



The

Clarion

Volume 28, Issue 12, December 2024

A Monthly Publication



Annual Alternative Christmas Market: Gifts of Hope

Plan to join us at Covenant Presbyterian Church at 201 North Limestone Street in Springfield, Ohio, which will host its Annual Alternative Christmas Market on Sunday, **December 1st, 2024**, from **11:30 AM to 2:00 PM**. This is an ALTERNATIVE approach to commercial Christmas shopping while caring for our community. Shoppers talk to representatives from fifteen local and global organizations and fill out a shopping list of items like containers of laundry detergent or kitchen trash bags (for Christ Church Food Pantry), or children's books (for Clark County Literacy), Items like these symbolize a monetary contribution to the organization, in the name of a loved one. While the shopper waits at Covenant's food court, a personalized card is prepared for the recipient of the gift, describing the item that has been given in his or her name. All gifts purchased are tax deductible (receipt provided), but no names are put on any mailing list.



December Happenings

Sun. 12/1 ADVENT 1 Worship @ 8 & 10 AM; Adult Forum @ 11:30
Annual Alternative Christmas Market 11:30 AM TO 2:00 PM

Wed. 12/4 PANTRY: food delivery @ 8:00 AM

Thurs. 12/5 Virtual Noonday Prayer Service @ Noon

Sun. 12/8 Worship @ 8 & 10 AM; Children's Chapel @ 10 AM; Adult Forum @ 11:30

Thurs. 12/12 PANTRY: Bagging Day @ at 9:00 AM; Virtual Noonday Prayer Service @ Noon; Vestry Meeting @ 6 PM

Sun. 12/15 Worship @ 8 & 10 AM; Children's Chapel @ 10 AM; Adult Forum @ 11:30

Wed. 12/18 PANTRY DAY 8:15 AM

Thurs. 12/19 Virtual Noonday Prayer Service @ Noon

Sun. 12/22 Worship @ 8 & 10 AM; HANGING OF THE GREENS @ 11:15; Adult Forum @ 11:30

Tues. 12/24 Office Closed; Christmas Eve Services @ 4 PM & 6:45 PM

Wed. 12/25 Christmas Day; Office Closed

Sun. 12/29 Lessons and Carols

The Clarion

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Christ Episcopal Church
 in the Diocese of Southern Ohio



Christ Episcopal Church
 in the Diocese of Southern Ohio



Bishop:
 The Rt Rev. Kristin Uffelmann White

Rector:
 The Rev. Dr. Michelle Boomgaard

Senior Warden:
 Scott Yeazell

Junior Warden:
 Steve Sharp

Music Director:
 Dr. Christopher Durrenberger

**Program Directory and
 Parish Administrator:**
 Kelly Zeller

Facility Manager:
 Paul McAfee

Bookkeeper:
 Tina Knox

Clarion Editor:
 Joyce Spangler



Hanging Of The Greens

We will hang the greens of Christmas on
Sunday, December 22nd, immediately
 after 10 AM worship service. There are jobs
 for everyone, so plan to stay and join in the
 fun!

December 24th at Christ Church

**Christ Church will have two services
 on Christmas Eve.**

- **4:00 PM** Family Friendly Service
- **7:00 PM** Festive Christmas Eve

Holy Eucharist Rite II service. Be
 sure to join the community by **6:45
 PM** for special music by special

musical guest Christina Darding, guitarist; the Christ Episcopal
 Choir; and musical director, Chris Durrenberger.

****There are no services at Christ Church on Christmas Day.****



**Baby Jesus needs His
 Fruits & Veggies!**

Christ Church has a long tradition of
 collecting & donating baby food for little
 ones in need around Christmastime,
 through the work of organizations such as
 Help Me Grow, and FYI-Parent Network
 (Springfield). We will be collecting baby food throughout Advent
 and the 12 Days of Christmas. We will dedicate and bless a few
 jars as a symbolic offering for God's service at the 10:00 worship
 service on **Epiphany Sunday, January 5th.**

Please drop off your baby food donations in the basket by the
 elevator anytime between now and January 5th. Slips with
 Shopping Tips will be on the wall beside the basket, Thank-you for
 helping feed hungry babies in Springfield! Questions? Contact Deb
 Southward 937-925-1977 (call/text) or email
dpsouthward@aol.com.



The Church Office will be
 closed on **December 24 and
 25** for Christmas Please plan
 accordingly.





What are we waiting for?

I'm sure the retailers are nervous. Because Thanksgiving fell relatively late this year, we're missing out on a whole weekend of "Christmas Shopping Season." That season will likely be more frantic than ever.

