

## **Weekly Church Chat from Christ Episcopal Church, Toms River**

*This email provides events/ deadlines for the upcoming week or so and may not represent all scheduled activities at Christ Church.*

### **September 8, 2017**

**Day of Discernment with the Bishop** - Following the Days of Discernment held this summer, there will be a diocesan-wide follow up discussion to be held at Trinity Cathedral on Sept. 9 (for laity). This discussion will include outcomes and responses from earlier conversations and further discussions on identifying core values and priorities for our diocesan community. Please use the following link for Lay registration: <http://tinyurl.com/yc765pny>

### **Regular Sunday Service Schedule resumes this Sunday at 8AM & 10:15AM**

**Annual Picnic:** We will hold our Annual All Parish Church Picnic on Sunday, **September 10th**, immediately following the 10:15AM service. Food, fun for all ages (pie-eating contest, water balloons & piñatas) and live music. Music: Kenny Jacks All-Star Band with Luis and Anjelica, Frank Johnson on Bagpipes, Lucas Maciel and The Pollys. Hamburgers, hot dogs and iced tea will be provided. Parishioners are asked to bring a salad or dessert to share. BAGS OF ICE WOULD ALOS BE APPRECIATED! As **9/11 is a Day of Service and Remembrance**, we will also have a special collection for non-perishable goods for our Food Pantry. The food collected is used to serve those in need in our immediate community. Boxes will be available outside the picnic area and outside the church entrances to collect your donations. Should you have any questions, please speak with Dan Goss or Melissa Briggs, or email [ChristChurchEvents@yahoo.com](mailto:ChristChurchEvents@yahoo.com).

**Rummage Sale** will be held Thursday, September 14 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and Friday, September 15 from 9:00 a.m. to noon. We will be setting up and pricing on Monday and Tuesday, September 11 and 12 from 9 to 3 and Wednesday, September 13 from 9 to noon. Donations of clothing, knick-knacks, glassware, shoes, handbags, books, jewelry, small furniture, working appliances (NO TVs) can be dropped off Monday and Tuesday, September 11 and 12 from 9 to 3. PLEASE DO NOT DROP OFF ITEMS UNTIL SEPT 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>!

We need volunteers for sorting, pricing on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Need help in setting up tables. And help on Monday morning getting things from downstairs up. If you can help please call Janet at [848-227-5698](tel:848-227-5698) or just come.

**Christ Church LGBT Group:** The next meeting is an ice cream social on 9/15 in the Library. Meetings or social events will be the third Friday each month beginning at 7pm. We are seeking those in our congregation who identify themselves as LGBT. Join us as we plan for future social events. See Helene Phillips or Melissa Briggs for details, call [732-349-5506](tel:732-349-5506) or email [LGBTatChristChurch@yahoo.com](mailto:LGBTatChristChurch@yahoo.com) . See flyer on bulletin board in hallway.

**Celebration Honoring Older Adults:** Parishioners Marion Shabinaw and Tom Meehan have been selected by our Vestry and Clergy to represent Christ Church at this year's celebration honoring those 65 and older who have made a significant contribution to the life and ministry of the parish. The Evensong service will be Saturday, September 30 at 2:00 p.m. at Trinity Cathedral. If you would like to attend, please let the church office know by September 15<sup>th</sup>, as we must register all attendance with the diocese.

**Fall Icon Workshop** The annual icon workshop will be held the following Saturdays: September 16 & 30, October 7 and 21, and the hours are 9-4. We will be painting icons of St. George and the Dragon, or an icon of the Virgin. The cost is \$130, which is the cost of materials. If you have any questions email [suzanne.schleck@comcast.net](mailto:suzanne.schleck@comcast.net).

**Hurricane Harvey** - Five years ago, when our community was devastated by Superstorm Sandy, we benefited from the gracious donations of time and money from churches around the country. Now, the people of Texas are experiencing devastation along their coast due to wind and rains from Hurricane Harvey. Please consider a donation to assist them in their recovery. For the next two Sundays, you can use the regular collection plate for your donation. Please write your check out to 'Christ Episcopal Church' and print "Hurricane Harvey Relief" in the memo line.

