

## New Member Reception!

On October 10, Christ Church formally welcomed some of our new members at a New Member Reception. Vestry members also joined for conversation. In attendance were the Drew family (Brian, Jillian, and children Tatum and Gates); Pete and Marjory Wentworth; Linda Butler; Steve and Gloria Heine; and Judy Roby. Members of vestry included Senior Warden Scott Yeazell, Junior Warden Steve Sharp, Treasurer Ken Bladh, and members at large Lori Swafford and Rick Everingham.

Welcome, new members! We hope to have another reception in the spring for those unable to attend this month.



## November Happenings

- Sun. 11/3 ALL SAINTS DAY**  
Worship @ 8 & 10 AM; DAY OF CHANGE at both services; Adult Forum @ 11:30
- Wed. 11/6 PANTRY:** food delivery @ 8:00 AM
- Thurs. 11/7 Virtual Noonday Prayer Service @ Noon**
- Sun. 11/10 Worship @ 8 & 10 AM;**  
Children's Chapel @ 10 AM;  
Adult Forum @ 11:30
- Thurs. 11/14 PANTRY:** Bagging Day @ at 9:00 AM; Virtual Noonday Prayer Service @ Noon; Vestry Meeting @ 6 PM
- Sun. 11/17 Worship @ 8 & 10 AM;**  
Children's Chapel @ 10 AM;  
Adult Forum @ 11:30 Last day for PROMISE NEIGHBORHOOD TOY DONATIONS
- Wed. 11/20 PANTRY DAY 8:15 AM**
- Thurs. 11/21 Virtual Noonday Prayer Service @ Noon; GAME NIGHT at Cohatch, 6-8 PM**
- Fri. 11/22 & Sat. 11/23 150TH DIOCESE OF SOUTHERN OHIO DIOCESAN CONVENTION** at the Roberts Center in Wilmington, OH
- Sun. 11/24 Worship @ 8 & 10 AM;**  
Adult Forum @ 11:30
- Thurs. 11/28 HAPPY THANKSGIVING!**



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*Christ Episcopal Church*  
in the Diocese of Southern Ohio



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**Bishop:**

The Rt Rev. Kristin Uffelman White

**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



## On Being Supportive

The “We Should Do Something at Mother Stewart’s” group – otherwise known as the Game Night Crew – had gathered, but not at Mother Stewarts. For a lot of reasons, we’ve been moving around, visiting a variety of different restaurants in Springfield. In October, we met at Los Mariachis.

“It’s good to see this place so full on a Thursday night,” said one.

“Yeah. I’d expect a crowd on a Friday, but this is good.”

“I want them to succeed. You know, they were the first Mexican restaurant in Springfield. That was a while ago.” We talked a bit about the history of the place, and the generations of people who had worked there to build it up.

Of course, our being there – filling a table, eating dinner, lingering over some beverages as we played games – all of that would help them succeed. It’s one of the reasons we wanted to visit different places in Springfield for Game Night – to boost all of those businesses, to help our local entrepreneurs succeed. Because it’s not enough to simply say, “that’s a good company, run by good people. I want them to succeed.” Sure, we can recommend a business to others. But, truly supporting means giving of time and money, giving of ourselves. And people are more likely to go to a restaurant if they are invited by people they know.

All of that is true for the Church, too.

Our stewardship campaign this year will run throughout the month of November. The theme is “Sowing the Seeds for Growth.” This was intentionally chosen. One of the things we heard consistently throughout our visioning process last year was that most parishioners hoped our parish would grow, become more vibrant, and offer more things to attract different people to the church. We’ve started a number of initiatives in the last year to follow up on those suggestions. But it takes more than just ideas.



The Church Office will be closed on **November 11th** for Veterans Day and the **28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> for Thanksgiving**. Please plan accordingly!

Our two campaign goals will help sow more seeds and more firmly root the seeds that have already taken hold. For example, the financial goal of \$160,000 will enable us to retain the services of a nursery attendant every Sunday, making our church a welcoming place for families with small children, something we didn't have last year. It will also allow us to expand our use of a livestream technician on Sundays, so that those who are ill at home can continue to join us for virtual services each week even when Kelly is leading Children's Chapel.

Our other goal is to increase the number of pledging units in our parish. Many folks pledge every year, but for those newer to the Episcopal Church, the idea of pledging can be strange. Simply put, a pledge is a promise to pay a certain amount in a given year. It doesn't have to be paid all at once. A pledge allows us to plan for the coming year. Just as many of us make a budget based on the promise we have of earned income or Social Security benefits, our parish strives to budget based in part on the promises we have from our pledgers. This helps us know what we can afford without dipping too much into our savings.

