

APRIL 2018



**CHRIST CHURCH
CHRONICLE**

Christ Episcopal Church Mission Statement

Christ Episcopal Church a community continually seeking joyful transformation in Christ by:

- Welcoming and Celebrating all
- Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ
- Teaching, baptizing and nurturing new believers
- Responding to human need by loving service
- Seeking to transform unjust structures of society
- Striving to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth

The Rt. Rev. William (Chip) H. Stokes, *Bishop of Diocese of New Jersey*

The Rev. Joan M. Pettit Mason, *Rector*

The Rev. Canon Ramon Ubiera, *Regional Hispanic Missioner*

The Rev. John G. Steed *Parish Chaplain*

Mary Lou Steed, Ph.D., *Parish Chaplain*

The Rev. Walter F. Hartt, *Rector Emeritus*

The Rev. Ted Foley, *Deacon*

The Rev. Jose Cantos, *Deacon*

The Rev. Lewis McCrum (*Ret.*) *Deacon*

Charlie Nakash, *Missionary to Dominican Republic*

Polly Moore, *Music Director*

Andrew Van Buskirk, *Organist*

Claire Koerner, *Bell Choir Director*

Hilda Rivera, *Christian Education Coordinator*

Dick Whicker, *Cantor*

Jane Rendueles, *Financial Assistant*

Nicole Strada, *Parish Administrator*

Linda Hansson, *Treasurer*

Selena Garcia, *Spanish Coalition Secretary*

John Cipolletti, *Sexton*

Joanne Gwin, *Chronicle Editor*

John Berry, *Webmaster*

Terry Ann Schwarz, *Facebook Administrator*

Dan Goss, *Archivist*

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From the Rector

The month of April is entirely in the Easter Season – starting on April 1st with Easter Sunday. If we had to choose one season to be grateful, this is it!! Our theme for 2018 is the Year of Gratitude. We are now 3 months into the year. How are you doing on gratitude? If you would like to cultivate a spirit of gratitude, it actually takes some work. I think it is much easier to complain and find things wrong, and much harder to look for blessings and be thankful. Would you like to be more joyful? Then work on cultivating a grateful heart by paying attention to your everyday thoughts and interactions. Are they generally positive or negative? Do you find that you experience joy on a regular basis? If not, then look more deliberately for your blessings. God gives us a multitude of blessings every day and I miss most of them. Maybe you do too. Any time you find yourself focusing on the negative, find 5 quick things for which you can be grateful and thank God for them. Do not get sucked into the hole of complaining and negativity. Of course, life is not perfect. There are things we wish would be different. It is OK to acknowledge them, but do not forget to find your blessings too. Let's continue to work this year on gratefulness. It does take work, but it is so worth it to have a heart of gratitude. Plus you can set a good example for those around you.

I continue to be grateful for you and this parish.

Blessings and love,
Joan+

PS. Any time you're at church, add something for which you are grateful to the "*Gratitude Bulletin Board*". We also have an online gratitude app. It's through "*WhatsApp*." Download this app, connect with Christ Church's Gratitude link, and then participate by sharing things for which you are grateful today (see instructions elsewhere in this Chronicle).

Build the “Garden of the Repose” and Decorate Church for Easter – Help is needed build the Maundy Thursday “Garden of the Repose” on Thursday, March 29th at 10am (meet at the home of Kelley Bless, and then come to the church). Help is also need to decorate the Church for Easter at 10am on Saturday, March 31st (meet at Church). If you are interested and available, please contact Kelley Bless or the church office.

Lenten Hope Boxes If you took a box home to fill during Lent, please bring your box to Church any time Holy Week and no later than Easter Day. All proceeds will be sent to Episcopal Relief and Development.

Yellow Holocaust Remembrance Candles We burn the yellow candle in our homes to remember the Holocaust. The date of Holocaust remembrance is the evening of April 11th into April 12th. Yellow candles will be available at church the weekend of April 7-8th. We ask for a \$2 donation to offset our costs.

UNITED THANK OFFERING

Sharing Blessings with Thanksgiving and Love.

The mission of the UTO is to expand the circle of thankful people. To achieve this mission, we encourage daily prayers offerings and awareness of the abundance of God’s blessings. Your United Thank Offering supports grants for ministries at home and overseas |as an outreach of the Episcopal Church. Please find your UTO envelope in your box of envelopes (those who do not have boxed envelopes, UTO envelopes will be available at church) and bring to church on April 21st or 22nd.

