

CHRIST CHURCH

The Messenger

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

October 15 - 22, 2023

252.633.2109



Looking at the *How* of Stewardship

This week we continue our series to provide concrete information about stewardship, proportional giving, and ways to look at what we give as a family invested in Christ Church and its mission.

I truly feel called to be a steward of God and His benevolence. And I really want to begin to give in response to what I've been given. How do I know what to give? One answer is proportionate giving. Simply stated, proportionate giving is giving in proportion to what you've been given. Financially speaking, this means sharing a portion of your income with God through the church.

What does that mean in practical terms? The Bible mentions the concept of tithing. This means redirecting a ten percent share of your income to God. But what if I really don't think I can manage such an amount? Many begin with a smaller percentage with the intention—the prayerful commitment—to start with a manageable amount and purposefully work toward increasing that amount year by year.

Others may look at the amount of money they give to favorite charities, look at what the church supports, and realize redirecting a portion of those funds to the church will, indeed, benefit the same charities and charitable ends. Taking an honest look at past pledges and thinking of it in terms of tithing, can be an eye-opening experience.

One of our parishioners said, "We shouldn't think of giving until it hurts but giving until it feels good." What a beautiful concept! Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion; for God loves a cheerful giver." —2 Corinthians 9:6-8

So, take a hard look at what you've been giving and prayerfully consider if you might be able to grow a bit this year and in the future. Circumstances change, sometimes for the better, sometimes not. It's good to reevaluate and rededicate, recommit each year at this time.

O God, you are the Holy One who has created all things. We thank you for the gift of life and all that sustains it. We bless you for Jesus Christ, given to us as our Savior. We rejoice in the presence of your Spirit which inspires us to live our faith. Make us joyful givers of our time, talent, and treasure so that your work in the church and the world will be done. With you and in you and through you, we pray to make a difference in the world around us. Free us to do more. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.



Pray Gratefully | Serve Responsibly | Give Generously

From the Rector

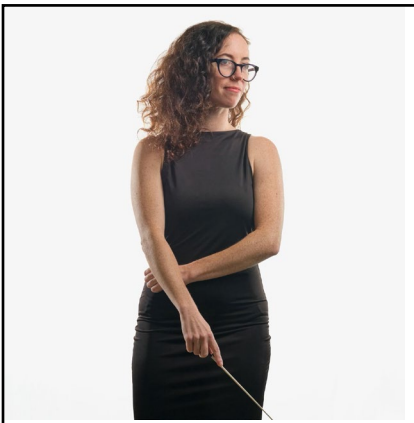
Dear People of Christ Church,

I am thrilled to announce Jacqueline Nappi as our new Director of Music. Originally from Raleigh, Jackie completed a Master of Music in Organ Performance from the Yale School of Music and Yale Institute of Sacred Music in May. Before attending Yale, she served as Minister of Music at St. Paul's Lutheran Church (ELCA) in Durham.

Jackie has an outstanding background with choirs of all ages and abilities. She's been a church music director for over 15 years, so she brings a great depth of experience and expertise. In addition to piano and organ, Jackie is an accomplished harpsichord player, too. She has also helped oversee the installation of a new organ while serving at Somers Congregational Church in Connecticut. That is a skill we are very grateful for!

We had many great candidates from all over the country apply for this position, but Jackie rose to the top very quickly. She happened to be the last resume the search committee received, and the timing was truly the work of the Holy Spirit.

New Music Director cont'd on page 4 1





Christ Episcopal Church

2023 Pumpkin Patch

Seven Days a Week, 10 am - 6 pm

Many shifts are available --

click [HERE](#) to volunteer.

All proceeds go to local charities.

Join us for Trunk or Treat

Christ Church has been invited by Centenary United Methodist Church to join them for their Trunk or Treat on Wednesday, October 25, from 5:30 - 7:30 pm. In addition to trunk or treating, the event includes a hot dog dinner, games and more. Free admission. More information on the event can be found [here](#).

To include your vehicle in the Trunk or Treat, a completed registration form is required. Please decorate your trunk with family-friendly decorations (advanced approval is required). Participants must provide their goodies to hand out at their trunk.