But it tells us more than just that. As Dan McGregor, a member of this year's Stewardship Committee, pointed out, "Support is the sign of a healthy parish." The Game Night Crew was happy to see a local restaurant doing good business on a Thursday night because it was a sign that the business was healthy. Likewise, if we meet our stewardship goals, it will be a sign that we are a healthy parish. It will show that we support what we are doing, and we care enough to give of our hard-earned money to make it succeed.

While our stewardship campaign is focused on money and pledges, we need to do a bit more. We need to think about giving of our time and talent. Consider this: if we walked into a restaurant, and didn't see anyone sitting at the tables, we might think twice about staying for dinner. Even if the restaurant was making ends

meet through a takeout or delivery business, it wouldn't seem very welcoming or trustworthy. We'd wonder why nobody was there, and we might turn around and go. Likewise, an empty church or parish hall isn't very welcoming. It feels cold, or tired. Even online, people sometimes look at our livestream and ask, "where is everyone? This is sad." Likewise, a gathering over food doesn't feel as hospitable if there aren't many people there. If we want Christ Church to thrive and grow, we need to start showing up to help it seem thriving to those visiting or watching for the first time. Like supporting a restaurant, the best way to get people to come is to invite them to join you at some event at church, to be that familiar face as they walk in the door.

At some point in the next year or two, we will need to make some more decisions. Because if we want to grow, we will need more tangible forms of support. We will need folks to help teach Sunday School, or volunteer in the nursery. We will need folks to help cook meals or help prepare worship each Sunday. At the moment, we do all these things with a combination of volunteers and staff. But, as we sow the seeds for growth, we will need more of both. We will need to contribute our talents to build up our programs, or we will need to pay others to share their talents in a professional capacity.

We are incredibly blessed. We have a parish with a rich history, deep liturgy, and established tradition of welcoming all with the love of God. God has also blessed us as individuals, some with financial assets, others with talents like creativity or administrative gifts. But God didn't give us these blessings for our own use. They are richer when they are shared in support of a cause we believe in. Just as we scatter our favorite seeds each fall and spring so that we can enjoy plants and produce throughout the year, I hope you will join in our Stewardship Campaign as we Sow the Seeds for Growth.

*Michelle+*



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

## Virtual Thursday Noonday Prayer Services

Judy Johnson offers a Noonday Prayer service on Christ Church's Facebook page each Thursday.

([facebook.com/christspringfield.org/](https://facebook.com/christspringfield.org/))

The text is located on p. 103 in the Book of Common Prayer or online at

<https://www.bcponline.org>



## Watch Us on YouTube

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

- Go to "Search." Enter *Christ Church Springfield*. As you enter *Christ Church Spr*, a list will appear 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!

## All Saints Day and the Day of Change Sunday, November 3rd!

**All Saints** – We will remember those loved ones who have gone before us with prayer, candles, and music.

**Day of Change** – As our clocks "fall back" in the wee hours, that morning, we will collect loose change (bills gladly accepted, too!) to support our Christ Church Food Pantry. Use your change to make a change in the lives of hungry Springfielders.

Baskets will be passed at each service for this offering. If you are unable to attend the service, feel free to drop off your change to the Parish office! Bring your change to church that Sunday and it will be used to support the ministry of our Food Pantry, which provides food for close to 500 people each month. Just contact Kelly Zeller at [zellerk0611@gmail.com](mailto:zellerk0611@gmail.com).

## Revised Common **LECTIONARY**

November				
Date	First Lesson	Psalm	Second Lesson	Gospel
Nov 3	Isaiah 25:6-9	24	Revelation 21:1-6b	John 11:32-44
Nov 10	Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17	127	Hebrews 9:24-28	Mark 12:38-44
Nov 17	1 Samuel 1:4-20	16	Hebrews 10:11–25	Mark 13:1-8
Nov 24	2 Samuel 23:1-7	132	Revelation 1:4b-8	John 18:33-37



**BIRTHDAYS**

Reilly Smith .....	Nov 5
Joy Meyers .....	Nov 5
Susan Smith .....	Nov 19
Hannah Spangler .....	Nov 22
Sara Boblitt .....	Nov 23
Don Wheeler .....	Nov 24
Pat Duncan .....	Nov 29

**ANNIVERSARIES**

Rick & Anne Guyton Dunbar .....	Nov 19
Bob & Dawn White.....	Nov 26
Richard & Joyce Spangler .....	Nov 27



**2024 Altar Flower Dedication Chart**

If you would like to sponsor the Altar flowers for 2025 in memory of, thanksgiving. or in celebration for someone or something, contact Kelly Zeller at [zellerk0611@gmail.com](mailto:zellerk0611@gmail.com). Please be very specific in what or who you are dedicating the altar flowers, and if you have a particular choice of flower. Suggested donation is \$45.

