

## SAVE THE DATE!!



## ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of Christ Episcopal Church will be held on Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup> (more details to follow in the Newsnote and bulletins). All members of Christ Church age 16 and older are asked to be present for this once-a-year meeting. Who can vote? According to the Canons of the Episcopal Church, voting members are those who are: members of Christ Church and at least 16 years old, regular in worship, faithful in giving and active in the ministry of the Parish.

The Nominating Committee, which is made up of, Kay Koeniger, Linda Mortensen, Brian Shelburne, Denise Sharp, and Liz Wheeler, and ex officio, The Rev. Dr. Michelle Boomgaard, will meet to prepare a slate of candidates for election at February's Annual Meeting. We are looking for new At-Large Vestry Members. Please prayerfully consider whether God may be calling you to serve!

To be eligible for Vestry, members must:

- attend worship regularly
- make a pledge, or otherwise financially support the parish

be able to attend and participate in the Vestry meetings, held the second Wednesday of each month, starting at 6:30 PM at Christ Church or via Zoom.

## 2024 Altar Flower Dedication Chart

If you would like to sponsor the Altar flowers for 2024 in memory of or thanksgiving for someone or something, please email Kelly Zeller at [zellerk0611@gmail.com](mailto:zellerk0611@gmail.com). Please be very specific what or to whom you are dedicating the altar flowers, and if you have a particular choice of flower. The suggested donation is \$45.

January 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, and 28<sup>th</sup>  
February 11<sup>th</sup>  
April 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, and 28<sup>th</sup>  
May 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, and 26<sup>th</sup>  
June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, and 30<sup>th</sup>  
July 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, and 28<sup>th</sup>  
August 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 18<sup>th</sup>  
September 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, and 29<sup>th</sup>  
October 6<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>  
November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 24<sup>th</sup>



## Altar Flowers

**The Clarion****Volume 28, Issue 1**

is the independently edited, local monthly newsletter of Christ Episcopal Church, 409 East High Street, Springfield, OH, 45505 and published by Christ Episcopal Church upon authority of its Rector.  
Office: 937/323-8651  
[www.ChristSpringfield.org](http://www.ChristSpringfield.org)

*Christ Episcopal Church*  
*in the Diocese of Southern Ohio*



*Christ Episcopal Church*  
*in the Diocese of Southern Ohio*

**Provisional Bishop:**

The Rt Rev. George Wayne Smith

**Rector:**

The Rev. Dr. Michelle Boomgaard

**Senior Warden:**

Scott Yeazell

**Junior Warden:**

Steve Sharp

**Music Director:**

Dr. Christopher Durrenberger

**Parish Administrator/  
Program Coordinator:**

Kelly Zeller

**Facility Manager:**

Paul McAfee

**Bookkeeper:**

Tina Knox

**Clarion Editor:**

Joyce Spangler



The office will be closed January 1 for New Year's Day and January 15<sup>th</sup> for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Please plan accordingly.

**Address Update!**

Please email Kelly Zeller at [zellerk0611@gmail.com](mailto:zellerk0611@gmail.com) if you have updates to your address, phone, or email. A new 2024 directory will be available at the Annual Meeting in February! Thank you!



2022 Calendars are available in the East Entrance on the Greeter table. Thank you to Richards, Raff, and Dunbar Funeral Home for providing them for our use.

If the Clark County Sheriff calls a Level 2 snow emergency, Christ Church is closed. If Christ Church has to close on a Sunday, we will send out an email via Newsnote, post it on Channel 7, and put it on the Church's Facebook page and Website. Be safe! Whatever the snow emergency level, use your best judgement to be safe.

**“Stepping Out into the Vision”**

Thank you to all who have returned your pledge cards. If you haven't, it's not too late! If you need another pledge card, or want to send in your pledge via email, please contact Kelly Zeller at [zellerk0611@gmail.com](mailto:zellerk0611@gmail.com) or 323-8651. Your pledge makes a difference!