In Church circles, or at least, in liturgical church circles, Advent is largely the same as ever. Advent always starts on a Sunday, and always includes exactly four Sundays before Christmas. People often like to describe Advent as a season of preparation. Churchy folks (okay, mostly clergy) mean this in the sense of "preparing your soul for the coming of Christ."

Episcopalians (being particularly hard core, I suppose) meant this to have two meanings. We prepare for the arrival of the baby Jesus on Christmas day, but we also prepare our souls for the second coming of Christ, at the end of the world. Not particularly cheery, is it?

The problem with referring to Advent as a season of preparation (aside from the doom and gloom Episcopal interpretation), is that too many people just fold "preparation for the coming of Christ" into the commercial understanding of "preparing for Christmas." At best, it makes "Advent" sound a lot like "Christmas Shopping Season;" at worst, it can feel like a set of boxes to check. Work, instead of holy wonder.

What if we were to refer to Advent as a season of waiting? This is hard thing to ask. As a general principle, Americans don't like waiting. Folks are willing to pay for memberships to shopping services in order to guarantee free next-day shipping, rather than wait a few days or a week. Sometimes, that's absolutely needed. But, in other situations, I wonder if it wouldn't have been better to wait.

When I was a child, and therefore really didn't have much of an income outside of a small

allowance, I waited for Christmas for lots of things. Everything from slippers and gloves to toys and games appeared under the Christmas tree. And, because I had been waiting for these things, even the clothes were somewhat exciting (admittedly, not as exciting as the toys).

One of my frustrations—especially now that I am married, and my stepsons are also adults—is that nobody waits. Anything they need or want they have the ability to get it almost instantly. They can go online, and within an hour, research the best brands, the product reviews, and even the best prices. They can click the "purchase" button, and it might even arrive on their doorstep the next day. Why wait, they say.

So many of those things that people buy instantly might have been presents. Shoes, shirts, kitchen gadgets, car accessories. All kinds of things that would have been meaningful. It would have been fun to watch them unwrap these things, to see their eyes light up. To have them try on the shoes or pull the shirt on over whatever they were already wearing and parade around, to see if it fit. There is a joy that comes with sharing gifts that are meaningful. To me, that's worth the wait.

Waiting also gives us time. Time to appreciate what we have. I developed a new appreciation for public radio a few years ago, while waiting for my cable to be installed. It also gives us time to imagine possibilities instead of just replacing what we have. Do I really need a new sweater like the one that has worn out, or might I want something dressier, or more functional, or in a different color?

My mother told me that decades ago, people would spend the time before they moved into a newly-purchased home preparing. They had to wait, but they spent that time searching for the right furniture, or—here's a blast from the past—making curtains and other accessories. Looking forward to the moment when they would put these things into their new house and make it a home, something that truly reflected them and fulfilled what they had been hoping for. In contrast, when I've moved, it's often been a rush of fitting what we have and then

going to instantly get whatever we think is missing.

Babies seem to be one of the few things that most people have to wait for. There is no free overnight shipping for them. Instead, for most people, it is months of getting ready, finding the right toys and furniture, considering potential names, and trying to prepare to have life turned upside down in unexpected ways. For those who adopt, the process is different—not necessarily having an arrival date—but no less filled with joyful anticipation and consideration.

What if we started a spiritual practice of waiting this Advent? Of being grateful for what we have, and of looking with hope for what might

come? Of giving others the opportunity to be generous, instead of buying it all ourselves? What if we waited for the birth of Jesus, the way we wait for the birth of any other child, knowing that, in the end, we cannot control when the blessed moment will come, but it will forever change our lives?

To me, that sounds like a blessed Advent, the antidote to a frantic shopping season.

Wishing you a blessed Advent!

Michelle+



Delegates, Steve Sharp, Diane Rode, and Brian Shelburne, and Rev. Michelle at the 150th DSO Convention





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



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!

African Bible Study

Sacred Reading (Lectio Divina) or African Bible Study is a group meditative approach through which members gain confidence in their Christian faith from Holy Scripture. We invite people to join us at the start of Advent. Our next meeting is Wednesday, December 4th, at 1 PM. We meet online. To learn more or to receive the link, please contact Pat Cary at sisterpcocd2@hotmail.com, Keith Doubt at kdoubt@gmail.com, or Kay Koeninger at kaydavid7485@att.net

Virtual Thursday Noonday Prayer Services

Judy Johnson offers a Noonday Prayer service on Christ Church's Facebook page each Thursday.
(facebook.com/christspringfield.org/)
The text is located on p. 103 in the Book of Common Prayer or online at <https://www.bcponline.org>



