



# THE CROWN

September 2023

| Issue 25 |

Christ Episcopal Church, New Bern

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## LIVE THE FAITH: STEWARDSHIP 2024



Pray Gratefully | Serve Responsibly | Give Generously

As fall slowly makes its way to New Bern, we turn our thoughts to Stewardship. The theme for the 2024 Stewardship Campaign is **“Live the Faith.”** Through it, we will strive to Live the Faith as we **pray gratefully, serve responsibly, and give generously.**

Bob Goff, a Christian author and “doer of love” says, “...I reflect on God, who didn’t choose someone else to express His creative presence in the world. He chose you and me. We are the means, the method, the object, and the delivery vehicles. God can use anyone for sure... [but] God usually chooses ordinary people like us to get things done.”

Let’s make this stewardship season about that... ordinary people like us getting things done to show Christ to others through the apostleship of Christ Church. As we live the faith by praying gratefully, serving responsibly, and giving generously, let’s discover ways we, as disciples of Christ at Christ Church, can spread the love of Christ to all we meet and serve.

### Thank you, Meg

It’s with a heavy heart that we say goodbye today to Meg Jones, who has accepted a call to be the Director of Youth Ministry at Grace Cathedral in Charleston, SC.

Meg began her time with us as Director of Christian Formation in August 2019. She worked diligently to welcome new families, recruit new teachers, and breathe new life into all aspects of Christian Formation. We send our heartfelt thanks to Meg for her time at Christ Church and wish her well in her next calling. Join us today in the Parish House after both services for an opportunity to tell Meg farewell.



# 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 Christian Formation:** Meg Jones  
**Director of Church Life:** Ellie Roberts  
**Finance Coordinator:** Cindy Tripp  
**Director of Growing in Grace:** Debbie Fodrie  
**Communications Coordinator:** Betsy Downard  
**Administrative Assistant for Volunteer Engagement:** Sarah Risty-Davis  
**Nursery Staff:** Heidi Powell  
**Custodian:** Terry Pitner

## OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursdays: 9am - 4pm  
Fridays: 9 am - 2pm

Click [here](#) to download the "Who to Call" directory. Click [here](#) to schedule a meeting time with Paul. 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
- Text "FUNDS" to 833.233.8760
- Contact [Cindy Tripp](#) regarding automatic withdrawals.

## CHRIST CHURCH VESTRY

**Term through 2023:**  
Howard Furnas III, John King, Elizabeth Livingston (*Senior Warden*), Sims Wayt  
**Term through 2024:**  
Tony Embrey, Phyllis Fox (*Clerk*), Rebecca Buchanan Leahy, Susan Moffat-Thomas  
**Term through 2025:**  
Randy Bogle (*Junior Warden*), Stephanie Bratton, Holly Craighead, Kim Huddle

## 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](http://www.christchurchnewbern.com)
- [Main Facebook Page for Christ Church](#)
- [Christ Church Children and Youth Facebook Page](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [Instagram](#)
- [Youtube](#)

## CONTACT US

**Physical Address:**  
Christ Church  
320 Pollock Street  
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 October edition of *The Crown* should be sent to [communications@christchurchnewbern.com](mailto:communications@christchurchnewbern.com) by September 15, 2023. 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](mailto: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, 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, Doug Sudduth, Kaye Frampton Brown, Myra Lewis, Sandy Valentine, Eugene Simon, Frank Rice, Margaret Wright, Bruce Baker, Geoff Wood, Richard Marsh, Bev Perdue, 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, Courtney, 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, Joe, and June.

**For our deployed military:** Lt. Christopher Miller

**For refugee families and those seeking asylum.**

**Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:** Albemarle Deanery

*\*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](#).*

# THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

You can see the calendar for the entire month of September and beyond [here](#).

SUNDAY SEPT. 3	MONDAY SEPT. 4	TUESDAY SEPT. 5	WEDNESDAY SEPT. 6	THURSDAY SEPT. 7	FRIDAY SEPT. 8	SATURDAY SEPT. 9	SUNDAY SEPT. 10
<p><b>BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY</b></p> <p>8am: Eucharist Rite II (Nave)</p> <p>Following 8 am service: Meg Farewell Reception</p> <p>10am: Eucharist Rite II (Nave / <a href="#">online</a>)</p> <p>Following 10 am service: Meg Farewell Reception</p>	<p><b>LABOR DAY - CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED</b></p>	<p>7am: Al-Anon Meeting (2nd Floor Living Room)</p> <p>8:30am: Eucharist</p> <p>10am: Women's Book Study (2nd Floor Living Room)</p> <p>11am: Administrative Staff Meeting</p> <p>5:30pm: Eucharistic Minister Training (Nave)</p> <p>6:30pm: Small Wonders NA Meeting (Pelletier Room)</p> <p>7pm: Handbell Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>5 pm: GIG Mentor Orientation (GIG Room)</p> <p>6:15pm: AA Meeting (Harrison Center)</p> <p>7pm: Parish Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)</p>	<p>3:30pm: Director of Music Search Committee (Library)</p>			<p><b>ALTAR GUILD COMMISSIONING (both services)</b></p> <p>8:30am: Eucharist Rite II (Nave)</p> <p>9:30am: Coffee available between services</p> <p>9:45am: Sunday School for All</p> <p>11am: Eucharist Rite II (Nave / <a href="#">online</a>)</p> <p>Following 11 am service: Cursillo Reunion (Chapel)</p> <p>12pm: Coffee Hour</p> <p>6pm: EYC (Youth)</p>

