

The Messenger

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

www.christchurchnewbern.com

August 20 - 27, 2023

252.633.2109



End-of-Life Planning: A gift to your family & friends

Christ Church is committed to providing compassionate guidance in the realm of end-of-life planning. This conversation, often unspoken, can offer profound relief and solace to those we leave behind. Join us in an open-hearted journey, gently exploring the final chapter of life. Our loved ones, faced with carrying out our last wishes and managing our estates, find comfort and direction in the certainty of a well-prepared plan. From decisions about personal belongings to our wishes for final rites, a written roadmap can become our ultimate act of love. Christ Church is offering one more opportunity to help you create that roadmap this Wednesday, August 23 from 5:30 - 7:00pm.

The workshop will take place in the Parish House and feature the following speakers:

- Deborah Cook, ChFC — Financial Planning
- Lacey Smith — Wills, Powers of Attorney, and Advanced Directives
- The Rev. Paul Canady & The Rev. Suzanne Hood — Funeral planning

The workshop will offer appetizers and snacks. Childcare will be available for those who need it. There is no cost to attend. Please RSVP so we are sure to have enough food and other materials. RSVP [here](#).

Pumpkin Patch Needs Your Help: Pumpkins Arrive 9/28

The church is in the process of forming a Small Pumpkin Patch committee. The purpose for this committee is to organize the operation of the patch during late September and the month of October. Tasks include setting up pallets prior to pumpkin delivery, unloading of the pumpkins, organizing the Sign Up Genius for patch volunteers, organizing story time, setting up the grounds, sign ups for baked goods, etc.

This might sound like a lot, but division of labor makes the work easy. Once the above tasks are finished most of the work is done. Pumpkin Patch is a wonderful way to get involved and help in such a wonderful event for the church and our community. PLEASE VOLUNTEER TO BE INVOLVED. Questions: Contact Rick Miller at 301-502-5268 or rickmiller950@hotmail.com.

Contemplative Prayer Group: *Praying with Thomas Merton*

When: 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM on Mondays, 9/11 – 11/20

Sign Up: By email – pastor.bornemann@gmail.com

Meets In-Person & On Zoom: In-person: Pelletier Room (Upstairs at Christ Church)

Leader: Rev. Barbara Bornemann

Study Book: *Praying with Thomas Merton: Companions for the Journey* by Wayne Simsic (Used paperbacks can be ordered online through Amazon.)

Thomas Merton, a mystic and twentieth century Trappist monk, wrote passionately about deepening our relationship with God through a path of contemplative prayer. For Merton, to learn how to pray contemplatively is to learn how to open our hearts to God's transforming presence. Contemplative prayer, Merton writes, "begins . . . with a return to the heart, finding one's deepest center, awakening the depths of our being and our life." (*Merton, Contemplative Prayer, p. 30*). "Thomas Merton is a spiritual master," writes Wayne Simsic, "because he invites us down a spiritual path that we can all follow. Merton reminds us that we can all receive the gift of the contemplative experience if we are true to God's call and grace on our own pilgrimage." (*Simsic, Praying with Thomas Merton, p. 32*) This fall, you are invited to participate in a weekly Contemplative Prayer Group. During each gathering, we will support one another on our pilgrimage of prayer as we open our hearts to God's transforming, compassionate love.

BACKPACK DONATION DEADLINE: TODAY

Please drop off all donated items for the Episcopal Farmworkers Ministry and Interfaith Refugee Ministry in the Reception Area before or after today's services.

Join us for the *Open House*,

Open Hearts Revival

10:30 am - 5 pm

October 21, 2023

Episcopal Farmworker Ministry, Newton Grove, NC

We are excited to welcome Presiding Bishop Michael Curry to the Diocese of East Carolina. The feature of his visit will be the *Open House, Open Hearts: Extending God's Welcome in East Carolina* revival, where he will be the featured preacher. You can get an idea of the power of his preaching from these two recent sermons: <https://tinyurl.com/PBatEYE> and <https://tinyurl.com/ya3crn8y>.

We are working on a bus to the event, so watch our regular pieces of media for more details!

One way you can help now is to pray for this event. Pin this prayer someplace you'll see it. Keep it in your hearts and minds, and help us see what God's spirit is doing in East Carolina!

For more information, contact Jettie Pelletier (jettiejp9@gmail.com) or the Rev. Paul Canady (paulcanady@christ-churchnewbern.com) for more information.