Registered and approved trunks may begin setting up in Centenary's Parking Lot (309 New Street) at 4 pm. All trunks should be checked in and set up by 5:15 pm. For safety purposes, vehicles will not be permitted to leave or move until the event is over. For a vehicle registration form, please click [here](#). If you have questions or for more information, contact Sarah Risty-Davis at sarahristydavis@christchurchnewbern.com. Thank you to our friends at Centenary for inviting us to be a part of this year's Trunk or Treat.



Voter Education Discussions

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

While this question is short, it is a responsibility. Voting is one of the ways that we can act on the responsibilities set out for us in our baptismal covenant.

There have been election law changes in North Carolina since the 2022 election. Please join our clergy and Lucas Seijo with Democracy North Carolina for three upcoming classes about voting and our North Carolina elections.

Lucas Seijo graduated from West Craven High School and recently graduated from North Carolina State University. He double majored in political science and agricultural science and is the Eastern Regional Coordinator for the nonpartisan organization, Democracy North Carolina (democracync.org). Over the past months, Lucas has been working to build a network of support between different people and organizations.

Is this your first time voting in North Carolina? Are you wondering about your voter registration? How to find your sample ballot? Have a voting question you have always wondered about? Please join us for one or all of the classes. Maybe you are a faithful voter; please join us and meet Lucas, as you might be able to help him bring other people and groups together.

It is important to note what these classes are NOT: We will not be talking about why these voting laws were passed or political parties. We will not be talking about candidates.

Rather, these will be nonpartisan discussions. We hope that after these classes, you will feel knowledgeable about our new voting laws for our 2024 elections and comfortable sharing that knowledge with others. A summary of the classes is below:

- **Sunday, October 29th** (9:00 am-9:45 am in the church library): Our clergy will discuss why we vote, how the Episcopal Church gets involved, and respecting the dignity of other voters
- **Sunday, November 5th** (9:45 am-10:45 am in the church library): Lucas Seijo will share about the new voting laws (photo identification requirements, absentee ballot rules, Board of Elections, etc.). Bring all of your voter/election questions.
- **Wednesday, November 8th** (6:00 pm-7:30 pm in the Parish House-light supper provided; bring a friend; children are welcome!): Lucas Seijo will talk about voting day, curbside voting, poll workers, and share experiences from other municipalities that voted on Nov. 7th, etc. This is another opportunity to ask questions.



STEPHEN MINISTRY

And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:7

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, Bruce Baker, Geoff Wood, Maggie Bagg, Charlie Henke, and Patty Willis.

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, Gerry, and Dan.

For our deployed military: Lt. Christopher Miller

For refugee families and those seeking asylum.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Ministries, Committees & Commissions of the Diocese of East Carolina; St. Luke's Episcopal Mission, Currituck

**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](#).*



REQUESTS FOR PRAYER

Outreach Commission Social Event

Everyone is invited to join us following the 10 am service on October 29, for a fifth Sunday social with donut holes, apple cider and coffee. As an added attraction, we would like to provide the venue for a pumpkin carving contest. Choose your pumpkin from the Pumpkin Patch, carve it at home, then bring it to the event on the 29th. We will have a wonderful panel of professionals to do the judging. It will be a great time!

THIS WEEK AT CHRIST CHURCH

Sunday, October 15

- 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
- 2 pm: EYC in the Pumpkin Patch
- 6:30 pm: Sacred Ground (via Zoom)

Monday, October 16

- 10 am: Home Place (Offsite)
- 10:30 am: McCarthy Court Eucharist (Offsite)
- 11:30 am: Contemplative Prayer (Pelletier Room)
- 1 pm: Cursillo Reunion (Bride's Room)
- 1 pm: Staff Meeting
- 3 pm: Growing in Grace (GIG Room)
- 6:30 pm: Vestry Meeting (Parish House)

Tuesday, October 17 -- Clergy Conference

- 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, October 18 -- Clergy Conference

- 1 pm: Endowment Committee Meeting (Pelletier Room)
- 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, October 19 -- Clergy Conference

- 10 am: Truewood by Merrill Eucharist (Offsite)
- 3 pm: Growing in Grace (GIG Room)
- 3:30 pm: Growing in Grace Chapel Time (Nave)
- 5:30 pm: Outreach Commission Meeting (Library)
- 6:30 pm: AA Meeting (Pelletier Room)