**Coffee Hour Hosts needed:** Is one of your gifts hospitality? Please consider becoming a Coffee Hour Host. Volunteers are needed for both the 8AM and 10:15AM Services. Please contact Melissa Briggs at [732-267-6470](tel:732-267-6470).

**ALPHA IS COMING ~ LET'S GET READY!** If you have taken the Alpha Course and would like to help run it at Christ Church this fall, please contact Patti Russo at [patti.russo@aol.com](mailto:patti.russo@aol.com). Helpers for set-up, clean-up, technology, room arrangement, shopping and cooking are needed. You do not have to commit to the entire 10 weeks ~ whatever time you can give is greatly appreciated. Many hands make light work!  
ALPHA SMALL GROUP LEADER-HELPER TRAINING: Monday, September 11 from 7-9 p.m. and on Monday, September 18 at the same time in the Chapel.

**Fundraiser for Our Missionary Charlie Nakash—reserve before September 12.** Tuesday, October 17, 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., head to Doolan's Shore Club at [700 Route 71](http://700Route71.com) in Spring Lake for an Old Time Rock & Roll Review. This is "an American Bandstand Review of your favorite artists and songs of the '50s, '60s & '70s performed by the inimitable Reflections Show Band," along with a great all-star comedian and dancing! Admission is \$62.50 and includes the show, plus one-hour open bar, extra wine hour, and complete luncheon: salad, choice of three entrees, dessert, coffee. Please contact Anna Jackson at 848-480-2271 before September 12 if you are going; admission payment needs to be turned in as soon as possible.

**Raffle books are here!** The Women of Christ Church will begin selling raffle books on the weekend of September 16/17. The books are \$5, and this year's prizes are: a \$250 gift certificate for the Virginia Hotel in Cape May; a \$200 ShopRite gift certificate; and a

\$100 Wawa gift certificate. The drawing will be on November 11, at our 70th Holiday Fair. Thank you for your support.

**Save the Date!** Coffee & Cake Concert, September 24, 3:00p.m. Flyer attached with complete details!

**GOT QUESTIONS?** If you've got questions about the Christian faith, then Alpha's the place for you! Alpha is fun, food, faith and fellowship, and Alpha is for everyone! Every Monday night starting September 25 at 6:30, you can experience a wonderful meal and an informative video~ for free! Get your Registration form at the Alpha display in the Narthex or on the Church website. Additional questions? Just ask anyone wearing an "Ask me about Alpha" sticker or contact Patti Russo at [patti.russo@aol.com](mailto:patti.russo@aol.com).

**Anti-Poverty Meeting at Christ Church** - The Anti-Poverty Network of NJ will hold its General Meeting at Christ Church on Sept. 27 from 10 AM - 12 Noon. The main topic of the meeting will be their new report titled, "*The Uncomfortable Truth: Racism, Inequality, and Poverty in NJ.*" There will also be a speaker from the League of Women Voters. There is no charge for this meeting but you do need to register at <http://www.antipovertynetwork.org/event-2449006>.

**Crafters Needed** We are looking for crafters for the Christmas Fair, whatever you are skilled at (knitting, crocheting, embroidery, or whatever), to donate for the craft table. Thank you. Judy Beck [732-477-8860](tel:732-477-8860); Joann Meehan [732-240-7543](tel:732-240-7543); Marion Shabinaw [732-341-0781](tel:732-341-0781).

**FOOD PANTRY-** This week's most urgent pantry needs are: Cereal, long-life milk, chicken soup, juice, canned fruit (any kind), vegetable oil, sugar, flour, salt, pasta sauce, canned tomatoes. We are also in need of: macaroni and cheese, all other soups (except tomato) and peanut butter. Thank you, as always, for your support!

**PIANO LESSONS:** Are you interested in learning to play piano? Organist Andrew Van Buskirk provides private instruction to children, teens, and adults of any skill level. Contact Andrew for rates and availability via phone [908-783-7890](tel:908-783-7890) or email [andvb01@aol.com](mailto:andvb01@aol.com) , or see him after the 10:15am service for more information.