We Invite Your Prayers for our Upcoming Revival

REVIVAL PRAYER

Holy and amazing God,

We ask you to open the hearts and minds of the people of East Carolina to what your Holy Spirit is preparing for us.

Remind us of your presence in our everyday life so that we can see your hand at work in the world around us.

Strengthen the leaders of our upcoming Revival and show them the path you are laying out.

Help us let go of the things that distract us from your purpose, and show us where our focus should be.

Sustain our energies before, during, and after this Revival so that we may be the agents of transformation you have called us to be.

Empower us to engage our neighbors so we can share the loving, liberating, life-giving Good News of Jesus.

In his holy name we pray. Amen.



COMING SOON....



Pray Gratefully | Serve Responsibly | Give Generously

Volunteering with GIG

Growing In Grace is Christ Church's after-school program. We meet Mondays - Thursdays from 3:15 - 4:45 pm. Our mentors work one-on-one with students to help them with homework, test studying, and being an extra person in a child's life. You can choose to do one day a week or as many as you would like.

We will begin our eighth year on Monday, September 18, and we are always excited to welcome new mentors and our returning mentors. We also need subs for mentors and van drivers. Please contact Debbie Fodrie, Director of GIG: debbiefodrie@christ-churchnewbern.com if you're interested.

Sacred Ground Coming in September

Christ Church is offering Sacred Ground to its parishioners beginning September 17 and running through February. These meetings will be in the evenings for 90 minutes.

Sacred Ground is a film-and reading-based dialogue series on race, grounded in faith in Jesus. Sacred Ground is a sensitive prayerful resource that creates space for complex but respectful and transformative dialogue on race and racism. Participants are invited to peel away the layers that have contributed to challenges and divides of our present day. It invites participants to reflect on family histories, and stories, as well as essential narratives that shape the collective American history. Sacred Ground holds as a guiding star the vision of a beloved community, where all people are honored, protected, and nurtured as loved children of God who weep at one another's pain and seek one another's flourishing.

All articles and films will be available online to be read and watched on your own time. The two core books for class are *Waking Up White* by Debby Irving and *The Disinherited* by Howard Thurman. Both books are available on Amazon.

For more information on Sacred Ground, visit <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/sacred-ground/>. The first and last sessions will be in person, in the Harrison Center (5:30-6:30). Meetings will take place via Zoom on Sundays at 6:30 pm. They will be led by Mary Lynn Guidage.

Fall Clean Up

On Saturday, September 16th Christ Church is going to get the churchyard prepared for this year's Pumpkin Patch. We need volunteers to help clean up the church grounds to clear the way for the thousands of visitors that will be coming in October. The clean-up will begin at 10 am and will last no more than two hours. MANY SMALL JOBS need to be completed. Nursery is available during this time, and STUDENTS can get COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS for helping out. Questions?? Please contact Rick Miller at 301-503-5268 or rickmiller950@hotmail.com.

In peace we pray to you, Lord

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



REQUESTS FOR PRAYER

Lane, Sheridan Holstein, Judy MacDougall, Vickie Evans, Joan Kunkle, Margaret Scott*, Jim Banks, Jim Gruenebaum, Ann, Doug Sudduth, Kaye Frampton Brown, Myra Lewis, Sandy Valentine, Eugene Simon, Frank Rice, Margaret Wright, Bruce Baker, Geoff Wood, Richard Marsh, Bev Perdue, Edward Opphile, and Mary K. Whitfield.

For our friends and families: Liesel, Niels, Trinity, Bill, Joan, Brooke, 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, Vickie, 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, and Joan.

For our deployed military: Lt. Christopher Miller

For refugee families and those seeking asylum.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: St. George's, Englehard; and St. John's, Fayetteville

**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](#).*

Christ Church Cooks

Christ Church Cooks will meet Monday, August 21, at 9:30 am. We will be cooking broccoli and cheddar twice-baked potatoes, beef vegetable soup and macaroni and cheese. Come join us!

