



Church: It's What's for Dinner!

This summer, we will be trying something a little different: dinner church. As the name implies, it is a worship service – including Communion – which takes place around a dinner table.


There are lots of reasons to consider joining us for dinner church. For some people, the setting – seated around a dinner table, passing the bread, wine (and meal) to each other, reminds them of the first Eucharist, with Jesus and the disciples. Others find that they really enjoy the smaller, more informal gathering, or the chance to chat and get to know people during the service. And for others, the time – 6 PM on a Saturday – just fits their schedules. A number of people had expressed a desire to try a dinner church during our visioning in the fall of 2023 – this summer is the perfect time to try it.

Dinner church became a bit popular in Episcopal circles about a decade ago, in part because of a seemingly successful church plant in Brooklyn, NY, by the Rev. Emily Scott. A Lutheran pastor and trained musician, Emily was able to design her own liturgy, based in part on house church communities she knew from her seminary, which tried to re-create the atmosphere of early Christian house churches. Eventually, it expanded to two service “seatings,” plus a service for families on Sunday mornings known as “Waffle Church.” You can find out more about their program at www.stlydias.org.

Dinner Church at Christ Church will be the same in some ways, but different in others.

On the last Saturday of each month, we will gather in the Guild Room at 6 PM. After some an opening prayer and song, we will light candles to remind us of the Light of Christ, pass consecrated bread and juice, and sit down for a vegan or vegetarian meal. We'll have opportunity for conversation, and maybe to meet someone new. And, as dinner is winding down, we'll take time to read and discuss Scripture together. We'll pray, and everyone will share in the work of cleaning up.

(continued on p. 2)



Sun. 6/1 Worship @ 8 & 10 AM

Thurs. 6/5 Virtual Noonday Prayer Service

Sun. 6/8 **Pentecost Sunday:**
Wear Your Red
Worship @ 8 & 10:00 AM;
Garden Club after coffee hour

Wed. 6/11 PANTRY: food delivery @ 8:30 AM

Thur. 6/12 PANTRY: bagging @ 9 AM; Virtual Noonday Prayer Service; VESTRY @ 6 PM

Sun. 6/15 **FATHER'S DAY.**
Worship @ 8 & 10 AM;
Oakwood Service @ 1 PM

Wed. 6/18 PANTRY DAY @ 8:15 AM

Thurs. 6/19 Juneteenth—Office Closed; Virtual Noonday Prayer Service; Game Night @ 6 PM

Sun. 6/22 Worship @ 8 & 10:00 AM; Garden Club after coffee hour

Thurs. 6/26 Virtual Noonday Prayer Service

Sat. 6/28 Springfield Pride Noon-4 PM; Dinner Church

Sun. 6/29 Worship @ 8 & 10 AM



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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:

Joyce Spangler

Junior Warden:

Dan McGregor

Treasurer:

Ken Bladh

**Program Director and
Parish Administrator:**

Kelly Zeller

Music Director:

Dr. Christopher Durrenberger

Facility Manager:

Paul McAfee

Bookkeeper:

Tina Knox

Nursery Attendant:

Madison Smith



**June 19 for
Juneteenth**

(Dinner Church, con't)

We may not be one big, happy family by the time the service concludes, but at least by breaking bread, talking, praying and working together, we'll know each other a bit better than we did before. This is also an opportunity for those who can't make it to church on Sunday mornings, those who want to try something a little less formal than full service, or anyone looking for an opportunity to build a bit of community, or some dinner companions. It's a great way to invite a friend or neighbor to church, to share a meal.

Dinner church will take place on **Saturday June 28, July 26, and August 23, at 6 PM. If you'd like to know more, please contact Rev. Michelle at mboomgaard@christspringfield.org**



Welcome to the Pews! On Sunday, June 15th, we welcome the choir to the congregation pews for the summer—many thanks to the choir for their dedication and the musical gifts they provide during our worship.

Ministry Schedule

reminder

Please check your ministry schedules regularly in the busy summer months. If you cannot serve, please find a substitute and email Kelly at zellerk0611@gmail.com. It takes all ministers working together to coordinate our worship each Sunday. Thank you for your teamwork!

Congratulations to **Ava Sullivan**, who graduated with a bachelor's in psychology with Cum Laude honors from Xavier University on May 21st. She plans to pursue a Master of Education in School Counseling this fall.





On What We Do Together – Part 1

I think one of the great tragedies of the Protestant Reformation is that we changed the name of what we do on Sunday. Think of it. We went from talking about “going to mass,” or “Communion,” or “Eucharist” – now we talk about “worship services,” or “the service of holy communion.” That’s not just in English, by the way: Dutch Protestant churches advertise the time of the “dienst,” the word for “official,” or “service.” To me, that can make worship sound like a requirement, or drudgery.

