



THE CROWN

July 2025

| Issue 47 |

Christ Episcopal Church, New Bern

INSIDE THIS MONTH'S NEWSLETTER:

Page 2
ABOUT CHRIST CHURCH

Page 3
PRAYER REQUESTS,
CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

Pages 4-7
AROUND CHRIST CHURCH

Page 8
THE GOODS

SCENES FROM A “WILD WEEK” AT VBS

It was an amazing week of Vacation Bible School. Our theme was “Trusting Jesus in a Wild World.” Thank you to all of the adult and youth volunteers and staff who made it happen!



More VBS pictures on page 5

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
The Rector returns from Sabbatical on July 7.
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

SUMMER 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 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:
Heather McCloud-Huff, Laura Overman, Elmer Praul, Graham Underhill
Term through 2027:
Vins Bowers, Liz Coble, Patty Conard, Susan Husson (*Clerk*)

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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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 August 2025 edition of *The Crown* should be sent to communications@christchurchnewbern.com by July 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, 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, Pat Robinson, Pat Holmes, Cathy O'Brien, Charles Peterson, Helen Shine, Rosemary Stark*, Palmer Noonan, Steve Phillips, Linda Bullock, Ann Bustard, Nancy Mansfield, Pat Polk, DJ Besack, Margo Skaggs, and Rebecca Liberty.

For our friends and families: Liesel, Niels, Trinity, Danny, Phyllis, Mary, Otto, Catherine, Jack, Karen, Henry, Jim, Tom, Howard, Jahna, Debbie, Will, Lucy, Kelsey, Kenny, Yuri, Julia, Valeria, Valentina, Carly, Richard, Bob, Peggy, Gene, Dolores, Beth, Nolan, David, Denise, David, Sam, Larry, Bobby, and Joan.

For our deployed military: Charles Lewis, Jr.

For refugee families and those seeking asylum.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: St. Andrew's by the Sea, Nags Head

**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 JULY 6	MONDAY JULY 7	TUESDAY JULY 8	WEDNESDAY JULY 9	THURSDAY JULY 10	FRIDAY JULY 11	SATURDAY JULY 12	SUNDAY JULY 13
BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY 8am: Eucharist Rite II (Nave) 9:15am: Psalms in the Summer Class (Library) 10am: Eucharist Rite II (Nave / online) 11am: Lemonade on the Lawn	8:30am: Morning Prayer (Chapel) 1pm: Staff Meeting (2nd Floor Conference Room) 3:30pm: Daughters of the King (Parish House)	7am: Al Anon Meeting - (2nd Floor Living Room) 8:30am: Eucharist (Chapel) 11:30am: Chair Yoga (Parish House) 6:30pm: Small Wonders NA Meeting (Pelletier Room)	6:15pm: AA Meeting (Harrison Center)			10 am: Funeral and Reception for Jonathan Davis (Nave / Library)	8am: Eucharist Rite II (Nave) 9:15am: Psalms in the Summer class (Library) 10am: Eucharist Rite II (Nave / online) 11am: Lemonade on the Lawn 11am: Cursillo Reunion (Chapel) 4pm: Racial Reconciliation Discussion (Parish House)

AROUND CHRIST CHURCH

Behind the Scenes but at the Heart of Worship: Be Part of the Altar Guild

Did you know that every beautiful worship service at our church is made possible not just by clergy and music, but also by a dedicated group working quietly behind the scenes? We're talking about the Altar Guild, and we'd love for you to be part of it!

The Altar Guild is a special ministry of women and men who lovingly prepare the sanctuary for worship. From polishing silver and brass, to arranging linens, to making sure everything is in place for Holy Communion, baptisms, weddings, and more - this team works with quiet care and joyful hearts.

And here's the best part: you don't have to be retired or have loads of free time to join. Many of our members have full-time jobs, families, and busy schedules. This is a flexible, team-based ministry. Most volunteers serve just a few hours every couple of months.

Altar Guild member Suzy Jordan shares, "My favorite responsibility is assisting in preparing the Altar for the Tuesday morning Eucharist. I love the intimacy of the Chapel and the service."

For others, like Nell Hudson, one of the most meaningful aspects of the ministry is the fellowship. Working

together as a team, supporting one another, and sharing a sense of purpose and joy in their service.

This might be the perfect ministry for you if:

- You'd love to serve in a quiet, meaningful way.
- You want to be involved, but not "up front."
- You have a full schedule and can only help occasionally.
- You're curious about the sacred items and symbols used in our worship.
- You find spiritual peace in thoughtful, behind-the-scenes service.
- You value connection and teamwork in a faith-filled setting.

No prior experience? No problem! We'll teach you everything you need to know. As part of the Altar Guild, you'll grow in your understanding of our worship traditions while playing a quiet but essential role in preparing our sacred space.

