

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.

November 22, 2017

Thanksgiving Day Service at Christ Church at 9am

The Church Office will be CLOSED on November 23 & 24.

The Food Pantry will be CLOSED on November 24.

Our 10th Patronal Feast Day (the day we celebrate our parish's namesake "Christ"), the **Feast of Christ the King will be celebrated at all services on November 25 & 26.** Through our liturgy, we remember the past traditions of the Episcopal Church.

Saturday at 5pm will be Evening Prayer, Rite I, The Great Litany (a prayer of self-examination and repentance) and Holy Eucharist, Rite II.

Sunday at 8am with Morning Prayer, Rite I, The Great Litany, and Holy Eucharist, Rite I; at 10:15am with Solemn High Celebration of the Holy Eucharist, Rite II (with Incense).

We affirm that Jesus Christ is Lord of our lives and that this is indeed Christ's church.

Stewardship 2018: Thank you to everyone who returned their pledge cards prior to and including this past weekend. It is through your commitment to God and Christ Church that we are able to continue all the work we are called to do inside and outside our walls. If you weren't able to return your pledge card by this past weekend, we ask that you please fill it out and return it within the next two weeks. We need to finalize and balance our 2018 budget by mid-December, and in order to do that we need all the pledges in PRIOR to Dec 5th. Thank you for your prayerful consideration and assistance in this task. We would like to say a special thank you to the members of the Finance Committee and Vestry for their help in making our special coffee hour so enjoyable. Your donations of all the breakfast goodies and raffle prizes made for a wonderful morning of food, fun, and fellowship! God Bless Christ Church! -Ken Kukfa and Joanne Gwin, Stewardship Committee

Preparing for the Coming of Christ: If you are searching for direction in your life, or for answers, or for a sense of God's presence, or a desire to prepare spiritually for Christmas, then this is for you. We are offering opportunities during Advent for you to slow down, take a breath, and focus on Christ in your life through prayer and spiritual practices. It is not a lecture series; it is a "learning and doing" series. Come to any or all of the following. Each stands alone so attendance at all 4 is not required. It will be led by the Rev. Joan Mason.

Wednesday Nov 29th from 7-9pm

Wednesday Dec 6th from 7-9pm

Saturday Dec 9th from 10am-noon

Saturday Dec 16th from 10am-noon

What is a Posada? You are invited by our 12:30 parishioners to come and experience "Las Posadas". This is an important tradition in the Hispanic culture that re-creates the Holy Pilgrimage of Mary and Joseph on their way to Bethlehem and how they were turned away from all of the Inns. The word "posada" means "inn." Plan to come to any and all of the Posadas. There will be prayers, music and

food. You do not need to bring anything or do anything while there. Just enjoy learning about other's traditions.

#1 — Saturday, November 25th at 6:30pm, Where: [122 Hope Chapel Rd. Lakewood](#) (home of Josefina Moreno—[732-534-2718](#))

#2 — Saturday, December 2nd at 6:30pm, Where: [499A Buckingham Dr.](#), Manchester (home of Phyllis Long), **RSVP Required! ([908-814-2906](#))**

#3 — Saturday, December 16th at 6:30pm, Where: [901 Halliard Ave., Beachwood](#) (Francisca, [732-773-1840](#))

#4 — Saturday, December 23rd at 6:30pm, Where: 518 David's Ct., Lakewood (home of Juan & Lorena, [443-993-9306](#) or [732-268-0691](#))

ALPHA CELEBRATION SUPPER ~ Come to the graduation of the current Alpha Course participants on Monday, Dec. 4, 2017 at 6:30 pm.

This is a relaxed evening designed to be a joyous opportunity for you to explore Alpha. Registration is suggested. Contact Patti Russo or the Church Office.

MUSIC HOLIDAY BRUNCH WITH "APRIL & DAVE": The LGBT Group & W.C.C. present a musical Holiday event featuring "[April & Dave](#)" popular Ocean County performers. Come have brunch and enjoy popular tunes, traditional holiday songs and audience requests. Saturday, DEC. 9th -- 12 to 2 P.M. in Disciple's Hall at Christ Church. TICKETS: \$8/adults, \$4/children 12 & under. Brunch included! Questions: contact Helene Phillips or Melissa Briggs ([732-267-6470](#)). Tickets for sale in advance after 10:15am service and at the door. April & Dave perform at several Ocean County venues including Biagio's in Lanoka Harbor

Holiday Giving Tree is up! This Holiday season the Giving tree will have tags for three different needs (IHN Guests and Christmas). Please return tags with the item requested by the date on the tag you choose to the Church Office. Your donations are greatly appreciated as Mother Joan uses them to help provide to those in need this Holiday season.

Nicole Strada,
Parish Administrator
Christ Episcopal Church
Office Hours: M-F, 9am-3pm