IHN Guests will be at Christ Church April 15-22, please see sign up board in foyer and consider supporting this great ministry to our community.

Spring Convocation: The Bishop will be at Christ Church on Tuesday April 24th in a convocation gathering (this is all the churches in our area). You are invited to come. You will learn about the status of our Diocese and the hopes and plans of our Bishop. Clergy are invited from 3-5pm. Lay people are invited from 7-9pm.

Would you like to make a set of **ANGLICAN PRAYER BEADS**? The Order of the Daughters of the King will be placing an order for Prayer Bead kits from the Sisters at St. John the Baptist Convent, Mendham, NJ shortly. If you would like to order a kit (or kits) please contact Caroline Saunders at 732-228-9904 or csaunders928@gmail.com **before April 6**. The cost is \$5.00 per kit. Please watch this spot for a Save the Date for an upcoming ANGLICAN PRAYER BEAD Workshop sponsored by The Order of the Daughters of the King.

First Communion

On Sunday April 29th, we will offer First Communion to our children age 6 and older. Although all children in the Episcopal Church may receive communion once they are baptized (and most do), we are responding to requests from parents to acknowledge this important step in their child's spiritual development. On this day at the 10:15 service, these children will sit together in the first pew and will receive communion first that day as we honor them. This includes children who have yet to receive Communion as well as those who have already been receiving Communion. All children are receiving instruction about Communion in their Church School class.

If something happened to you, would we know about it? Do the people who care about you know to notify the church right away in case of your hospitalization, or an accident, or an extended illness, etc? Please give them the church's contact information with clear instructions to contact us right away. We hope to be praying for you during any incidents rather than after the fact. Thank you!!

African Jewelry & Craft Sale

The Women of Christ Church will be selling a variety of African Crafts, including jewelry, sculptures, and scarves made by African artisans after each of the services the weekends of April 28-29 and May 5-6. These unique pieces make wonderful gifts for Mother's Day or any other special occasion. All proceeds go to the African Team Ministries to help the poor and under privilege in East Africa. Come take a look.

WhatsApp Instructions

2018 is the year of gratitude at Christ Church. You are invited to share brief messages of gratitude on line, through the Christ Church Gratitude/Gratitud group on WhatsApp. This is a bilingual group, messages can be in English or Spanish.

How to do it:

- 1.** Download the free App; WhatsApp.
- 2.** Send a text message to Phyllis Long 908-814-2906; "Join Gratitude, your name and mobile phone number".

Watch for more opportunities to share our expressions of thankfulness!

Are You a Homebound Senior Citizen, or know someone who is? Help is Available!

Caregiver Volunteers of Central Jersey (CVCJ) is a non-profit agency committed to enabling the homebound elderly of Ocean County remain living independently in their home. Our faith community of Christ Episcopal Church are Coalition Members of CVCJ and have volunteers available to help you, a senior or an adult child taking care of an elderly family member or friend. There is no charge for the services and there is no income eligibility. The only requirement to receive service is that the loved one needing service is over 60, is no longer driving, and lives in Ocean County or the Monmouth communities of Freehold, Howell or Farmingdale!

What our volunteers can do for you:

- * provide transportation to medical appointments (maximum of one per week, they use their own car)
- * Grocery shopping (they shop for you, once every 2 weeks)
- * call or visit on a regular basis; we also have certified therapy dogs who will visit you!

* relief for caregivers – volunteers stay with your loved one for 2-3 hours each week so the family caregiver can get a break! This respite care is for families caring for loved ones with chronic illness, dementia or Alzheimer's disease. CVCJ will be visiting Christ Church the weekend of April 7-8, 2018. If you are interested in their services or in becoming a volunteer, please visit their table this weekend.

Becker Scholarship Applications

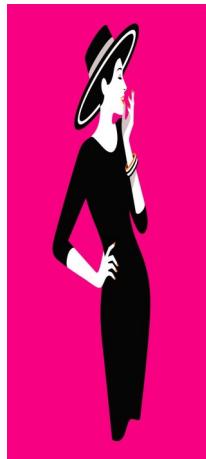
Attention High School Seniors: Applications for the Becker Scholarship are currently available on the bulletin board located across from the chapel. **Completed applications must be submitted by May 7^h.**

If you have any questions, please email
Jessica DeRiggi at
jessderiggi@gmail.com or 732-330-9092



**DRESS AUCTION
&
FUNDRAISER
EVENT**

**Female Models Needed
Sizes 4 -20
Dresses will be provided
Save The Date May 5th
More Details to Follow**



**Interested in being a Model for
the day?
Contact Anna Jackson at
848-480-2271**

**Proceeds will benefit & support
our Mission Endeavors
In the Dominican Republic**

Social Justice Corner

-Deacon Ted Foley-

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People I will with God's help. (BCP p. 305)

At least once a year at Easter, we renew our Baptismal Covenant by answering several questions related to our beliefs and how we commit to living into those beliefs. The last question that the celebrant asks is shown above. Each month we will be bringing a thought provoking article related to this promise.