Interested? We're currently welcoming new members - no polishing skills required (but we'll teach you that too!). For more information please contact Karen O'Connell dandkoconnell@gmail.com and/or Sims Wayt simswayt@embarq-mail.com.



AROUND CHRIST CHURCH

More VBS Pictures!



AROUND CHRIST CHURCH

Vestry Meeting Recap - June 2025

- Opening Prayer led by Kim Huddle
- Financial report – the Treasurer said that the church remains in good financial shape.
- Finance Committee -Due to the death of committeemember Kathy Evans, Nancy Pryzbylko has been appointed to the Finance Committee.
- Director of Music Jackie Nappi gave a report on the state of the music program and her goals for next year.
- The Van Usage Policy was updated.
- Jimi Paderick submitted a report on church maintenance with details on completed projects and those which are approved but not completed.
- Diocesan Convention delegates were elected: they are Caroline Carpenter, 1 year term; Liz Coble and Sims Wayt – 2 year terms; alternates Steve Skiffington and Mary Lynn Guidage.
- Rev Hood will speak at the Juneteenth celebration at St. Cyprian's on June 19 at 6 p.m. along with representatives of three other local churches.

- Respectfully submitted by Susan Husson

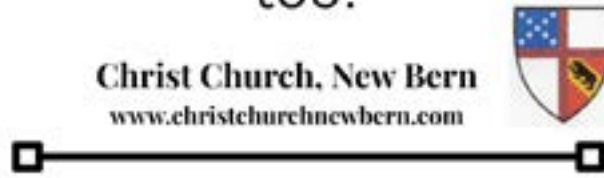
UTO Thank Offering

Every year Christ Episcopal Church practices gratitude through participation in the United Thank Offering. The money we raised during the month of April was combined with monies collected by many Episcopal Churches around the country and then awarded as United Thank Offering grants to support 27 innovative mission and ministry projects focused on water-related issues around the world. More than \$1 million was given to help to support projects ranging from a reverse osmosis filtration system to combat lead-contaminated drinking water in Western Louisiana, to indoor plumbing at a South Dakota congregation, to water-saving agricultural projects in Tanzania and California's Central Valley. Our engagement in saying thank you to God for all we have been blessed with has helped people around the world have a better day today because they have clean water.



DID YOU KNOW???

We spend about \$9,300 per year on yard maintenance. The volunteer hours contributed by parishioners are valued at nearly \$4,200 per year, too!



July InGathering - MERCI Clinic

During the month of July, Christ Church Outreach is collecting items to support MERCI Clinic. Health care is expensive and for those among us who have limited resources it is often a need that goes unmet. As Matthew 25 notes, we are to care for the sick. Jesus said, "For I was sick, and you took care of me."

MERCI Clinic is a nonprofit community clinic that provides free dental and healthcare services for adults who are without medical or dental insurance. To best help them this month we are collecting the following items.

- Reams of Copy Paper (8.5 x 11, 20 lbs., 94 Brightness)
- Bounty Select-A-Size Triple Roll Paper Towels
- Lysol Professional Disinfectant Spray, Fresh Scent, 19 oz.
- Lysol Disinfecting Wipes, Lemon & Lime Blossom

AROUND CHRIST CHURCH

Camp Hope Update

It's hard to believe, but Camp Hope is about halfway through. We have campers going to just three more Camp Trinity sessions. Several of our GIG children will be attending Discoverers II (July 13-18).

Thank you to the congregation for supporting this ministry. Because of you, our 31 campers will receive mail each day they are at camp. This year, more families have accepted gift cards to buy camp supplies. Your generous donations made the gift cards possible. And always, thank you for your prayers for a safe and fun summer camp experience. Look for more pictures in upcoming issues of our publications.



Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Pastoral Care Commission of Christ Church includes the Prayer Shawl Ministry. This giving Ministry is comprised of a group of knitters and crocheters who meet monthly and produce beautiful prayer shawls and also nap blankets for children ages newborn through about six years old (the ages that children take naps.) These items are produced with loving care and on completion are consecrated at the Christ Church Altar. The consecrated shawls and blankets are stored in a closet in the Church Reception area and available to all parish members. The Ministry asks all Church members to pick up one of these items and present it to someone you know or love who could be comforted by the gift made from the heart by these Prayer Shawl Ministers. In addition, if you have the gift of being a knitter or crocheter and would be able to join this ministry, please contact Carolyn Stevens at 252-229-7147, and she will answer any of your questions.

ECW 2025 Grants

With this entry we are saying goodbye. Our Episcopal Church Women's group has had fun, fellowship, and worked hard in fundraising to be able to give to worthwhile organizations and our church.