**January Adult Forums**

**January 14** Join us in the parish hall for an informal meeting to discuss how we can re-energize our ministry to visitors and newcomers. Let's work together to help those visiting Christ Church feel right at home! Questions? Contact Rev. Michelle – [mboomgaard@christspringfield.org](mailto:mboomgaard@christspringfield.org), or call the office.

**January 28: CarePortal** Several months ago, Christ Church joined a number of other Springfield churches by signing up to participate in CarePortal. CarePortal operates in communities across the nation to connect children and families in need with faith communities that can provide help. Locally, the Nehemiah Foundation has sponsored CarePortal for a few years. Since signing up this fall, we have helped at least five families through CarePortal. Learn more about what CarePortal is and how you can get involved on January 28, when Aaron Earlywine of CarePortal and Tami Carter of the Nehemiah Foundation will offer a demonstration of CarePortal at work and answer your questions about how other churches have used this resource. See you there!



## On Dwelling with Jesus

If Advent is the season of preparation, and Christmas is the season of Incarnation, then perhaps Epiphanytide, is the season of dwelling. Incarnation, of course, means becoming flesh. It is the fancy, church-y word for what we celebrate at Christmas, the miracle of Jesus becoming human. Which is why it might make sense that the Christmas season ends with the visit of the Wise Men, who came from afar, only to gaze in wonder, and then, they move on. And our readings move on. The season after Epiphany is usually filled with readings in which Jesus begins his ministry, encounters people, and dwells with them.

We recently welcomed a new cat, Joey into our house. This was a few weeks after we had welcomed Lou's sons to visit for Thanksgiving. The preparations could not have been more different.

Thanksgiving guests unleashed a flurry of preparation: vacuuming the house from top to bottom, finding the good towels, running to buy bacon and eggs and other breakfast foods that we would never eat when it's just the two of us, and so on. All to welcome our visitors, who would dwell among us if only for a week. But then they left us. And we did the laundry and put the towels away, ate stale leftovers, and started letting the newspapers stack up on the coffee tables again.

We had a little less time to prepare for Joey the Cat. But the preparation was also very different. In part, this was because we already had another cat. Cats aren't always excited about sharing their homes (neither are humans, to be honest). But the preparations were also different,

because we were welcoming one who would live with us, hopefully forever.

The first few days we had to get used to each other. We set up a "safe space" for Joey—the spare bedroom, where we put his carrier and his bed, his food, his water, and a litter box just for him. The first day, he was welcome to explore the house, with us watching carefully, in case any problems occurred. The first night, he spent in his safe space, with the door closed, so we didn't have to worry about any tussles with other cats during the night. But to keep him from being alone, I slept in that spare room, too.

Over time, Joey became more comfortable. So that now, with the notable exception of kitchen counters and tables, the cat is welcome almost everywhere. And, for that matter, so is Francesca, our other cat. They have full access to who we are—they wander through our closets, our bedrooms. The cats know where I hid my Christmas presents and lots of other things besides, the things that visitors and guests don't see.

As we enter the season after Epiphany, where would you imagine dwelling with Jesus? Do you need a safe space to meet him, until you feel comfortable? Or is Jesus welcome in the mess-free, cleaned up, presentable parts of your life? This is an invitation, to deepen that relationship. Because God isn't a short-term house guest who needs to be impressed before returning to a separate house or Temple. God is the Creator of us All, who longs to dwell among us and show us the depths of unconditional love.





**Worship...** Offering meaningful, relevant, and welcoming worship in the Episcopal tradition for people of all ages.



January 7th is the Baptism of our Lord. If you want to be baptized, or you know someone who would like to be baptized, please contact Rev. Michelle at [mboomgaard@christspringfield.org](mailto:mboomgaard@christspringfield.org).



#### **Christian Symbol: Latin Cross**

The Latin cross is the simplest and most common form of the Christian cross, possibly dating from the second or third century. Roman Catholic and Orthodox

Christians typically display a crucifix—an image of Jesus hanging on the cross—to remember his death for the sake of the world. Protestant churches often favor the empty cross, commemorating Jesus' resurrection.