- January 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, and 26<sup>th</sup>
- February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, and 23<sup>rd</sup>
- March 2<sup>nd</sup>
- May 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, and 25<sup>th</sup>
- June 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, and 29<sup>th</sup>
- July 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, and 27<sup>th</sup>
- August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, and 31<sup>st</sup>
- September 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, and 28<sup>th</sup>
- October 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, and 26<sup>th</sup>
- November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, and 23<sup>rd</sup>

**Directory Update**

In the next few months, we will be updating our database. We realized that in some cases, we don't have current or correct information for folks – a number of people have moved away, but still have their old addresses listed. In other cases, people have transferred in, but we don't have the information that the Diocese and National Church would like us to have (like information about baptisms or confirmation). And we also want to give people a chance to be included in our birthday and anniversary prayers. We can't do that, if we don't have your birthday!

We'll be sending update forms out a few at a time. When you receive one, please take the time to fill it out and send it back to us.

When we are done updating all our records, we hope to begin putting together a new photo directory. Your quick responses will help make this a reality.

Thank you!

**ONLINE GIVING**

- Go to [christsspringfield.org](http://christsspringfield.org) or use the QR code at right.
- Go to the tab in the upper right-hand corner marked “**Online Giving.**”
- Click on the blue online giving link.
- Fill in the amount you want to give.
- Use the drop box **Pledged Giving** for a pledge or **Miscellaneous Giving** for other giving.
- If you choose **Miscellaneous Giving**, choose giving type in the next drop box.
- 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).





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



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, November 21st from 6-8 PM at Cohatch, located at 101 S. Fountain Ave.** Feel free to bring a friend or a game to share. If you have questions, contact Rev. Michelle at [mboomgaard@christsspringfield.org](mailto:mboomgaard@christsspringfield.org).



### **The Stewardship Committee**

Please keep the Stewardship Committee—Dan McGregor, Brian Shelburne, Diane Rode, and Isabella Mendes—in prayer as they plan for the future of Christ Church.



If you would like an update of what you have given thus far in fulfillment of your pledge for 2024, please email Kelly Zeller (zellerk0611@gmail.com) for a statement.



**The Rev. Judith Alexis**, A Haitian Episcopal Priest, currently serving in the Diocese of Connecticut, visited Springfield and offered reflections on Haitians in America at the October 20<sup>th</sup> Adult Forum.



## Diocesan Convention

On **November 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>**, delegates from each congregation in the Diocese of Southern Ohio will gather at the Roberts Center in Wilmington, Ohio for the 150th Diocesan Convention. Our parish delegates are **Steve Sharp, Diane Rode, and Brian Shelburne along with the Rev. Dr. Michelle Boomgaard**. Please keep them and the entire convention attendees in your prayers as they make decisions that affect the entire Diocese and our individual congregations.



### 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
- **Nursery Attendant:** Madison Smith

### Your Vestry at Large

Rick Evingham, Bill Hicks, Joy Meyers,  
Anne Strothman, Lori Swafford, and  
Marjory Wentworth



**Highlights from the September 12th, 2024 meeting. Vestry Highlights will be published after the minutes have been approved at the following month's Vestry meeting. A copy of Vestry minutes is posted on the bulletin board in the entryway of the Guild Room.**

- The meeting started with a brief discussion about the recent community events, followed by concluding prayers lead by Rev. Michelle.
- Ken Bladh sent the Treasurer's report out via email. Ken stated that none of the outreach funds have been spent for 2024. Ken wondered if the Vestry should get more involved with Outreach spending.
- Steve Sharp reported that we have received quotes from both contractors on the fence repairs. Ken is waiting for more information from the insurance companies before we move forward on the repairs.
- Rev. Michelle has met with pastor, the Rev. Dr. Tokunbo Adelekan, and one of his lay ministers from the Rise Community Church in Miamisburg. Rise Community Church is interested in renting space at CEC from October through January. Bill Hicks moved that the Vestry accept the rental agreement draft and to have the Church Insurance review the document. Ken Bladh seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- The next Vestry meeting will be held on Thursday, November 14th, at 6 pm.





***Formation and Education... providing people of all ages rich opportunities to form a strong spiritual relationship with God so they may become good stewards of their faith to themselves and others.***

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# CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

Children's Chapel Services take place twice a month. In November they will be offered on the **10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>**. We will meet in the Chapel on the church's lower level at the start of the 10 AM service, down the aisle from the nursery. We are using the Spark Program; it is lectionary-based and includes a fun activity page. All lessons and activities reinforce the lectionary lesson of the day. We estimate the Children's Chapel service will take 15 to 20 minutes. Then the children can go upstairs to the service or return to the nursery.



