdays: 9am - 3pm
Fridays: 9 am - 12pm
Click [here](#) to download the “Who to Call” directory. Click [here](#) to schedule a meeting with Paul and [here](#) to schedule a meeting time with Suzanne. *Please indicate if you’re requesting to meet face-to-face, via phone or via video conference.*

GIVING OPTIONS

- Make an online payment [here](#).
- Mail checks to PO Box 1246 New Bern NC 28563
- Contact [Cindy Tripp](#) for more information.

CHRIST CHURCH VESTRY

Term through 2025:
Randy Bogle (*Junior Warden*), Stephanie Bratton, Kim Huddle (*Senior Warden*), Holly Lippitt
Term through 2026:
Patty Conard, Laura Overman, Elmer Praul, Graham Underhill
Term through 2027:
Vins Bowers, Liz Coble, Susan Husson (*Clerk*), Ernie Williams

FIND US ONLINE

If you’re viewing this newsletter online, click the links below to see our social media sites. You can also find the links on our website: www.christchurchnewbern.com.
[Main Facebook Page for Christ Church](#)
[Christ Church Children and Youth Facebook Page](#)
[Instagram](#)
[Youtube](#)

CONTACT US

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New Bern, NC 28560
Mailing Address:
PO Box 1246
New Bern, NC 28563
Phone Number:
252.633.2109

The Crown is regularly distributed on the first Sunday of the month. In order to ensure our deadlines, our office needs all articles and photos by the 15th of the previous month. All copy and photos needing to run in the May 2025 edition of *The Crown* should be sent to communications@christchurchnewbern.com by April 15. Please make sure to plan ahead for your events so we don’t miss the printing deadline! If you have any questions, please contact our communications coordinator, Betsy Downard, at betsydownard@christchurchnewbern.com.

- Deadlines to get articles, prayer requests/calendar submissions into *The Messenger* (weekly): Wednesday by noon
- Deadline for submitting weekly information and pictures running in the Midweek Messenger Email: Wednesday by noon

PRAYER REQUESTS

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, DJ Bessack, Carol Kross, Rena Knott, Mike McCulley, Betsy Primavera, 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, Rosie Wood, Betsy Phillips, Nicholas Pridgen, Margaret Phaup, Pat Robinson, Pat Holmes, Cathy O’Brien, Charles Peterson, Gay Stuart, Helen Shine, Rosemary Stark*, Palmer Noonan, Steve Phillips, and Jerry Pelletier.

For our friends and families: Liesel, Niels, Trinity, Danny, Phyllis, Mary, Otto, Nancy, Ashleigh, Vaughn, Elizabeth, Denni, Rebecca, Alex, Emery, June, Joy, Catherine, Jack, Karen, Henry, Jim, Tom, Howard, Jahna, Debbie, Will, Lucy, Scott, Kelsey, Kenny, Yuri, Julia, Valeria, Valentina, Carly, Richard, Bob, Peggy, Gene, and Dolores.

For refugee families and those seeking asylum.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: St. Christopher’s, Havelock; Episcopal Campus Ministries

**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](#).

WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

PLEASE NOTE:

We have updated the way the calendar appears in our publications. If there are no changes to your regularly scheduled event, it might not appear below. The entire calendar can be viewed online at christchurchnewbern.com/calendar and in the Sunday morning *Messenger* 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 APRIL 6	MONDAY APRIL 7	TUESDAY APRIL 8	WEDNESDAY APRIL 9	THURSDAY APRIL 10	FRIDAY APRIL 11	SATURDAY APRIL 12	SUNDAY APRIL 13
BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY NEW BEGINNINGS YOUTH GATHERING (OFFSITE) 8:30am: Eucharist Rite II (Nave) 9:45am: Sunday School for Ages 11am: Eucharist Rite I (Nave / online) EYC (Offsite)	1pm: Staff Meeting (2nd Floor Conference Room) 7pm: Adult Lenten Class: Guided by the Spirit (via Zoom)	7am: Al Anon Meeting - (2nd Floor Living Room) 8:30am: Eucharist (Chapel) 6:30pm: Small Wonders NA Meeting (Pelletier Room)	12pm: Bach Musical Meditations (Nave) 5pm: Stations of the Cross 5:30pm: Adult Formation Class: The Hardest Part: Hurt we Carry, Hope we Find (Library) 6:15pm: AA Meeting (Harrison Center)			9am: Building and Grounds Committee (Library) 10am: Spring Clean-Up Day 5pm: Foyers (Offsite)	PALM SUNDAY 8:30am: Eucharist Rite II (Nave) 9:45am: Sunday School for Ages and Coffee Hour 11am: Eucharist Rite I (Nave / online) 12:30pm: Cursillo Reunion (Chapel) 5pm: POD (Purple Pineapples Room) 6pm: EYC (Youth Room)