# CHRISTIAN FORMATION

## Children and Youth Offerings

### Godly Play (children ages 3-4)

Godly Play is a class centered around storytelling and work time, which includes crafts and play. We will focus on teaching basic stories and what it's like to spend time in a Sunday School class. This class will meet in the Godly Play room, next to the nursery.

### Whirl (K-2nd grades)

This class is using the Whirl curriculum -- the same curriculum as the older Whirl class. Students will watch videos and follow up what they have learned with worksheets. The best part of Whirl will be the craft each week! This class will meet in the room next to the vesting room.

### Whirl (3rd-5th grades)

This class uses the Whirl curriculum -- the same curriculum as the younger Whirl class. The discussions will be different because of the age difference, but these students will see similar videos and work on slightly different worksheets. The best part of this class will be what the students will learn about the Bible and the church. We will meet in the Purple Pineapples room.

### Pathways of Discipleship (POD)

POD meets at 4 pm, the first Sunday of the month to play games and share our faith. This group is for children in grades 3 -- 5. We will meet in the Purple Pineapples room.

### Youth Sunday School (6-12th grades)

Our youth will be working through tough questions like "Who wrote the Bible?" "Why should I pray?" and "Why are there so many Christian churches?" They will also learn more about people in the Bible and watch videos. The best part of this class is that students will get to pick the questions they want answered, and that they will build their own class based on their interests. These students will meet in the youth room upstairs (across from the 2nd floor living room).

### Episcopal Youth Community (EYC)

EYC meets at 6 pm, Sundays and welcomes all middle and high school youth. EYC gathers every Sunday from 6 - 7:30 pm (unless otherwise noted) in the second floor Sunday School wing / youth room. Any young person in grades 6-12 is encouraged to be a part of this vibrant and energetic group.

**Youth and Children September Sunday School Lessons**

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10**

- Godly Play (3 and 4 year olds) – Circle of the Church Year
- Whirl (K-2<sup>nd</sup> grades, 3 – 5<sup>th</sup> grades) – Love for One Another
- Youth (6 – 12<sup>th</sup> grades) – Intro & Overview of the Year

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17**

- Godly Play (3 and 4 year olds) – Holy Family
- Whirl (K-2<sup>nd</sup> grades, 3 – 5<sup>th</sup> grades) – The Unforgiving Servant
- Youth (6 – 12<sup>th</sup> grades) – Why Does God Let Bad Things Happen?

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24**

- Godly Play (3 and 4 year olds) – Creation
- Whirl (K-2<sup>nd</sup> grades, 3 – 5<sup>th</sup> grades) – First and Last in the Vineyard
- Youth (6 – 12<sup>th</sup> grades) – Ruth

**Youth and Children Events**

**September and October**

- September 10: Sunday School and Episcopal Youth Community (EYC) Resume
- September 24: EYC at CROP Walk
- October 1: Pathways of Discipleship (POD)
- October 15: EYC in Pumpkin Patch
- October 21: Revival
- October 29: Games in the Graveyard

### Youth Confirmation Class

Confirmation classes begin next Sunday, September 10th for 8th-12th graders who have not already made a public affirmation of faith. We will meet on Sunday afternoons at 4:45 pm for about an hour. Bishop Skirving will make a special visit on Sunday, November 12th at 4:00 pm. Confirmation class is a great way to learn about the church and think about how God acts and moves in your life. Please contact the Rev. Paul Canady ([paulcanady@christchurchnewbern.com](mailto:paulcanady@christchurchnewbern.com)) to sign up or for more information.

# CHRISTIAN FORMATION

## Adult Formation Offerings

### SUNDAY OPTIONS

#### Unholy Ghosts

Sunday School at Christ Church begins on September 10th. The Adult Classes offer a variety of content, each offering ways to deepen our journeys in faith, individually and as a congregation; of working towards the ideal of a Beloved Community.

In years past, the *Bridging the Gap* group (see below for more information) have presented classes with this ideal in mind. These have included book discussions and short films. This Fall's Sunday School program will be short videos and discussion from *The Work of The People* <https://theworkofthepeople.com> entitled *America's Unholy Ghosts*.