THIS WEEK AT CHRIST CHURCH

Sunday, August 20

8 am: Eucharist Rite II (Nave)
10 am: Eucharist Rite II (Nave / [Online](#))
Blessing of the Backpacks during 10 am Service
11 am: Lemonade on the Lawn
11:30 am: Stephen Ministry Meeting (Pelletier Room)

Monday, August 21

9:30 am: Christ Church Cooks
10 am: Home Place (Offsite)
10:30 am: McCarthy Court Eucharist (Offsite)
1 pm: Staff Meeting

Tuesday, August 22

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

Wednesday, August 23

5:30 pm: End-of-Life Planning Seminar (Parish House)
6:15 pm: AA Meeting (Harrison Center)

Friday, August 25

Vestry and Staff Retreat (Offsite)

Saturday, August 26

Vestry and Staff Retreat (Offsite)

Sunday, August 27

Celebration of Service

8 am: Eucharist Rite II (Nave)
10 am: Eucharist Rite II (Nave / [Online](#))
Baptisms of Stephanie Rose Wood and Luca Thomas Butters (10 am service)
Following 10 am Service: Cursillo Reunion (Chapel)
11 am: Lemonade on the Lawn
4 pm: POD Meeting (Purple Pineapples Room)

Honoring our Volunteers

Join us next Sunday, August 27, as we celebrate all the ways the people of Christ Church serve our parish, our neighbors, and our community.

Our sermon that day will feature Christ Church parishioners talking about how serving in ministry impacts their faith life. After both services, you'll have a chance to learn about the many ministries at Christ Church.



THE GOODS

Weekly Al-Anon Meeting at Christ Church

7 - 8 am, Tuesdays, 2nd Floor Living Room

Al-Anon is a mutual support program for people whose lives have been affected by someone else's drinking. By sharing common experiences and applying the Al-Anon principles, families and friends of alcoholics can bring positive changes to their individual situations, whether or not the alcoholic admits the existence of a drinking problem or seeks help.

Cursillo News

Cursillo Adds Weekday Reunion Option

In addition to our Cursillo reunions following the second service on the second and fourth Sundays of every month, a new weekday reunion option will be added starting in September. This will take place at 1 pm on the second Monday of the month in the Bride's Room. Anyone may join!

Cursillo National Ministry Conference

The Episcopal Cursillo Ministry Conference will be held September 21-23 at the Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria, Virginia. It has been way too long since we have been able to come together in community, and we are looking forward to this important time. The Ministry Committee is continuing its work to ensure that this is a conference of worship, as well as one of encouragement and enrichment as we gain knowledge and motivation for future apostolic action. We hope that all who join us will leave renewed and revived. ALL ARE WELCOME!! For more information, contact Mary Lynn Guidage at mlglinton12@gmail.com.

Where Can You Plug In?

- **Worship:** Volunteer to serve in our upcoming services. Click on these links for [August](#) and [September](#) Sundays. 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 August dates [here](#). September dates can be reserved [here](#).
- **MERCI Clinic Office Supplies Collection:** During the month of August, we are collecting various office supplies for MERCI Clinic. Click [here](#) to see the full list. A collection box is located in the Reception Area. All items are available from Amazon. Thank you for your support for this wonderful ministry!
- **RCS Requesting Personal Hygiene Items:** Hygiene kits play a vital role in helping RCS Emergency Crisis Shelter clients maintain their dignity and well-being. Join RCS in positively impacting and supporting community members in need by dropping off hygiene items such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, deodorant and other personal care products to the RCS Main Office at 919 George Street in New Bern.
- **Habitat for Humanity Seeking Local Liaison:** Christ Church has traditionally had a liaison between our Outreach Commission and Habitat for Humanity. This role is currently vacant, and we are looking for someone who would like to serve in this capacity. If you or anyone you know is interested, please contact: Jim Behl, Outreach Commission Chair, at 650-740-3392 or via email at jbehl@usa.net to learn more.

Christ Church
BLESSING
of the Backpacks

TODAY
AUGUST 20
During 10 am
service



Please join us for this opportunity to bless our students in hopes of a healthy, happy and successful school year.

Youth Confirmation Class

Youth Confirmation class, for 8th graders and above, will start on September 10th. Meetings will be on Sunday afternoons at 4pm. Confirmation is November 12th at Christ Church.

Confirmation class is a great way to learn about the church and discern if confirmation is something you want to do. No one has to be confirmed at the end of the class.

Please let Meg Jones (megjones@christchurchnewbern.com).

Lemonade on the Lawn

Lemonade on the Lawn following 10 am service will continue for a few more weeks. Many thanks to this week's hosts, Gretchen and Bill Lankenau.