MUSICAL REFLECTIONS

Reflection is a word that can sometimes feel synonymous with Lent. As we begin to approach Easter, these final weeks of Lent provide us with the opportunity to reflect not only on Christ's Passion story and journey, but also on our own story and journey as a congregation at Christ Church, particularly our musical offerings, which have been substantial, both within our church community and the greater community of New Bern.

Since the new organ installation in August of 2024, Christ Church hosted a celebratory Organ Dedication Concert with Nathaniel Gumbs in September (with an estimate of at least 400 people in attendance), a silent-movie night featuring the new organ in October, a beautiful Requiem concert with choir and orchestra in November, and a very full Lessons & Carols that was accompanied by string quartet with the organ in December. Oh, and also Christmas Eve!

Then at the beginning of 2025, Christ Church provided Choral Evensong via the Diocese of Eastern Carolina's Schola Cantorum group, we kicked off our new Organ Recital Series with a Valentine's Day Organ Concert that had a very large audience turnout, directly followed by a Carolina Chamber Music Festival concert in the nave (the first CCMF concert since the new renovations). Indeed, it's been probably one of the busiest music seasons at Christ Church, and it's not quite over yet!

The Parish Choir is currently preparing to bring you a very beautiful and thought-provoking evening of music for our annual 'Music at Passiontide', which will take place on Good Friday, April 18th at 7:00 pm in the nave. The choir will be joined by singers from the community, as well as a wonderful vocal soloist, and accompanied by string quartet.

Opening with a single movement from Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's famous Requiem, titled 'Lacrimosa', we will listen to scripture followed by an original setting of



choral music based on the Passion story as told by John, titled St. John Passion; this longer musical work of about 40 minutes is a kind of mini-opera.

Johann Sebastian Bach composed a famous setting of the Passion story (with the same title) where a character called 'the Evangelist' acts as the storyteller. The choir represents 'the Crowd' in the story, but they also provide moments of respite and reflection, giving listeners time to ponder on the words of

scripture through the singing of familiar hymns and other choral anthems that connect to the text.

The St. John Passion that you will hear on Good Friday will follow the same format as the one composed by Bach. A solo tenor voice will provide the voice of the Evangelist telling the story, interspersed with hymn arrangements and original choral works sung by the choir. The string music will reflect the multi-faceted and complex emotions of the Passion story in abstract form, and the choir music will express those emotions from the perspective of the crowd (i.e. us, the listeners).

Music has the capacity to express those emotions which are difficult to articulate with words. Even the Evangelist, who is supposedly the neutral storyteller, becomes wrapped up in the emotion of the story as he becomes suddenly breathless (musically-speaking) at the moment of Crucifixion in the context of his own storytelling.

The evening will end in silence as we exit the nave reflecting on the story of the Passion of Jesus Christ. And on the following day, Holy Saturday, we experience the beauty of the Easter Vigil evening service in anticipation of Easter morning and with the previous evening's Passion story close in mind.

The Vigil will begin quietly outside with a fire and proceeds into the nave with chanting of the Light of Christ - thanks be to God!

-- Jacqueline, Director of Music

AROUND CHRIST CHURCH

ECW Gathers for St. Patrick's Day Lunch

Members of Christ Church ECW gathered for an early St. Patrick's Day lunch last month. Pictured below are Connie Whitney, Pam Miller, Diane Sanwick, Rod Hayes, Clair Newsome, Cathy Monid, Liz Praul, Jane Broadus, Betty Clarke, and Heather McCloud-Huff. A great time was had by all. Look for more fun lunches and activities in the future.



April ECW Meeting

Please join us and our very own John Gaskill who has the dubious task of telling us about Easter Traditions – like which came first, the bunny or the egg? And other fun facts about Easter and why we celebrate the way we do! We will meet at 10 am, Monday, April 14th in the Parish House. Lunch thereafter for all interested at Poppy's Bites and Barrels.