“the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends towards justice”

In her book, “Searching for Sunday”, author Rachel Held Evans eloquently affirms that we are “resurrection people”. Christians believe in the sure hope of resurrection through the power of God’s love for us. She adds, “We believe in a God who knows his way out of a grave.”

This belief also applies to our hopes and prayers for a just world. In 1958, Dr. Martin Luther King quoted others when he wrote, “*the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice.*” In a small way, we, at Christ Church, have witnessed our own slow movement towards justice. Let us celebrate this movement in this season of Easter.

More than 50 years ago, an assisting priest at Christ Church wanted to honor the memory of his mother and commissioned a painting showing Jesus in the presence of four children – one black, one Asian, one native American, and one white. We believe that he wanted a painting that represented his mother’s love for children of all races. This painting hung on the wall behind our Baptismal font for half a century.

Somewhere along the way, a few parishioners noticed the painting and pointed out that the depiction of the children used images that may be problematic. The Asian and Native American children were more like caricatures in costume. The black child was dressed in clothing that we might associate with a poor sharecropper. Meanwhile, the

white girl was the largest of the four and was dressed in a pretty white dress and 'party shoes'. The disparity in the children was clear.

Several years ago, this disparity was pointed out to the Christ Church parish leadership. Unfortunately, they refused to take down the painting. The parish was working through other issues. It wasn't the right time. They didn't want to stir up more trouble.

When the painting was noticed again a few years ago, it raised some concern. We asked ourselves, "If a person of color visited our parish and notice the painting, how might they feel?" We sent a picture of the painting to several people of color from around the diocese to ask their view. Their reaction was clear. The painting needed to come down. Some people in the parish were upset. Metaphorically, some may have felt like Jesus was returning to the grave.

However, we are a resurrection people. Christ Church is blessed to have Suzanne Schleck among its members. Suzanne is an experienced iconographer and teaches this craft to others. Suzanne is also a generous woman who decided to create a new icon that still expressed Jesus' love for all children without the problematic images. This was a long process but, last year, Suzanne finished this new icon and presented it as a gift to Christ Church. It now hangs behind the Baptismal font in the same location as the previous painting.

On April 1, we celebrate Easter and Christ's resurrection from the tomb. In a small way we saw a resurrection happen in our own church. Thank you, Suzanne. Happy Easter, Christ is Risen! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Anti Racism Training is planned for May 17-19th. Please watch the Bulletin and Church Chat for information.

The Women of Christ Church

Mother's Day Tribute

MAY 13TH 2018

ANNOUNCEMENT

The WCC is planning a Mother's Day Tribute for May 8th, with a special bulletin with the names of any Mother, Grandmother, Step-Mother, Step-Grandmother, God-Mother, or Special woman you would like to memorialize or honor on this day.

Your gift of five dollars (\$5.00) per name will be used as support for the programs and projects of Christ Church . A table will be outside Disciple's Hall at each Saturday & Sunday Service April 15th thru May 6th.

The Deadline is Monday May 7th, 2018.

You may also send a check made payable to "W.C.C.", addressed to Christ Episcopal Church , 415 Washington Street, Toms River, NJ 08753 ATTN: Mother's Day Tribute or place in the Office Staff Box in the hallway.

Thank You for Your Support

The Women of Christ Church

Mother 's Day Tribute

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS is Monday May 7, 2018

Please include the following names in the 2018 Mother's Day Tribute.
A donation of five (\$5.00) dollars per name is included.
You may attach additional sheets as required.

My gift is given in Memory of :

*(Please list all **deceased names**, print **First & Last Name** as you wish it to appear in the bulletin).*

Title /First Name	Last Name

My gift is given in Honor of :

*(Please list all **names**, print **First & Last Name** as you wish it to appear in the bulletin).*

Title /First Name	Last Name

Total Number of Names Requested _____ X \$5.00 each

Total Donation \$5.00 Per Name \$ _____

Given by: _____

Telephone Number _____

Please make Checks payable to W.C.C.