Saturday, October 21

- 5 pm: Foyers (Offsite)

Sunday, October 22 - RCS InGathering Distribution

- 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)
- :4:45 pm: Youth Confirmation Class (Library)
- 6 pm: EYC (Youth Room)
- 6:30 pm: Sacred Ground (via Zoom)

One-on-One Prayer

Have you ever felt the need to have someone pray for you? With you? Beginning Sunday, November 5th, we will have that opportunity during Communion at both the 8:30 and 11:00 worship. Prayer Ministers will be in the Chapel to pray for any special need or intention one might have.

THE GOODS

Honor a Veteran in the VVA Chapter 886 Field of Flags

The New Bern VVA Chapter is honoring ALL veterans in the 2023 Field of Flags at Union Point from Friday, Nov. 3rd through Sunday, Nov. 12th. This field honors veterans currently serving, retired, previously served, or no longer with us. Each flag contains a tag with the name of the veteran, branch of service, and campaign(s) served. Be a part of a New Bern tradition during this year's Veterans Day celebration. Rick Miller will be in the Parish House following the 8:30 and 11:00 services with flags to honor your veteran(s) in our beautiful brightly lit field next month. Questions: Call Rick at 252-631-1474 or rickmiller950@hotmail.com.

Blessing of the Pets

We saw dogs of every breed, shape and size last Sunday afternoon. A few cats and pets of other species stopped by as well.



New Music Director cont'd from page 1.

At her audition, she played a [piece](#) by Franz Schubert. Also, here are two links ([Praeludium in G minor](#), [Echo Fantasy](#)) of her playing a Taylor and Boody organ at Yale. [Taylor and Boody](#) is currently building the new organ for Christ Church.

Finally, I want to give a tremendous thanks to the Director of Music search committee. They put in an untold number of hours to help bring us to this point. Jean Reichenbach chaired the committee, and I am immensely grateful for her insight and expertise. She was aided by Harry Ballard, Bill Brubaker, Susan Husson, Kathryn Jasper, Dan Palimaetakis, John Steady, Mimi Watrous, and Mark West. If you see any of them, please thank them!

We give thanks to God for leading Jackie to us, and we trust fully that God has been preparing her for us and us for her. Jackie will be joining us in late November. We can't wait to welcome her to New Bern! *In Christ, Paul*

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 sarahristy@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! Click [here](#) for October dates and [here](#) for November dates.
- **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, Randy and Joanie Bogle and Sam and Delle Curry.
- **Pumpkin Patch Baked Goods:** The Pumpkin Patch sells baked goods on the weekends, and they are a great addition to our pumpkin sales. Cookies, muffins, small cakes/loaves and fancy pretzels are all popular. If you'd like to contribute, please leave your tasty treats in sealed zip lock bags at the Reception Office or take them to the Pumpkin Patch Tent. We will do the pricing. Thank you!
- **Warm Their Soles Sock Donation Drive:** Socks are the most needed, but least donated, article of clothing for the needy. To help remedy that situation on a local level, The Tryon Civitan Club is sponsoring a sock drive this month to benefit Religious Community Services (RCS). They are collecting new socks for men, women and children. A collection bin is located in the Reception Area.
- **Holiday Market Seeking Vendors and Committee Members:** Our first Holiday Arts and Crafts Market will be held on Saturday, December 9, from 9 am - 4 pm, on the church grounds bordering Middle and Pollock Streets. More information and vendor application can be found [here](#) and on the "[Quick Links](#)" section of our website. Proceeds from space rentals will support the ministries of Christ Church. Contact Tony Embrey at 828.774.9592 if you're interested in volunteering.
- **Cursillo Fall Weekend:** The Cursillo Ministry of the Diocese of East Carolina traditionally holds two Cursillo weekends every year. These weekends are designed to enrich and deepen an individual's faith journey and foster ministry among lay people. The Fall 2023 weekend will take place November 9 - 12. Make a friend, be a friend, bring a friend to Christ. For more information contact Mary Lynn Guidage at mlglinton12@gmail.com.