Our final meeting of the chapter will be Monday, May 12th at noon for our annual picnic in Glenburnie Park. We'd love to see you then and have you offer some ideas for events we can look forward to in the future as we become a more 'social,' non-formal group – going out to lunch, seeing afternoon or evening plays, day trips to fun spots and museums – bring your ideas!

ECW 2025 Geranium Sale

ECW is selling beautiful, BIG 8", potted and sleeved geraniums this year in four colors -- Pink Chrome, Deep Scarlet, Salmon Pink, AND Violet. Geraniums will be available at the Christ Church Spring Arts and Crafts Market on Saturday, May 3. You may also pre-order with payment from now until the Market. To pre-order contact rodneymhayes@yahoo.com. Don't be disappointed -- pre-order today!

The price remains at \$15 per pot, and all proceeds go to the ECW Outreach Fund. Last year we were able to donate \$600 worth of Walmart gift certificates to Interfaith Refugee Ministry and \$600 to Habitat for Humanity. Please support us on May 3 (or earlier) and enjoy your geraniums all through the summer!

Parking Lot Update

With the parking lot paving and painting now complete, we have updated the regulations on where to park. If you have questions, or need a Christ Church parking sticker, please contact Jimi at jimipaderick@christchurchnewbern.com.



AROUND CHRIST CHURCH

Racial Reconciliation Discussions

The next gathering for our continued discussions with Word of God Christian Center and Clinton Chapel will be this Sunday April 6th from 4:00-5:30 pm. We will meet at the Word of God Christian Center, 3650 Neuse Blvd. This will be the third time the Racial Reconciliation fellowship has gotten together. We are getting to know and to trust one another as we share our lives, hopes, and dreams for our community.

We invite everyone from Christ Church who wants to extend the hand of friendship to our neighbors to join us. Following this week's discussion, we will next meet at Christ Church in the Pelletier Room on April 27th. We plan to meet every other Sunday afternoon at 4:00, alternating between Word of God Christian Center and Christ Church. You will notice there is a three week time frame this month because of Easter Sunday on the 20th.

If you have questions please contact Edna Marie Thomas at ednamariethomas@gmail.com or Steve Skiffington at steveskiffington@hotmail.com.

Christ Church 2025 Trust / Outreach Grants

The Christ Church Trust / Outreach Grant Application Deadline is April 15. The online application form can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/CCNB-2025-Grant-App>. 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 grants1@christchurchnewbern.com. Please contact the Rev. Paul Canady at paulcanady@christchurchnewbern.com with any questions.

VBS 2025 - REGISTRATION OPEN

We invite children who are in rising kindergarten through fifth grade to participate in our Vacation Bible School this summer. VBS will take place Monday - Friday, June 16 - 20 from 9 am - 12 pm each day. To register, please visit <https://christepiscopalchurch.regfox.com/christ-church-vbs>.

Our theme this year is *True North: Trusting Jesus in a Wild World*. For any questions please reach out to Hannah at hannahhutchens@christchurchnewbern.com or 252.631.5867. If you are interested in volunteering to make this awesome week happen, please sign up at <https://forms.gle/8E927ckLEXcjvvyh8> or reach out to Hannah!

Helping H4H

On Friday, March 21, 11 Naval volunteers arrived to help on the building of a local Habitat for Humanity house. Sims Wayt and Jim Behl served them breakfast on behalf of the Christ Church Outreach and and Evangelism Commission. It was a great way to start the day for all!



Churchyard Clean-Up

10 am - 1 pm, Saturday, April 12

This spring's churchyard clean-up will take place from 10 am - 1 pm, Saturday, April 12. Please make plans to join us as we spruce up the church grounds. We will be weeding, mulching, power washing, and trimming hedges, among other chores. We need as many people as possible, as "many hands make light work. Please bring your own wheelbarrow and work gloves if possible. Help us beautify our church grounds in time for Easter. Prior to the meeting, the Building and Grounds Committee will meet in the Library at 9 am.