Holy Week & Easter 2018

Palm Sunday Vigil — Saturday March 24th

5:00 PM Holy Eucharist Rite II

Palm Sunday — Sunday March 25th

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I

10:15 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II (with Choir)

10:15AM Church School children and families participate in procession followed by Class Time and Egg Hunt-all are welcome

Monday in Holy Week — March 26th

7:30 PM Evensong (with Choir)

Tuesday in Holy Week — March 27th

7:30 PM Stations of the Cross

Wednesday in Holy Week — March 28th

10:00 AM Holy Eucharist Healing Service

7:30 PM Tenebrae (bring small flashlight)

Maundy Thursday — March 29th

7:30 PM Maundy Thursday Liturgy
(and Stripping of the Altar)

7:30 PM Misa de Jueves Santo (Capilla/Chapel)

Good Friday — March 30th

7:00 AM Good Friday Liturgy

10:00 AM Good Friday Liturgy

7:30 PM Good Friday Liturgy (with Choir)

7:30 PM Misa de Viernes Santo en Español (Capilla/Chapel)

Holy Saturday — March 31st

9:00 AM Holy Saturday Liturgy *followed by optional confession*

10:00 AM — 3:00 PM Retiro Cuaresmal en Español

Easter Vigil — Saturday March 31st

6:30 PM Santa Eucaristia

7:30 PM The Great Vigil of Easter (with Incense)

Please remember to bring a noisemaker (bells, whistles, chimes etc.)

Easter Day — Sunday April 1st

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I (with Organ)

10:15 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II (with Choir & Special Music)

Children release The “Alleluia”

12:30 PM Santa Misa de Pascua

Invite someone to come with you to Holy Week and Easter Worship

Birthday Club News



Wishing a very Happy Birthday to our winter Birthday Club members! We are gaining new members each month! The members for the month of March are:

Wendy Franczak
Joanne Gwin
Steve Gwin
Eleanor Wilson

The total contributions were: \$274.00

Everyone is invited to join the Birthday Club. You can become a member of the club on your birthday by writing a check in the amount of your age to Christ Church and it will be deposited into the Endowment Fund. The Endowment Fund is invested with the Diocese.

As we begin a new year, everyone has the opportunity to celebrate your birthday and be recognized as a member of the Birthday Club! All you need to do is write a check in the amount of your age, and mark the memo section Birthday Club for the month you were born and then put the check in the offering plate, mail it, or drop it off to Jane's mailbox.

So we can all watch our gifts grow, we will update you on a monthly basis on what we have received.

We look forward to celebrating each of your birthdays.



IMPORTANT CHRIST CHURCH INFORMATION

Rushed to the ER? Please arrange in advance with a significant person in your life --- Should you ever be taken to the hospital, they need to contact Christ Church as soon as possible. There is no other way for us to know you are in the hospital.

Home Communion: If you are a shut in and cannot get to church, please call the church office so that Holy Communion can be brought to you.

Are You Interested in Baptism? Or do you know someone who is not baptized? Please contact the Office for the paperwork.



SPRING WORK DAY AT CHRIST CHURCH!!
APRIL 28, 2018
10AM – 2PM (RAIN DATE MAY 5TH)

We are blessed with 11 acres of land that show us the beauty of God's creation in every season. But, to be good stewards of this gift, we need to show it some love! Can you give an hour or two of your time to help with some of the clean-up needed after a long winter? See the sign-up sheet on the name tag table for more information. And yes! There will be coffee!! – and other light refreshments. All are welcome, and your help is appreciated. Questions? Suggestions? Please see Judy Beck (732-477-8860) or Cheryl Chapman (908-670-6225)

Spring 2018 Rummage Sale

Christ Church, Toms River

Sponsored by the

Women of Christ Church (WCC)

May 17th (9am—3pm)

& 18th (9am – 12pm)

We need good CLEAN, gently worn clothing and household items in GOOD CONDITION and in WORKING ORDER as well as toys and attic treasures. Start your Spring cleaning and unearth these items you no longer use. Please NO TV's.

PLEASE DO NOT
BRING DONATED ITEMS UNTIL
MAY 14th & 15th (9am – 3pm)
and 16th (9am – 12pm)

We need both male and female help.
Please save brown grocery paper bags for the sale!

**Only with your help and rummage can we have
another successful Rummage Sale!**

All proceeds raised from the Rummage Sale
will be used by WCC to support the various
projects and ministries of Christ Church.