Revised Common LECTIONARY

December				
Date	First Lesson	Psalm	Second Lesson	Gospel
Dec 1	Jeremiah 33:14-16	25:1-9	1 Thessalonians 3:9-13	Luke 21:25-36
Dec 8	Baruch 5:1-9	Canticle 4	Philippians 1:3-11	Luke 3:1-6
Dec 15	Zephaniah 3:14-20	Canticle 9	Philippians 4:4-7	Luke 3:7-18
Dec 22	Micah 5:2-5a	Canticle 3	Hebrews 10: 5-10	Luke 1:39-55
Dec 29	Lessons and Carols			



BIRTHDAYS

Al Hurley	Dec 1
Peng Chen	Dec 2
Fred Bartenstein.....	Dec 4
Doug McGregor.....	Dec 4
Anita Beardsell	Dec 5
Blake Holland	Dec 6
Bryce Holland	Dec 6
Liz Wheeler	Dec 6
Richard Spangler	Dec 8
Marilyn Krohn	Dec 15
Leeza Wheeler.....	Dec 19
Isabelle Durrenberger	Dec 21
Bill Hicks.....	Dec 21
Dawn White	Dec 23
David Reichel.....	Dec 24
Marty Smith	Dec 24
Joanne Harris	Dec 27
Chris Durrenberger.....	Dec 29

ANNIVERSARIES

Alex and Chris Bickel	Dec 11
Scott Dooley and Lisa Pankratz.....	Dec 18



Toys for Promise Neighborhood Christmas Store

Thank you to everyone who bought toys for the Promise Neighborhood’s Christmas Store! The support of Christ Church will help lift the spirits of more than a few of our neighbors.

ONLINE GIVING

- Go to 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 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.



2025 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. Please be 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 5th, 12th, 19th, and 26th
- February 2nd, 9th, 16th, and 23rd
- March 2nd
- May 4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th
- June 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th
- July 6th, 13th, 20th, and 27th
- August 3rd, 10th, 17th, and 24th
- September 14th, 21st, and 28th
- October 5th, 12th, and 26th
- November 2nd, 9th, 16th, and 23rd



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



Game night is taking a break in December. Watch this space for January plans!



2025 Calendars are available in the East Entrance on the table. Thank you to Richards, Raff, and Dunbar Funeral Home for providing them for our use.



Check THIS Out!

Christ Church's Judy Johnson has a website with three blogs! Find them at <https://judyjohnsonwrites.weebly.com/>

"Day of Change" Results



As the clocks were falling back one hour, we brought our change to church. Thanks to your generosity, \$61.34 has been given to the Christ

Church Food Pantry to support their work in feeding hungry people of Springfield.



Rev. Michelle was guest panellist at an event hosted by the Ohio Council of Churches in Columbus on Nov. 2. Jim Wallis was the guest speaker.

Have You Met Yet? Marjory and Peter Wentworth

What brought you to Springfield-Clark County? Pete was hired to teach film production at Wright State University in August of 2022. After living apart the first year we decided we were ready for our next big adventure and relocated to Springfield. Wright State hired Marjory to teach poetry. Pete grew up in a town of 600 in central Maine, which was the home of Berniece Abbott, the photographer, who was born in Springfield. It seemed like an omen.

When did you start coming to Christ Episcopal Church? What did you notice when you first arrived? We were still looking at various homes in the area when we met Michelle at Pride Day in downtown Springfield, and we knew immediately we had found our new church home. Clearly, Christ Church was a progressive Episcopal Church, and we knew it was the place for us. We started attending services soon after

we moved here in August of 2023, and we kept getting lost the first couple of times. What an interesting labyrinth. We were welcomed immediately and felt very comfortable with the congregation. The church is magnificent, and we love the architecture and the stained- glass windows.

What do you like to do when you're not at Christ Church? We're both avid moviegoers and readers. Marj is a writer, so she is always working on her next book project. Peter is always doing work on our old house; he is still making bookshelves etc. We love exploring the area. There are so many interesting things to do! We have even connected with a whole group of distant cousins.

What do you like to do at Christ Episcopal Church? Pete has enjoyed helping with the Food Pantry. Marjory serves on the Vestry. There's a lot we love about Christ Episcopal Church. The sermons are always thought provoking and invigorating. The music is outstanding. We love the fact that some of the service is translated into French for our Haitian friends. It's a really kind-hearted gesture.