AROUND CHRIST CHURCH

Call for Eucharistic Visitors and Receivers

The Pastoral Care Commission for Christ Church has trained parishioners who unselfishly take communion to their fellow parish members who are home bound or unable to attend church services. These Eucharistic Visitors bring the Eucharist to church members in the hospital, nursing homes, and individual homes. You see them at the end of our Sunday services; parishioners come up to the altar and receive a box with the consecrated Eucharist. They take that Eucharist to fellow parishioners who cannot join us at church. We are continually in need of additional volunteers to be trained as Eucharistic Visitors. We also need receivers, those who receive this Sacrament at home or elsewhere. If you feel you could volunteer to help in this ministry, please contact Suzanne Hood, (suzannehood@christchurchnewbern.com), and she can answer any of your questions. Also, if you know of anyone who is in need of or could use this loving service, including yourself, please contact Suzanne.

Why We Watch

Can you not stay awake one hour? It's a powerful question from Jesus to his disciples shortly before his arrest. The three days leading up to Jesus's resurrection are marked by a single service, which begins on Maundy Thursday and ends with the Easter Vigil on Saturday night.

As followers of Jesus, we are invited to remember his invitation to stay awake, to watch, and to pray. We mark this time by keeping watch, beginning on Thursday evening and concluding on Friday at noon. This roughly equates to the time between Jesus' arrest and his crucifixion.

We invite you to sign up for a one-hour time slot to be in the Chapel. You can pray. Write. Mediate. Read. We will have other suggestions if you don't know where to start. But come and stay an hour and be with Jesus at his most vulnerable time. You can find the sign up at https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409094DAEA928ABFF2-55506153-2025#.

Online Apparel Store Is Back

The Christ Church online apparel store has returned! Visit <https://tinyurl.com/CCNB-Store> and shop for your favorite Christ Church gear. The store is open until April 15!



It's T-Ball Season

Christ Church has partnered with First Presbyterian Church to create a T-Ball team called the "Good News Bears." Games are played at 6 pm every Wednesday in April and May, through May 21. Stop by Fort Totten Park and check them out!

Spring Arts and Crafts Market

The Second Annual Christ Church Spring Arts and Crafts Market will be held from 9 am - 3 pm on Saturday, May 3. This market is open to all artists and craft persons selling their handcrafted work. All mediums are welcome.

Vendor spaces will be located on the grounds of Christ Church bordering Middle and Pollock Streets in Downtown New Bern. The vendor application and more details can be found on our church website at <https://www.christchurchnewbern.com/quick-links>. All proceeds will support the ministries at Christ Episcopal Church, New Bern.



THE GOODS

Faith Connection Meeting

The April Faith Connection Meeting will take place at 4 pm, Thursday, April 17, at the Seventh Day Adventist Church (2404 Hwy. 70, New Bern). Mike Anello, Executive Director of the Haiti Reforestation Project, will be presenting. Admission is free, and all are welcome.

April Foyers

April Foyers will meet on Saturday, April 12. This is a week early, as the third Saturday is the day before Easter. We will gather from 5 - 7 pm at Jane Ashford's home on the river (111 Bernhurst Road, New Bern). Please bring your choice of beverage, your own glassware, and an appetizer to share. RSVP to eparlett4@gmail.com. All are welcome!



Where Can You Plug In?

- **Worship:** To volunteer for our April Services click [here](#). May services can be found [here](#), and June services can be found [here](#). Please note that we will change to summer service times of 8 am and 10 am on Sunday, May 25. For more information contact Sarah Risty-Davis at sarahristydavis@christchurchnewbern.com.
- **Volunteer Receptionists:** Come join us at the Reception Desk. Click [here](#) for April shifts and [here](#) for May shifts. June 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.*
- **Coffee Hour:** We appreciate our 9:45 am Coffee Hour hosts and are always seeking weekly hosts. For more information and to volunteer to host or provide snacks, click [here](#).



2025 Easter Memorials and Thanksgivings

Make a loving tribute to remember or honor someone this year by contributing to the overall beautification of Christ Church, glorifying God as we celebrate Easter.

Please complete this form. The cost is \$40, payable to Christ Church (write "Easter" in the memo area of the check.) You can pay in-person (via the offering plate or at the Reception Desk) or online at www.christchurchnewbern.com/give (please note "Easter Flowers"). Submit form and payment by **Thursday, April 10** in order to have your memorial or thanksgiving noted in the Easter Sunday bulletin.

In Loving Memory of (please type or print)

In Thanksgiving for (please type or print)

Given by:

Email: _____

Phone: _____