As in many parishes, interest has waned, and it is nearly impossible to schedule a time for meetings with younger women working and doing the 'soccer Mom' activities on weekends and our elder members often not able to navigate at night. In addition, despite our attempts to lure members to be on the board (as this board has served for many years), we have been unable to do so.

We end the many years of ECW at Christ Church with a great send-off. Much to our delight, we had a CD at our bank for a sizable amount and this, coupled with our checking account funds, has enabled us to make fabulous contributions as follows below.

We will be continuing some of our fund-raising activities and plan to do more social, fun things than formal meetings but most of our activities will be now handled by Parish Life. If you have any questions, please contact Jimi Paderick, (jimipaderick@christchurchnewbern.com).

We thank Christ Church and our once many members of ECW for our support. Thank you and good bye!

Rodney Hayes, President
All Saints Chapter, Episcopal Church Women, Christ Church, New Bern

CHRIST CHURCH ECW 2025 GRANTS	
Bustard Scholarship Fund -	\$500
Rev. Sharp Music Fund & Literature Fund-	\$500
Craven County Hospice -	\$2,500
Bike Box Project	\$2,500
Cookie Walk -	\$2,000
Habitat for Humanity -	\$1,000
Helping Cats (in honor of Mary Tait) -	1,317.34
2025 TOTAL -	\$10,317.34

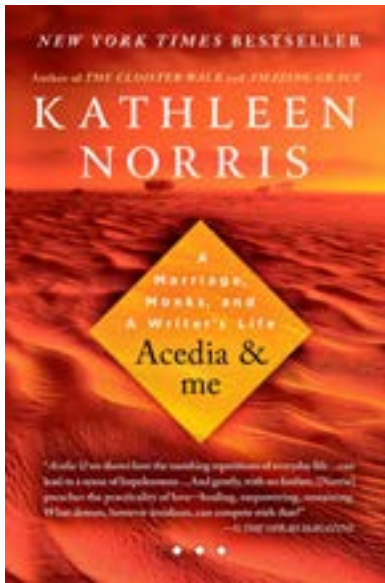
THE GOODS

Women's Book Study

On Tuesday, August 5th, the Women's Book Study will begin reading *Acedia & Me* by Kathleen Norris. Copies of the book are available for purchase at the reception desk (\$10.00).

Norris is a poet and essayist whose work focuses on the intersection of religious practices and the spiritual journey. In *Acedia & Me*, Norris explores all aspects of acedia, with the particular purpose of drawing a distinction between it and depression. Acedia, coined the "noonday demon" by the early monastics, is a type of spiritual apathy, and is often described as a weariness of soul. Though it is not readily a part of the modern scientific lexicon, acedia, in today's culture, is generally lumped in with depression and the sin of sloth, one of the supposed seven deadly sins. We treat it with medication, just like everything else. But, as Norris continually illuminates, acedia possesses spiritual roots, and thus, can ultimately only be treated with spiritual attention and resolve.

Join us Tuesdays from 10:00-11:00 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.



Music This Sunday

In honor of July 4th Independence Day, this Sunday features music written by American composers and with patriotic themes. The prelude is "Toccato" by Florence Price, a native of Arkansas and the first African American woman to have a symphony performed by a major orchestra. The postlude is Charles Ives' famous Variations on "America." Ives was from Connecticut and one of the most well-known American composers in classical music. Enjoy this Sunday's American music selections!

Where Can You Plug In?

- **Worship:** To volunteer in July services, click [here](#). For August services, click [here](#). For more information contact Sarah Risty-Davis at sarahristydavis@christchurchnewbern.com.
- **Volunteer Receptionists:** Come join us at the Reception Desk. July shifts can be found [here](#). Reserve your August shifts [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:** We appreciate our Lemonade on the Lawn hosts. To sign up to host a on a future Sunday, click [here](#).

Publication Deadlines

- *The Crown* - the 15th of the month prior to publication
- Weekly (Sunday) email: noon on Thursday
- Thursday email and printed *Messenger*: noon on Wednesday

Please send all pictures, articles and questions to communications@christchurchnewbern.com.

Contacting Clergy

Have a question, thought or good news to share? You can reach Suzanne at 252.631.5862 or suzannehood@christchurchnewbern.com. When scheduling, please indicate if you'd rather meet face-to-face, via phone or via video conference. Paul returns from Sabbatical Monday, July 7. To speak with Deacon Lisa Kirby, call 252-617-9806.

Lil Pantry

The shelves of the Lil Pantry are bare. Please consider donating some ready-to-eat food and drink items. Examples include: small bottled waters/juice boxes, ready-to-eat canned items with pop tops, crackers, and breakfast bars. Items can be placed into the pantry or on the shelves of the white bookcase in the Parish House kitchen area.