This six-week class will examine the history of the American Church and how it impacts our mission today as we strive to be the Beloved Community of God. During the coming weeks we will watch films and work with an accompanying study guide to converse and learn together. This study is based on the need to know, and accept, our history before we can act to bring about all that living in the Beloved Community entails. A quote from Rev. Michael Eric Dyson says, "...what I need you to do, just for starters, is not act. Not yet. Not first. First I need you to see."

*Bridging the Gap* serves with others in our church in deepening our Beloved Community through Adult Education/Formation offerings. The gap to be bridged as we work towards Bishop Curry's vision of a beloved community includes but is not limited to:

- How do we learn to speak with love and compassion to one another when we don't agree?
- How do we come to recognize our own biases, ingrained beliefs that may, or may not, be true?
- How do we join with others in our community to bridge the economical, racial, cultural, educational, and generational gaps?

More opportunities for exploring the above will be offered throughout the year. Notification of these will be in *The Crown* and the *Messenger* as we move forward.

If you are interested in helping the *Bridging the Gap* planning group, please contact Edna Marie Thomas at [ednamariethomas@gmail.com](mailto:ednamariethomas@gmail.com) for further information.

#### Lectionary Class

Participants in this class will review the lectionary for the week ahead. There are questions to answer for each reading. There is usually a discussion about how all of the readings are connected each week. This class will meet Sundays in the Pelletier Room and is led by John Harper. Books are available at the Reception Desk.

### WEEKDAY OPTIONS

#### Contemplative Prayer Group

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

**Sign Up:** By email – [pastor.bornemann@gmail.com](mailto: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.

#### Women's Book Study

The Women's Book Study meets on Tuesdays at 10 am in the 2nd Floor Living Room. Women of all ages are invited to attend.

We open our time together with prayer requests, prayer and then read the book aloud. We stop periodically during the reading to discuss the author's ideas. There is no homework nor expectation of reading ahead. Of course, you can if you would like.

Join us at any time. Contact the Rev. Suzanne Hood ([suzannehood@christchurchnewbern.com](mailto:suzannehood@christchurchnewbern.com)) for more information. This book study is led by Phyllis Fox and Susan Hoyt.

*Additional Formation Opportunities are highlighted on page 6.*

# CHRISTIAN FORMATION

## Sacred Ground

Christ Church is offering Sacred Ground to its parishioners beginning September 17 and running through February. These 90-minute meetings will take place every other Sunday evening.

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 pm). Meetings will take place via Zoom on Sundays at 6:30 pm. They will be led by Mary Lynn Guidage.

Contact the Rev. Paul Canady ([paulcanady@christchurch-newbern.com](mailto:paulcanady@christchurch-newbern.com)) if you're interested in signing up.

## Rector's Bible Study

The Rector's Bible Study will resume on Wednesday, September 13 at 11 am. We meet in the Parish House. This Fall, we will explore the letters from Paul in the order that they were written. No prior Bible expertise is needed! If you can't come every week, you're welcome to come the weeks that you are able. For more information, contact the Rev. Paul Canady at [paulcanady@christchurchnewbern.com](mailto:paulcanady@christchurchnewbern.com) or 252.631.5861.



### STEPHEN MINISTRY

**Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.**

*Philippians 4:6*

## 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](mailto:jettiejp9@gmail.com)) or the Rev. Paul Canady ([paulcanady@christchurch-newbern.com](mailto:paulcanady@christchurch-newbern.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.



## Confirmation, Reception & Reaffirmation

The Rev. Paul Canady will be teaching an adult confirmation class this fall for those who wish to be Confirmed in the Episcopal Church, as well as those who wish to have a Reaffirmation or Reception. Classes will start in early October. Confirmation is scheduled for November 12. More details to come.

# AROUND CHRIST CHURCH

## Zimmer Organ Pipes Living Their New Lives

Thank you to those of you who have submitted pictures of how you are using and displaying your pipes from the Zimmer organ. This month we are featuring pictures from Jim Hodges, which were submitted by Cindy Turco. Jim recycled both wooden and metal pipes and created a lamp and mobile. Please send your pictures to [communications@christchurchnewbern.com](mailto:communications@christchurchnewbern.com).



## Camp Hope 2023

From August 6th–10th, YMCA Camp Harrison hosted Camp Hope. We served 52 campers. LaDonta Edwards from Pamlico County and Anayah Veus from Charlotte served as our Leaders in Training (LITs). Eighteen campers were from New Bern and Eastern North Carolina. Our Camp Hope volunteers were Randy Bogle, Wendy Congemi, Gregory Hall, Meg Jones, Michele Mnatzakanian, Mario Smith, Kahni Wein-Miller, and Nell Hudson. Gregory is a former Camp Hope camper and took vacation time from work to volunteer for a second year with Camp Hope.