Vestry Highlights

Highlights from the October 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 of St. Francis of Assisi followed by prayer by Rev. Michelle.
- Ken Bladh reported that ledges are being met, and overall, CEC is in good shape.
- Steve Sharp reported that the mow-to-own project is ending. He hopes we own the land by the end of 2025. Ken Bladh moved to authorize Steve to obtain the land not to exceed \$1000. Rick Everingham seconded. Motion carried.
- Ken Bladh reported that Church Insurance sent an adjuster to assess the fence damage. Subsequently, the church received a check for \$40,690.00 from Church Insurance. We will receive another check to cover the rest of the repair cost at a later date. Ken Bladh moved that Steve Sharp be given approval to sign contracts for Spradlin Brothers and Quality Masonry for fence repair. Rick Everingham seconded. Motion carried.
- Christ Church has received gifts in response to Springfield's time in the national spotlight. Rev. Michelle shared cards and sentiments from different churches worldwide, showing support for Christ Church during the Haitian Crisis. After a brief discussion about where the monies would do the most good, Ken Bladh made the motion that the designated funds for the Haitian Crisis be added to the current

Haitian Ministry Fund throughout the rest of the year. Rick Everingham seconded. Motion Carried.

- Scott Yeazell asked if the Ann Chitkara plaque could be put up in room 8 and announced that the plaque was in place to the congregation. Scott Yeazell will send Ann a letter letting her know that the plaque was placed in room 8 and thank her for her service.
- The next Vestry meeting will be held on Thursday, November 14th, at 6 PM.



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 937-323-8651 or zellerk0611@gmail.com. Your pledge makes a difference! Thank you.

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

Vestry Recognizes Kelly Zeller's New Roles: Program Director and Parish Administrator

As our parish ministries continue to evolve and expand, many individuals are stepping up to fill new roles. This has been especially true of our own Kelly Zeller. Originally hired as "Parish Administrator and Program Coordinator" by the Rev. Charlotte Reed, her job changed over the years. This reflected the many administrative tasks that Kelly took on, especially during a time when there was not a consistent clergy presence. Of course, the pandemic also added responsibilities. Kelly has also stepped in to fill other roles as needed, whether that was filling in when the livestream volunteer was unexpectedly absent, or greeting people when they came through the door on Sunday morning.

Over the last year, as we have settled into new routines, Kelly's role has changed again. The re-opening of our Children's Chapel program has allowed Kelly to return to her love of sharing God's love with children. At the same time, as food pantry clientele has increased, the pantry leadership roles have changed. Kelly has taken over the ordering of the food, and much of the administrative paperwork required to keep our food pantry functioning at the high level people have come to expect. Kelly feels passionate about making sure that people have what they need, and we are blessed that she is able to share her administrative gifts with us.

In recognition of the fact that Kelly has taken on new duties, the vestry has created a new and expanded job for her—effectively a promotion. Her new title is "Program Director and Parish Administrator," reflecting her increased responsibilities. Beginning January 1, she will also receive benefits commensurate with this promotion.

In the meantime, the parish will continue to adjust to our expanding ministries and staffing. Kelly may become a little less visible. On Sundays, for example, she will likely be downstairs with our children's chapel kids rather than serving as greeter or working the livestream camera. Similarly, during the week, she may be hard at work putting together the food pantry order, and less available to answer the phone. Her regular office hours will be Wednesdays and Thursdays 8–2. Other days, she will be working off site. Tuesdays mornings, Joan Hurley has been volunteering in the office, and on Tuesday afternoons and Friday mornings, Rev. Michelle will often answer the phone. Over time, we may need to expand our staffing in other ways. We are happy that Kelly can continue to share her gifts with us in this way.

Congratulations, Kelly!



Delegates Steve Sharp and Diane Rode enjoying the 150th DSO Convention



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.



Children's Chapel takes place twice a month. In December it will be offered on the 8th and 15th. We will meet in the Chapel on the church's lower level at the start of the 10:00 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.

save THE DATE

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. 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.

December Adult Forum Advent Poetry with George Herbert

George Herbert (1593-1633) was a poet and priest in the early days of the Reformation. Each week we will explore several of his poems around a theme. Feel free to join in for one week or all four!



All Saint's Day November 3rd, 2024

Liturgy Notes for December (and beyond)

As many of you know, the first Sunday of Advent marks the start of a new liturgical year. It seems an appropriate time to make a few changes—some temporary, some permanent.

Beginning December 1, we will use a newer version of the Nicene Creed each Sunday. Technically speaking, it is in fact, a much older version of the Nicene Creed. It changes only three words, referring to the Holy Spirit:

Prayer Book Version	Version We Will Use
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father <i>and the Son</i> . With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.	We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.