#### **Watch Us on YouTube**

Here's how to watch our services on YouTube: Open the YouTube app on your smart TV.

- Go to "Search." Enter *Christ Church Springfield*. By the time you have entered *Christ Church Spr*, a list will have appeared on the left side of the screen. Do **NOT** type *Christ Episcopal*. If you do, our church will not appear on the list.
- Select *Christ Church Springfield*, about the third one down. That's all there is to it!

**Thursday Chapel Virtual Noonday Prayer Services** will return in January. Check the NewsNote and Sunday bulletin announcements for details.

## Revised Common **LECTIONARY**

January				
Date	First Lesson	Psalm	Second Lesson	Gospel
1/7	Genesis 1:1-5	29	Acts 19:1-7	Mark 1:4-11
1/14	1 Samuel 3:1-10	139: 1-5, 12-17	1 Corinthians 6:12-20	John 1:43-51
1/21	Jonah 3:1-5, 10	62: 6-14	1 Corinthians 7:29-31	Mark 1:14-20
1/28	Deuteronomy 18:15-20	111	1 Corinthians 8:1-13	Mark 1:21-28





***Hospitality...welcoming, nurturing, and supporting the members of our parish and greater community.***



If you like to make soup *and* nurture others, this is the ministry for you! Place homemade soup in disposable containers (labeled with the type of soup and date) in the church refrigerator and then let Kelly know <[zellerk0611@gmail.com](mailto:zellerk0611@gmail.com)> that you've dropped it off. The soup is used to provide a little TLC for parishioners. Thanks so much for considering helping with this ministry.

### **Christ Church has an option for online giving through the church's website.**

- Go to [christspringfield.org](http://christspringfield.org) or use the QR code at right.
- Go to the tab in the upper right-hand corner marked "Online Giving."
- Click on the online giving link in blue.
- Fill in the amount you would like to give.
- Next, use the drop box **2023-P for a Pledge or 2023-OG for other giving.**
- If you choose 2023-OG, there is another memo drop box for the type of giving. Choose one.
- Complete the rest of the form.
- Press "**Continue.**"
- On the next page, press "**Continue.**"
- Enter your billing information.
- Thank you! If you have questions or concerns, contact Kelly Zeller at [zellerk0611@gmail.com](mailto:zellerk0611@gmail.com).



### **January Anniversaries**

Amanda Hayden and Jimmy Ryan ..... January 30



All are welcome to join the "We Should Do Something Group!" They meet at different locations once a month to play a variety of board and card games.

The next meeting will be **Thursday, January 18th** from 6-8 PM at COhatch, 101 S. Fountain Ave, Springfield. Feel free to bring a friend or a game to share. If you have questions, contact Rev. Michelle at [mboomgaard@christspringfield.org](mailto:mboomgaard@christspringfield.org).

### **Church Staff**

**Rector:** The Rev. Dr. Michelle Boomgaard  
**Senior Warden:** Scott Yeazell  
**Jr. Warden:** Steve Sharp  
**Treasurer:** Ken Bladh  
**Clerk of Vestry:** Kelly Zeller  
**Parish Administrator/Program Coordinator:** Kelly Zeller  
**Music Director:** Dr. Christopher Durrenberger  
**Facility Manager:** Paul McAfee  
**Bookkeeper:** Tina Knox

### **Your Vestry**

**Vestry at Large:** Rick Everingham, Bill Hicks, Kay Koeninger, Joy Meyers, Linda Mortensen, and Lori Swafford

### **January Birthdays**

Margaret Mattox .....4-Jan  
 Graham Waggoner .....4-Jan  
 Audrey Chitkara .....5-Jan  
 Carol Harbaugh .....10-Jan  
 Marth Chaney .....12-Jan  
 Dan McGregor .....19-Jan  
 David Farrar .....21-Jan  
 Denise Sharp .....27-Jan  
 Steve Sharp .....30-Jan



