



CHRIST CHURCH

The Messenger

PO Box 1246 • 320 Pollock Street • New Bern, NC

www.christchurchnewbern.com

January 12, 2025

252.633.2109



Welcome, John Peterson

Welcome to our Facilities Coordinator, John Peterson. While John is new to the our staff, he has been doing contract work at Christ Church for years. John will be managing relationships with our facilities vendors, as well as focusing on a proactive approach to maintenance and construction projects. We are thrilled to have him on board!



Notes from the Finance Office

AMERICAN EXPRESS FEES

We have been informed by Vanco, our credit card processor, that American Express has increased their interchange and assessment rates for non-profit organizations. As a result, Vanco will be increasing their American Express network fee to Christ Church from 3.5% to 3.99% as February 1, 2025. This increase applies only to American Express Card network transactions. In order to hold down the church's operational costs, we request that you use other credit cards for any online transactions if possible. Thank you for your understanding.

2025 PLEDGE ENVELOPES

Pledge envelopes have arrived and are available in the Reception Area. Please contact Cindy Tripp (cindytripp@christchurchnewbern.com) if you have any questions. **If you have not already made your 2025 pledge, please note that the campaign concludes on February 28.**

Stewardship 2025 - Hearing God's Call

1/6/2025 Campaign Update

Pledge Amount Received:

\$874,428

Number of Pledges Received:

214

DOK Sock Drive

During the month of January, The Daughters of the King Epiphany Chapter invites all to help with our annual outreach project. This year we are collecting socks. New and clean socks are one of the most needed items in homeless shelters as they are often overlooked but are essential for personal hygiene and comfort and are consistently in high demand across different sizes and genders.

We will be collecting all types of socks for children and adults. The collection will run until January 26. Items collected will be distributed to local charities. Please help by providing socks for those in need. A bin is available for donations in the Reception Area. Thank you!

Rector's Bible Study - The Children's Bible

During January and February, the Rector's Bible Study will be led by the Associate Rector, Suzanne Hood and Deacon-in-Training, Charles Pringle. We will explore some of our favorite Bible stories from childhood. We will do this by comparing popular children's versions of the Bible with the text as it appears in our study Bibles.

We will investigate questions such as: What lasting images do we have from the stories as we heard them when we were kids? How did those versions shape our understanding of God? What was left out and what was given more emphasis? We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday mornings at 11:00 in the Pelletier Room.

Contemplative Prayer Group to Begin New Book in February

The Contemplative Prayer Group will begin a new book study, *Praying with Julian of Norwich*, on February 10. According to its Amazon description, the book "engages the reader in praying in the way that Julian prayed about issues and themes that are central to the human experience."

The group meets on Monday mornings at 11:30 am in the Pelletier Room. A Zoom option is available. All are welcome.

Living Micah 6:8

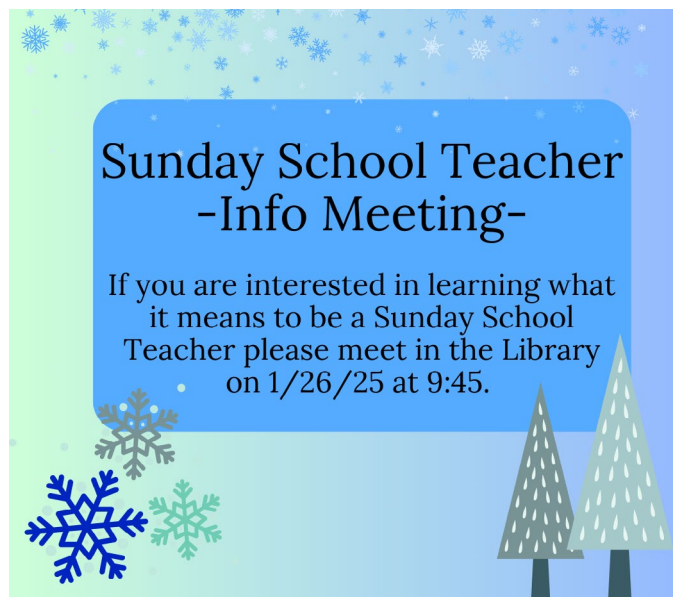
As we look to the New Year, you are invited to join an Adult Sunday School class to explore the question of Micah 6:8. "What does the Lord require of you?" What does it mean, as individuals and as a community of faith, to do justice, love mercy, and to walk humbly with our god? Today's introductory class will be held in the library. All other weeks will meet in the 2nd Floor Living Room.

Seeking Sunday School Teachers

Something you can notice every Sunday during the Children's Homily is that we have so many great kids. During the Sunday School Hour the rooms are filled with laughter and talk about how Jesus is present even in the youngest among us. Our Sunday School teachers share their faith and time with our children, and we are seeking more teachers to join us.

If you think this might be you -- or even if you feel that slight tug -- I encourage you to join us for our upcoming Sunday School Teacher information meeting and learn about how to become either a Teacher or a Teacher's Assistant. We will review curriculum and show how it can be easily used. We urge you to come and share your faith with our children, so that they have many people and voices in their life.

Our Sunday School Teacher information meeting will take place during the Sunday School hour in the Library on January 26. This meeting is open to all who are interested, whether you have a school-aged child, your children are grown, or you want to share your faith and time in a Sunday School class setting. I hope to see you there and, as always, anyone with questions please feel free to email hannahhutchens@christchurchnewbern.com.



Braver Angels Workshop

St. Peter's Episcopal Church invites you to a Braver Angels Workshop, *Families and Politics: How to talk to loved ones on the other side*. The event will be held on from 9 am - 12 noon on Saturday, January 25th. There is no charge for attendance.