## **November Adult Forum Sowing Seeds for Growth**

In November we'll look at some of the programs that have started and restarted this year and that benefit from our stewardship campaign.

Come learn about the exciting things that are happening at Christ Church!

**November 3** Jan Kushmaul and Nancy Flinchbaugh will talk about the revival of the Springfield Ecumenical Taize service, and the beauty it brings.

**November 10** Seamus Dunphy, one of our choir scholars, and some of the Wittmen Crew will share their music and experience from our Shrove Tuesday (Mardi Gras) pancake supper! Come relive the fun, and laissez les bon temps rouler!

**November 17** Experience children's chapel, our new Sunday morning program for our young members (and find out what fun Kelly has been having in our chapel!)

**November 24** Rev. Michelle and others from our delegation will share highlights from Diocesan Convention and the ways in which the Diocese supports our life as a parish.



## Haitian Crisis

Many Episcopal Parishes from all over the world have shown Christ Church support during the Haitian Crisis. Two beautiful quilts from Arizona arrived with cards of support. We have received countless letters, cards, and donations, not only to Christ Church Haitian Ministry Fund, but to other local Haitian support groups. It's very heartwarming!



### January 12 Next opportunity for baptism.

A pre-baptismal counselling session with the priest is required, so if you or a member of your family are considering baptism, contact Rev. Michelle in a timely fashion at [mboomgaard@christsspringfield.org](mailto:mboomgaard@christsspringfield.org). And if you are unsure about baptism but would like to know more, just let her know!

**February 9: Bishop's visitation.** Contact Rev. Michelle if you are interested in being confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church on that day.



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

A big **THANK YOU!** to all the pantry volunteers! At the October Food Pantry, we served 149 households representing 479 individuals! The clients were offered chicken, chicken chunks, ham, soup, fish, ground beef, roasts, cheese, fresh produce, can goods, and a few treats—chips, cookies, and the extras of toilet paper, cleaning supplies, pet food, and toiletries. The clients are always grateful, and volunteers have a good time! To volunteer, please contact **Brian Shelburne** [bshelburne@wittenberg.edu](mailto:bshelburne@wittenberg.edu) **Kelly Zeller** [zellerk0611@gmail.com](mailto:zellerk0611@gmail.com) or **Anne Randolph** [annejrand@aol.com](mailto:annejrand@aol.com)

**The November Pantry dates are listed below. Volunteers are needed to:**

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

	Time	Nov..
Food Delivery	8:00 AM	6
Bagging Day	9:00 AM	14
Pantry Day!	8:15 AM	20



Groceries are pre-bagged so that filled bags can be placed directly into client's cars on pantry distribution day. If you can commit a block of 3–4 hours on **November 14**, let Brian

Shelburne know. Most groceries should be bagged for distribution by November 20th.

On **Pantry Day (November 20)**, volunteers are needed to help unload food, pack food, and help with customer service starting at approximately 8:15 AM.



**Reminder from the Outreach Team**

Please continue to **SAVE PENNIES** for the Warder Literacy Center & **PULL-TABS** for Dayton Ronald McDonald House. Rolls or baggies of pennies and pull-tabs can be dropped in the Hollenbeck House mail slot or placed in the church building. **THANKS** for everyone's continual support!

**Toilet Paper, Pet Food, and Laundry Detergent!**

What do these items have in common?



These are the three items most requested by Food Pantry clients, and none can be purchased with

the SNAP card. We are the only Food



Pantry that offers toilet paper, and the clients often ask when they first arrive if we have it that day. The

rising costs of pet food are hurting



some of our senior clients on a fixed income. One client comes with his dog at 4:30 AM and hopes we have dog

food on the miscellaneous table. Laundry detergent and cleaning supplies are expensive items asked about on distribution day. Your contributions are greatly appreciated and really make a difference!! Thank you!



## **Toys Needed for Promise Neighborhood Christmas Store!**

Once again, our friends in Springfield's Promise Neighborhood are hosting a Christmas Store from December 4th through the 7th. Promise Neighborhood residents can visit the store and choose from gifts that have been donated by church folks and other community members. The Christmas Store accepts donations of NEW toys/gifts for babies

through teenagers. *NOTE:* Promise Neighborhood has a source for age appropriate books, and they have all they need. Please don't purchase books for this event. You can bring your items to the church on or before **Sunday, November 17<sup>th</sup>** and place them around the basket by the elevator or drop them off at the parish office. On November 24th, we'll bless the gifts during the worship service, and then turn them over to the Promise Neighborhood leadership.