Camp Hope sent five older campers to earlier YMCA Camp Harrison sessions. Demecia Jones, Cherish Jones, and Jacob McCambry went to the two-week teen session. Jonathan Jones and LaDonta Edwards attended the four-week LIT session. Thank you to Terry Brubaker, Janet Peregoy, Letha Ricks, Natalie Hardee and Nell Hudson for transporting our older campers to and from camp. Thank you to Jim Behl, Karen Gabriel, Terry Brubaker, Letha Ricks, Joann Bogle, Randy Bogle, Kris Britton and Nell Hudson for calling and recruiting new camp families. Also, a huge thank you to John Steady for taking pictures of our August 6th departure. Lastly, thank you everyone who donated, prayed and helped make this special camp week possible.

Our Camp Hope reunion will be on October 29th. Our local campers will join us for fun with Games in the Graveyard.

YMCA Camp Harrison is no longer able to provide a week for Camp Hope as a group. Camp Hope is currently discerning the most sustainable way to continue this ministry. We still need volunteers to assist our 2023 campers by participating in our local camp reunion and helping with administrative tasks like sending birthday and Christmas cards to campers. Our Camp Hope Ministry can always use your help! Please contact Terry, Jim, or Nell if you can help or have any Camp Hope questions? Contact Terry: 252-514-9550, Jim: 650-740-3392 or Nell: 252-772-5832. Our email address: [camphope1@christchurchnewbern.com](mailto:camphope1@christchurchnewbern.com).



8/7/2023  
Camp Harrison

# THE GOODS

## Al-Anon Meetings at Christ Church

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. We meet from 7 - 8 am on Tuesday mornings in the 2nd Floor Living Room.

## Backpack Thanks

Thank you to all who donated backpacks and school supplies for the Episcopal Farmworkers Ministry and Interfaith Refugee Ministry. All of the backpacks for IRM were fulfilled, and the picture below shows just half of the supplies collected for the Farmworkers Ministry.



## Fall Foyers to Begin

On Saturday, September 16 from 5 - 7 pm, Foyers will begin a new year of gatherings at the home of Jane Ashford (111 Bernhurst Road, New Bern). Bring an appetizer to share, a beverage of your choice and glassware. All are invited. Please RSVP to Liz Praul at [epartlett4@gmail.com](mailto:epartlett4@gmail.com).

## ECW September Meeting

This month we will host Christ Church's own historian, Nelson McDaniel, who will talk to us about the Legendary Women of Christ Church. Please join us at 10 am, Monday, September 11, in the Parish House to hear about our long-ago, creative and amazing sisters and women of the parish. All are welcome! Questions? Please contact Rodney Hayes (203.640.2638 or [rodneyfhayes@yahoo.com](mailto:rodneyfhayes@yahoo.com)).

**Don't Forget -- Annual Trolley Tour - Monday, October 9**

We will tour sites from the novels of New Bern author, Nicholas Sparks. More information to come.

## Where Can You Plug In?

- **Worship:** Volunteer to serve in our upcoming services. Click on this link for [September](#) Sundays. For more information contact Sarah Risty Davis at [sarahristydavis@christchurchnewbern.com](mailto: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 September dates [here](#). October dates can be found [here](#).
- **Coffee Hours return next week.** To sign up to host Coffee Hours or provide snacks, please click [here](#).
- **CROP Walk to End Hunger:** With a goal of *Ending Hunger One Step at a Time*, New Bern's 2023 CROP Hunger Walk will be held September 24 at Union Point Park. CROP Walk is hosted by Faith Connections, and funds raised will benefit local hunger programs at Religious Community Services (RCS) of New Bern, Inc. and the global humanitarian efforts of Church World Services. This is a fun, family-friendly event, with music and activities for all ages. For more information and to join Christ Church's team, click [here](#) and select Register. Our team name is Christ Episcopal Church, New Bern. Please join us!
- **Join us to say farewell to Meg:** We will gather after both services today in the Parish House to wish her well.

## Churchyard Clean-Up and Pumpkin Patch Prep

On Saturday, September 16, we will be cleaning up the church grounds in preparation for this year's Pumpkin Patch. The clean-up will begin at 10 am and will last no more than two hours. Nursery is available during this time, and students can get community service hours for helping out. Please make plans to join us.

In addition, the Pumpkin Patch Committee is seeking to add some members to the group. The purpose for this committee is to organize the running 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 story times, setting up the grounds, and organizing the online sign-ups for patch volunteers, baked goods, etc. Contact Rick Miller (301.502.5268 / [rickmiller950@hotmail.com](mailto:rickmiller950@hotmail.com)) with questions or to volunteer for the committee. Your help can ensure another successful Pumpkin Patch year. All proceeds from the Pumpkin Patch go directly to local charities.