**Outreach...** helping to provide the physical, material, social, and spiritual needs in Springfield and beyond



### Food Pantry News

At the December Food Pantry, we served over 150 households! Clients were offered a **TURKEY**, hot dogs, chicken, pork, cereal,

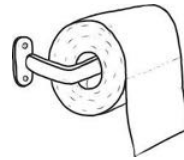
lots of fresh produce, canned goods, and a few treats—chips, cookies, and the extras of toilet paper, pet food, flour, spices, toiletries, and Reynolds Wrap. The clients are always grateful, and volunteers have a good time! To volunteer, please contact Brian Shelburne at [bshelburne@wittenberg.edu](mailto:bshelburne@wittenberg.edu), Kelly Zeller at [zellerk0611@gmail.com](mailto:zellerk0611@gmail.com), or Anne Randolph at [annejrand@aol.com](mailto:annejrand@aol.com).

**The December Drive-thru Pantry will be on Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers are needed to**

- help pick up and unload food,
- help bag food, and
- help with customer service.

	Time	January
1 <sup>st</sup> Food Pick-Up	8:00 AM	3
2 <sup>nd</sup> Food Pick-Up	8:00 AM	10
Bagging Day	9:00 AM	11
Pantry Day!	8:15 AM	17

Groceries are pre-bagged so that on pantry distribution day, filled bags can be placed directly into client's cars. If you can commit a block of 3–4 hours on **January 11**, let Brian Shelburne know. Most groceries should be bagged by **January 17**.



### TP Donations

Thanks to all who continue to donate TP. Ours is one of the few pantries to give out toilet paper. Place donations in (or near) the basket outside the elevator on the upper level.

### Woof! Woof! Purr...



There's a growing need for pet food in our community. If you would like to donate, place your dog food, cat food, or dog biscuits in the black receptacle in the East Entrance or email Kelly Zeller at [zellerk0611@gmail.com](mailto:zellerk0611@gmail.com) to drop it off at the Parish office. Donations are distributed through the Food Pantry. Hungry cats and dogs and their humans thank you!

### Reminder from the Outreach Team

Just a REMINDER! Continue to \$AVE PENNIES for the Warder Literacy Center & PULL-TABS for Dayton Ronald McDonald House. THANKS in advance for everyone's continual support! Rolls/baggies of pennies/pull-tabs can be dropped in the Hollenbeck House mail slot or returned in the church building. We look forward to your continued support this year we continue to make a difference!





God willing and the people consenting,

# The Reverend Canon Kristin Uffelman White

will be ordained and consecrated a Bishop in the  
one holy catholic and apostolic Church, and  
Tenth Bishop of the Diocese of Southern Ohio

---

**Saturday, February 17, 2024  
eleven o'clock in the morning**

The Right Reverend George Wayne Smith and the Standing Committee  
request the honor of your presence at

**The Greater Columbus Convention Center  
400 North High Street  
Columbus, Ohio**

CHIEF CONSECRATOR

**The Most Reverend Michael B. Curry  
Presiding Bishop and Primate of the Episcopal Church**

---

*Reception  
to follow*

DEACONS AND PRIESTS  
Cassock, surplice, red stole

ATTENDING BISHOPS  
Rochet, chimere, tippet

# RAINBOW TABLE

January is Christ Episcopal Church's month to volunteer at the Rainbow Table at St. John's Lutheran Church. Volunteers are needed each Friday in the various areas at the times listed below.

- 9:00–9:30** Help wrap silverware.  
**10:00–10:30** Help repackage baked goods.  
**10:30–11:30** Help set out desserts, salads, etc.  
**12:00–1:00 PM** Help serve
- Hand out trays and escort those needing help to tables
  - Pour and hand out drinks
- 12:30–1:00 PM** Scrape dishes
- Clean Up - Wipe tables & chairs, stack chairs
  - Help in dishwasher room



These activities maintain distance from guests. Therefore, you can choose to help where you feel most comfortable. Please remember to sign in and out noting you are from Christ Episcopal Church; the Volunteer Notebook is located in kitchen. If you have questions, please contact Deb Southward 937-925-1977.