What have we lost? “Mass” refers to the entire body of people, worshipping together. While it doesn’t sound pleasant, it does, at least, give a sense of community. The same with “Communion,” which also reminds us that we are in community with God, as well as each other. “Eucharist” is a lovely Greek word, which means “thanksgiving.” Taken together, they remind us that what we do on Sunday, is gather together to give thanks to God.

It reminds me a little of the hymn, “I come with joy to meet my Lord” (H304) – particularly the first and second verse:

“I come with joy to meet my Lord/
forgiven, loved, and free/
in awe and wonder to recall/
his life laid down for me.

I come with Christians far and near/
to find, as all are fed/
a new community of love/
in Christ’s communion bread.”

This isn’t always easy, or appropriate. One of the things we do when we worship as a community is we support those among us who may be grieving, or worried, or tired, or stressed. We should never deny anyone the opportunity to take these things to God.

That said, I wish that we didn’t always use the word “service” for what we do on Sunday mornings. Because, yes, it is service, but it’s something that should often bring joy. There are lots of ways to bring joy to worship – including some that will be happening this month. The first is simply to bring more of yourself in what we do. Whether joining in the petitions during the Prayers of the People or singing during the hymns – immersing yourself in the community at prayer and celebration is a great way to experience the joy.

To take that a step further – consider sharing your gifts and joys with the church. For example, if you have a gift of hospitality, might that extend to serving on the altar guild (which literally “sets the table” for worship each week), greeting people on Sunday mornings, or hosting a coffee hour? If you love children, might you want to help with Children’s Chapel? Sometimes, there is a special joy and satisfaction that comes from seeing your work.

There are also days that are especially joy-filled. This year, we will have baptisms on Pentecost, June 8. This is an opportunity to celebrate two new members who will join our parish (though they have been attending for some time).

And sometimes it’s worth it trying something new to see if there is joy in breaking out of a routine or connecting with people in different ways to share God’s love. There is much that we do to find God together – whether that’s going on walks in nature or showing love to our neighbors during Pride. And a different, more interpersonal worship experience – like our summer Dinner Church experience – might help us see God at work in different spaces, and in different ways.

I’m always looking for new ways for us to find God. What would you like to try? An outdoor worship service? A community hymn sing or other event? Let me know!

Michelle+

Church Staff

- **Rector:** The Rev. Dr. Michelle Boomgaard
- **Senior Warden:** Joyce Spangler
- **Jr. Warden:** Dan McGregor
- **Treasurer:** Ken Bladh
- **Clerk of Vestry:** Kelly Zeller
- **Program Director & Parish Administrator:** Kelly Zeller
- **Music Director:** Dr. Christopher Durrenberger
- **Facility Manager:** Paul McAfee
- **Bookkeeper:** Tina Knox
- **Nursery Attendant:** Madison Smith

Your Vestry at Large

David Bingman, Beth Deger, Rick Everingham, Kay Koeninger, and Marjory Wentworth



Birthdays

Marjory Wentworth	June 3
Rev. Michelle Boomgaard	June 4
Ron Dowling	June 8
Joyce Spangler	June 9
Sally Schwartz	June 10
Judy Johnson	June 16
Bruce Horney	June 21
Barb Kelly	June 25
Steve Hein	June 25
Sharon Wells	June 26
Beth Deger	June 30

Anniversaries

Joy and Trevor Meyers	June 5
Joan and Al Hurley	June 7
Will & Margaret Mattox	June 11
Steve & Denise Sharp	June 16
David & Bonnie Bingman	June 19
Peter & Marjory Wentworth	June 27

Christ Church's Judy Johnson has a website with three blogs! If you have some time, check it out at <https://judyjohnsonwrites.weebly.com/>



Fortepiano

A John Donelson Lyon fortepiano, donated to the Wittenberg Music Department by Nancy Feld in January 2022, is now housed in our Christ Church climate-controlled choir room. This instrument is a modern replica of Mozart's 1780 Anton Walter Viennese fortepiano and has these features, recreating Mozart's instrument in décor, touch, and sound:

- a five-octave range of F-G,
- a single-escapement action,
- knee levers for dampers and moderator,
- natural key ebonies,
- bone-capped sharp/flat keys, and
- a decorative Walter music rack.

Chris's aspiration to is to display its magical period sonic qualities in a future concert series in our beautiful sanctuary.