Why the change? These three words were added to the Creed at the Council of Toledo in 589, more than two centuries after the original Creed was adopted. While it grew more accepted in the Western Church, others believed that it was contrary to their understanding of God. The use of this phrase was one reason that the Orthodox Church split from the Roman Church in the 6th century. However, in 1988, the Lambeth Conference (a gathering of all bishops in the Anglican Communion) recommended that this phrase be dropped. In 1994, the General Convention of the Episcopal Church followed suit. More and more Episcopal churches, including our Cathedral in Cincinnati, use this version of the Creed.

This will be a permanent change. It may take some getting used to, but don't worry if you accidentally say the old words. We've used the old version for 1445 years – that's a long habit to break.

Also, during Advent, we will sing a portion of the Eucharistic prayers. Some of you may remember this from years ago. Chanted or sung prayers are part of an ancient Church tradition. In the days before microphones and sound systems, sung or chanted prayers could be heard more easily than spoken ones. If you're not familiar with the sung responses, they are fairly simple. And, if you want to see what the musical notation looks like, you can find it along with the other "service music" in the front of our hymnal, at S120.

Finally, this year, there will be a choice of two services on Christmas Eve:

- Our **4 PM Family-Friendly Service** will be designed especially with our youngest parishioners in mind. Expect a shorter service, a liturgy and homily that will be more accessible to children, and kid-friendly hymns emphasizing joy and wonder.
- Our more traditional **7 PM Service** will offer classic carols and special booklets with a slightly different liturgy. With Bishop White's permission, we will be using the prayers from the Canadian Book of Alternate Services (similar to our Book of Common Prayer). This allows us to easily print one booklet in both French and English. Though we will use English throughout the service, having the booklets printed in both languages will allow people to follow the service more easily and understand where we are and what we are doing.

Vestry NOMINATIONS

The Vestry's Nominating Committee, which includes Scott Yeazell, Steve Sharp, Lori Swafford, Joy Meyers, and Bill Hicks, along with ex officio member The Rev. Dr. Michelle Boomgaard, is seeking nominations for new members to join the Vestry for a three-year term starting in March 2025. We are also accepting nominations for the positions of Senior Warden and Junior Warden, which are one-year terms. If you would like to nominate yourself or someone else for any of these Vestry positions, contact Scott Yeazell at scott@triec.com or Rev. Michelle at mmboomgaard@christsspringfield.org.

The Vestry functions as a board that oversees the spiritual, pastoral, and operational aspects of Christ Episcopal Church. It is composed of the rector and members of the congregation who have been elected at the parish's annual meeting each February.

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 monthly Vestry meetings. Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month from 6 to 8 PM.

The Nominating Committee will contact nominated individuals and will present a slate of candidates at the Annual Meeting on February 23, 2025.

Question: *What are the most popular items at our drive-through pantry?*

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

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!! Thanks!





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 November Food Pantry, we served over a 490 clients with 41 new households! The clients were offered chicken, pork, ham, tomato sauce, fresh produce, canned goods, and a few treats—chips, cookies, and the extras of toilet paper, pet food, stuffing, cereal, toiletries, and juice.. The clients are always grateful, and volunteers have a good time! Please contact **Brian Shelburne** bshelburne@wittenberg.edu **Kelly Zeller** zellerk0611@gmail.com or **Anne Randolph** annejrand@aol.com to volunteer.

The December Pantry dates are listed below. Volunteers are needed to:

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

	Time	December
Food Delivery	8:00 AM	4
Bagging Day	9:00 AM	12
Pantry Day!	8:15 AM	18



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 **Dec. 12**, let **Brian Shelburne**

know. Most groceries should be bagged for distribution by Dec. 18.

On **Pantry Day (Dec. 18)**, 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 and **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!

A Special December Pantry Note

Second Harvest will be closed from December 7th through January 2nd for the installation of new shelving. Christ Church will receive one delivery on **December 4th**, so we will not have fresh produce or dairy items available this month. We will have a limited supply of meat, including pork, small rolls of hamburger, and bags of chicken. Second Harvest is also working on providing canned protein.

Additionally, St. Vincent DePaul will distribute holiday boxes, and Second Harvest will offer inflation boxes containing shelf-stable goods during the first week of December. The Outreach Committee has awarded the Food Pantry \$1,000 to purchase protein for December's pantry.

Our pantry clients have expressed their gratitude for the pet food and toilet paper! This month, we are requesting donations of spices to help for the holidays. Thank you!



CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

The flowers that adorn the church at Christmas are given by parishioners in memory of or in thanksgiving for loved ones. To contribute to the beauty of our Christmas Eve services, please fill out the form below by **December 15th** and put it in the offering plate with a check payable to Christ Episcopal Church.

CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS & THANKSGIVINGS

Donor's Name _____

In memory of _____

In thanksgiving for _____