APRIL BIRTHDAYS



HAPPY BIRTHDAY to members with birthdays this month!

Apr 1 st – Pam Quatse	Apr 16 th – Donna Perry
Apr 3 rd - David Newman	Apr 17 th – Corey Flohs
Apr 2 nd – Jenna Schilling	Apr 17 th – John Halleran
Apr 5 th – Elizabeth Lane	Apr 17 th – Colleen Jowett
Apr 5 th – Emily Siciliano	Apr 17 th – Monica Mogil
Apr 6 th – Judy Beck	Apr 17 th – James Wolfer
Apr 6 th - Sophia Estevez	Apr 18 th - Kamsi Amaechina
Apr 7 th – Janet Crane	Apr 18 th – Caitlyn Berry
Apr 7 th - Kate Wienke	Apr 18 th – Elizabeth Kartikis
Apr 7 th – Maude Voigt	Apr 19 th – Irene Bauman
Apr 8 th – Susan Adams	Apr 19 th – Rachel Fulmer
Apr 8 th – Anne Bingmann	Apr 20 th - Samantha Belfiore
Apr 8 th – Andrea Pizzulo	Apr 20 th – Lorraine Buss
Apr 9 th - Declan Sennick	Apr 20 th - Susan Dell
Apr 10 th – Briella Bruckner	Apr 20 th – Nikki Vernachio
Apr 10 th – Thomas Farrell	Apr 21 st - Nnaemeka Amaechina
Apr 11 th – Karen Kunz	Apr 22 nd – Nancy Borsuk
Apr 11 th - John (Jeb) Wofford	Apr 24 th - John Picard
Apr 12 th – Danna McCann	Apr 25 th – Doris Arzt
Apr 13 th – Tom Chant	Apr 25 th - MJ Eisert
Apr 13 th – Eileen Smithies	Apr 26 th - David Jones
Apr 14 th - Carol Bell	Apr 27 th - Lyric Montelbano
Apr 15 th – Sharon Ferraro	Apr 28 th - Anita Lackey
Apr 16 th - Katie Kern	Apr 29 th – Barbara Powell
Apr 16 th – Dakota Oesvkoic	

Birthday Prayer

Watch over thy children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their heart may thy peace which passeth understanding abide all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen





APRIL ANNIVERSARIES



Happy Anniversary and best wishes to these couples for many blessed years together!

April 8th - Remsen and Hillary Meyer
Happy 13th Anniversary (2005)

April 12th - George and Terry Ann Schwarz
Happy 3rd Anniversary (2015)

April 18th – Joseph and Allison Bryk
Happy 20th Anniversary (1998)

April 20th – John and Kathy Boland
Happy 27th Anniversary (1991)

April 25th - Kenneth Malagiere & Jonathan Petro
Happy 4th Ann. (2014)

April 27th – Will and Kate Wiencke
Happy 5th Anniversary (2013)

April 28th – Jeff and Joan Mason
Happy 6th Anniversary (2012)

Anniversary Prayer

O Gracious and ever-living God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and His church. Send your blessings upon these people as they celebrate their anniversary. Grant them grace to love, honor and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their lives together may be a witness to your love and forgiveness, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.





CHRIST CHURCH CALENDAR



APRIL CALENDAR:

- 1 – Easter Day
- 1 – NO Café
- 2 – Church Office Closed
- 8 – Daughters of the King (DOK) Meeting
- 12 – Holocaust Remembrance Day
- 14 – Order of St. Luke (OSL)
- 15 – IHN Guests Arrive
- 18 – WCC Meeting
- 20 – LGBT Event
- 22 – United Thank Offering (UTO) Weekend
- 24 – Mystery Book Club
- 28 – Spring Work Day
- 29 – Holy First Communion
- 29 -- African Jewelry Sales

MAY CALENDAR:

- 5 – Fashion Show/Dress Auction Fundraiser
- 6 – African Jewelry Sales
- 6 – Café
- 10 – Ascension Day
- 12 – Order of St. Luke (OSL)
- 13 – Mother's Day
- 17&18 – Rummage Sale
- 18 – LGBT Event

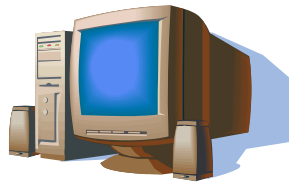




Directory Changes



If you have a change of address, phone number and/or email, please contact the church office so we may update the directory.



**Christ Episcopal Church
415 Washington Street
Toms River, NJ 08753-6742**

Address Label here