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

Watch Us on YouTube

- 1) Open the YouTube app on a smart TV.
- 2) Go to "Search." Enter *Christ Church Springfield*. A list will appear at the left of the screen. If you type *Christ Episcopal*, our church will **not** appear on the list.
- 3) Select Christ Church Springfield, about the third one down. That's all there is to it!

African Bible Study

African Bible Study will **not** meet the following Wednesdays: **June 11th, 17th, and 25th**. We will resume our meditative Bible study on Wednesday, July 2nd, at 1 PM. We meet online through Google Meet, and any email address gives one access to the meeting. We hope that people interested in joining us will participate in this empowering group study of scripture. Questions? Email Pat Cary at sisterpcocd2@hotmail.com or Keith Doubt at kdoubt@gmail.com. We will send you the link to join us before the meeting.

Check Out the Virtual Thursday Noonday Prayer Services

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



Revised Common LECTONARY

June				
Date	First Lesson	Psalm	Second Lesson	Gospel
June 1	Acts 16:16-34	97	Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21	John 17:20-26
June 8	Acts 2:1-21	104	No second lesson today	John 14:8-17
June 15	Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31	8	Romans 5:1-5	John 16:12-15
June 22	1 Kings 19:1-4, 8-15a	42 & 43	Galatians 3:23-29	Luke 8:26-39
June 29	2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14	77	Galatians 5:1, 13-25	Luke 9:51-62

Welcome Summer

ONLINE GIVING

- Go to 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.



Why (and How) Do We Do That?

(An occasional column on the symbolism of our liturgy)

Have you ever noticed that there's some music, that seems to NOT be in our hymnal, even though there's a page number listed? Often, the words are written there, too, so some of us stumble along, or try to memorize the tunes. This includes music like the Gloria, which we sing near the start of the service, or the fraction anthem, which comes after the breaking of the bread at the Eucharist.

What's going on?

The pieces in question are part of the body of *Service Music*, which are found in the very front of our hymnals (just after the index, but before hymn 1). In some churches and congregations, the entire service (from opening prayer to final dismissal) is sung. This grounds us in our tradition – in the days before microphones and loudspeakers, singing allowed the service to be heard across a crowded room. A spoken prayer would not carry as far.

Some Episcopal parishes continue this tradition, using old tunes, or in some cases, more recent ones. As the name implies, service music sets the tunes for such sung services.

Most Episcopal parishes don't sing the entire service anymore. However, service music allows the congregation to join in various prayers and sets the tone for the service. For example, during the Easter season, singing the Gloria helps put us in a mood for celebration, whereas during Lent, singing “Lord have mercy upon us” (the trisagion) reminds us of our sorrow and sin.

We tend to cycle through a few familiar pieces of service music throughout the year, and many of us just learn them by heart. But, if you're someone who prefers to see the musical notation (or sing parts), go ahead and turn to the “S” section at the front of the hymnal and follow along!

Vestry

Highlights

Highlights for May, 2025. Vestry Highlights are published after minutes are approved at the following month's meeting. Vestry minutes are posted on the bulletin board in the entryway of the Guild Room.

- The meeting began with a short discussion about Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a German Lutheran pastor, neo-orthodox theologian, anti-Nazi dissident, and a key founding member of the Confessing Church, followed by a reading of the Collect for the day.
- **Treasurer's report:** Ken Bladh sent the Treasurer's report via email. Overall, spending and revenue are balanced as planned. So far this year, we have received 41% of pledged contributions. He discussed the impact of the recent stock market decline on the endowment and suggested the Vestry consider this when prioritizing and scheduling potential capital projects funded from the endowment.
- **Junior Warden's report:** Dan reported that the capital spending needed at Christ Church is almost a million dollars. Hollenbeck needs at least \$55,000 of work. The organ needs \$375,000 worth of work. The Church needs a quarter of a million dollars of tuck-pointing. A discussion on priorities, where the funds would come from, and how the congregation would get involved followed. Dan will research, draw up a plan, and summarize the building's needs.
- **Invite-Welcome-Connect Discussion and next steps:** Rev. Michelle showed the introduction video on Invite-Welcome-Connect based on the book by Mary Foster Parmer. The Vestry would like this to be the guiding principle this year.
- **Hollenbeck House repairs:** David Bingham moved that the necessary repairs to Hollenbeck's house be completed. Rick Everingham seconded. Ken noted that the funds for this project would come from Category 4. The motion carried.
- **ABLE:** Rev. Michelle stated that the Advocates for Basic Legal Equality (ABLE) would like to use our Parish Hall for a legal clinic and occasional "Know Your Rights" presentations. ABLE provides legal advice to people who can't afford it. They would like to use the Parish Hall for the clinics and the East Entrance to sign people in; people without an appointment are not permitted to enter the clinic. Ken moved that ABLE be allowed to use the building once. Dan seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- **Marketing Committee:** Rev. Michelle said we have a church advertisement for Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and Easter in Friday's News Sun. Dan McGregor, Kay Koeninger, and Bonnie Shelburne will invite a few parishioners to join the committee.
- The next Vestry meeting will be held on June 12th at 6 PM in Hollenbeck.