Family relationships are becoming casualties of our toxic political environment. Family members are having nasty political arguments, avoiding each other, or even cutting off lifetime relationships. If you want to preserve important family bonds while still being true to your values and political beliefs, this workshop will offer you solutions. You'll also laugh and have some fun — it won't be all serious. After all, we all come from quirky families.

The workshop will take place at St. Peter's Episcopal, 101 N. Bonner St., Washington, NC. To make reservations contact Betsy Boxer at sadiesmom1993@gmail.com.

The last day for reservations is Friday, January 17th. The workshop is limited to 40 people and will be facilitated by Steve Skiffington, Co-Chair of Mid-Atlantic Braver Angels of North Carolina.

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 Kunkle, 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, Bruce Meyers, and Gay Stuart.

For our friends and families: Liesel, Niels, Bambi, Jake, Don, Cristina, Barbara, Jeff, Nancy, Jean, Carly, Richard, Corey, Jane, Seb, Gloria, Greg, Cheri, Katie, James, Danny, Nancy, Ashleigh, Vaughn, Elizabeth, Denni, Rebecca, Alex, Emery, June, Joy, Catherine, and Jack.

For refugee families and those seeking asylum.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: St. Paul's, Beaufort; LaSagrada Familia, Newton Grove

*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](#).

Online Service Reminder

With cold and flu season upon us, we wanted to remind everyone about our Christ Church online resources. If you are feeling under the weather, or otherwise unable to make our Sunday services in person, you can view the 11 am service online.

The 11 am service is typically shown live, and the video is also available to view at a later time / date. To find the links to our most recent online service videos, go to <https://www.christchurchnewbern.com/quick-links> or <https://www.christchurchnewbern.com/worship>. In addition, links to both the 8:30 am and 11 am services bulletins can be found on those pages. A link to recent sermons can be found on the "Worship" Page of our website.

Links to recent issues of The Crown and Messenger can also be found online at <https://www.christchurchnewbern.com/newsletter>. We hope you will take advantage of these online resources whenever the need arises.



REQUESTS FOR PRAYER

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 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, January 12

- 8:30 am: Eucharist Rite II (Nave)
- 9:45 am: Sunday School for All Ages
- 9:45 am: Living Micah 6:8 Adult Class (Library)
NOTE: First Class
- 9:45 am: Coffee Hour (Parish House)
- 11 am: Eucharist Rite II (Nave / [Online](#))
- 6 pm: EYC (Youth Room) *NOTE: Returning from Break*

Monday, January 13

- 1 pm: Staff Meeting (2nd Floor Conference Room)
- 3:15 pm: Growing in Grace (GIG Room)
NOTE: Returning from Break

Tuesday, January 14

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

Wednesday, January 15

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

Thursday, January 16

- 11:30 am: Senior Luncheon

Sunday, January 19

- 8:30 am: Eucharist Rite II (Nave)
- 9:45 am: Sunday School for All Ages
- 9:45 am: Coffee Hour (Parish House)
- 11 am: Eucharist Rite II (Nave / [Online](#))



STEPHEN MINISTRY

Pray continually.

1 Thessalonians 5:17

THE GOODS

Building Update

We are in the process of replacing the air conditioning unit in the choir loft above the organ bellows. The old unit has been uninstalled. John Peterson will work on waterproofing the area this week. The new AC unit will be installed the week of January 27. This should not affect the heat/air conditioning in other parts of the building. We will not be open for tours the week of January 27.

Foyers January Gathering

HAPPY NEW YEAR. The holidays are over and hopefully we get to rest for a while so that we can be ready for a January Foyers gathering. We would love to see you!



When: Saturday January 18

Where: The home of Liz and Elmer
Prault, 4702 Haywood Farms Road
New Bern, 28562

Time: 5-7pm

Bring: Beverage of choice, glassware, and an appetizer to share

RSVP: eparlett4@gmail.com

Hosts are needed for Foyers gatherings on April 19 and June 21. Are you interested? It is an easy thing to do. Contact Liz Prault if you are interested.

Contacting Clergy

Have a question, thought or good news to share? Schedule a meeting with Suzanne. You can reach Suzanne at 252.631.5862 or suzannehood@christchurchnewbern.com.

January Faith Connection Meeting

This month's Faith Connection meeting will take place at 4 pm, Thursday, January 16, at Broad Street Christian Church (802 Broad Street). School advocate, Nell Hudson, will present a discussion on issues facing our local public schools, as well as opportunities for advocacy.

Refreshments will be provided, and all are welcome!

Where Can You Plug In?

- **Worship:** To volunteer for our January services, click [here](#). February services can be found [here](#). For more information contact Sarah Risty Davis at sarahristydavis@christchurchnewbern.com.
- **Volunteer Receptionists:** Reserve your January shifts [here](#). Click [here](#) for February shifts.
- **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 Coffee Hour hosts and are always seeking volunteers to host our weekly 9:45 am Coffee Hour. For more information and to volunteer to host or provide snacks, 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.

Senior Luncheon -- Food, Fun, and Fellowship

Join us for a light luncheon and dessert on Thursday, January 16th, 2025, 11:30am, in the Christ Church Parish House. Reservations are required. Reserve via [signup genius](#) or call the Reception Desk at: (252) 633-2109. All are welcome!

Sunday Altar Flowers

If you would like to give flowers in remembrance or thanksgiving of someone or something, please sign up on the bulletin board in the Narthex, call the church office, or sign up online at <https://www.christchurchnewbern.com/give>.

Please send all memorial or thanksgiving details to communications@christchurchnewbern.com. The cost is

\$40 per Sunday.