Photos from the New Member Reception, Spring 2025





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

Summer camp

Procter Summer Camp is a ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of Southern Ohio, that creates a place for children, youth, and families to grow in faith, sing, learn, play and pray in the peaceful farmland of London, Ohio. Check out proctercenter.org/camp for more details.



Calling All Gardeners!

Join us at CEC for monthly gardening on May 18th after the 10 AM coffee hour. All members and friends are welcome! Please bring your own tools for weeding, planting, watering and cleaning the parking area. Feel free to contact Linda Gatten Butler (937-408-6295; linda1950@ameritech.net) to confirm your interest or ask any questions.

CEC Gardeners!



All are welcome to join the **We Should Do Something!** group. We meet at different locations once a month to play a variety of board and card games. The next meeting

will be **Thursday, June 19th**, from 6-8 PM. at COhatch/Myers Market, 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@christsspringfield.org.



Please remember to make a name tag prior to each Sunday service in the East Entrance. As the number of guests increases in the summer months, we would like

members of Christ Church to wear nametags to make our guests feel welcome and show our approachability!



As the number of people traveling increases during the summer months, we wish those of you traveling a safe trip and hope the time away serves you well!



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



A big THANK YOU! to all the pantry volunteers! We served 379 clients and 31 new families. Clients were offered a variety of items, including chicken, hamburger, sausage, canned chicken, peanut butter, eggs, cereal, Cheez-it crackers, canned goods, bread, and produce, as well as extras like toilet paper, pet food, cleaning supplies, and toiletries. The clients are always grateful, and volunteers have a good time! To volunteer, contact **Brian Shelburne** bshelburne@wittenberg.edu **Kelly Zeller** zellerk0611@gmail.com or **Anne Randolph** annejrand@aol.com.

IMPORTANT JUNE DATES

The first delivery will be **June 11 at 8:30 AM** Please note that this is the second Wednesday in June, not the first. Everyone is welcome to stay, remove the plastic from the canned goods, and unpack boxes.

Bagging Day will be **June 12th at 9:00 AM**. Groceries are pre-bagged so that filled bags can be placed directly into client's cars on distribution day. If you can commit a block of 3–4 hours on **June 12th**, let **Brian Shelburne** know. Most groceries should be bagged prior to Pantry day on **June 18th**.



The **June Drive-thru Food Pantry** will be on **June 18th**. Volunteers are needed to help unload food, pack food, and help with customer service at approximately 8:15 AM.

Outreach Committee News

The Outreach Committee is delighted to share our progress and partnerships with Clark County nonprofit ministries in 2025. From our \$16,000 budget, we have to date funded seven ministries totaling \$6,425, including a grant to the Greater Springfield Association of Fundraising Professionals.

Greater Springfield Association of Fundraising Professionals' mission is to "empower individuals and organizations to practice ethical fundraising through professional education, networking, research and advocacy." Started in 2017, GSAFP served over 210 fundraising professionals who attended 12 monthly educational seminars in the past year, including the annual diversity training "Fundraising Across Generations" on February 19, 2025, presented by Lilly Family School of Philanthropy. Evaluations were positive and verbal takeaways from all 30 participants were impactful and powerful. One participant shared, "This presentation was valuable, useful and meaningful to target different methods of approaching different generations. I predict that my new knowledge will help me raise more money benefiting our community!"

Outreach is supporting new as well as previously funded nonprofits, and we have an online application on CEC's website. A final report is required prior to future funding. We celebrate our partners, awardees, accountability, and grant process!

If you have interest in joining the Outreach Committee, contact Fred Bartenstein, Linda Butler or other members. Our next ZOOM meeting is July 23rd, 7-8:30 PM.



Springfield Pride Fest

Springfield Pride Fest will be on **Saturday, June 28th** from noon to 4 PM on City Hall Plaza. If you would be willing to serve on a team of folks representing Christ Church at this year's Pride Fest, please contact Rev. Michelle at mboomgaard@christspringfield.org by no later than **June 13th**.