

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

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

### **March 21, 2019**

**Next Sunday! March 31 Congregational Conversation Meeting:** All parishioners should have received an email from the Discernment Committee on 3/12 informing you of this important meeting (hard copies were mailed to parishioners who do not use email). Rhonda Jackson, our Transition Consultant for the Diocese of New Jersey, will lead us in organized group discussions that will enable every voice in the congregation to be heard as we develop our Office of Transition Ministry Community Profile. **This is your opportunity to contribute ideas.** Holy Eucharist Service on this date only will begin at **9:30 a.m.** (not 9:45). The meeting will start at approximately 10:30 a.m., directly after the service and conclude before the 12:00 p.m. Santa Misa. Children are welcomed to attend and light refreshments will be served. Please consider attending this important meeting.

**Membership Dues for the Women of Christ Church (WCC)** -March is membership month for the Women of Christ Church (WCC). All women of Christ Church are eligible to be a member. Membership dues are \$5.00. See one of our members after each weekend service during the month of March. We do many fundraisers/activities during the year to support Christ Church and its outreach ministries. Ask us where you can help. Thank you. Jane Rendueles, Membership Chairperson

**The Memory Cloth Altar Hanging** has been created over the years by cross stitching names of parishioners on the Memory Cloths. We are continuing this tradition. The Memory Cloth will be used as an Altar Hanging on Mother's Day. If you would like any names added, please complete the form at the WCC table during the month of March and submit \$5 per name (checks payable to Christ Church memo "Memory Cloth"). This project is by the Women of Christ Church (WCC).

## **LENT 2019**

**Lenten Meditation Books** are in the Track Rack!

**Stations of the Cross** is every Tuesday at 7pm. These are depictions for the 14 incidents in the Gospel accounts of Jesus' death from Pilate's house to being placed in the tomb. They are used for the service called Stations of the Cross, which visits each station in turn with a brief reading and response. This 30-minute service is offered every Tuesday evening in Lent. Please join us.

**Lenten Soup Suppers** are each Wednesday through April 10th. SIGN UP AT NAME TAG TABLE. Soup & Bread Supper is from 6:00-6:45pm. Volunteers are needed to bring soup or bread for these dates. Sign-up sheet will be located on the Name Tag table or contact Gary Sedore at 732-600-7083 or [kmgs5251@comcast.net](mailto:kmgs5251@comcast.net)

**Lenten Program:** *Wrestling with Complex Issues – How Is God Calling Us?* This year our Lent program will be using stories, bible study, discussion, and prayer to help each of us discern what God is telling us. While the focus of the program will be about immigration, we hope that we will also develop tools for how to approach other complex issues as people of God. Importantly, this program is not meant to push any one political agenda. For example, the first bible study presents two seemingly conflicting verses from scripture and we are asked to discern over these scriptures. The program has been designed to provide people with the opportunity to listen for God's voice and guidance in the midst of this very complex issue.

Please join us and come together as a community of faith listening for God's call to us. Our first gathering will be March 13th in Disciples Hall at 6:30pm. *Also, we realize that everyone is not able to attend on Wednesday evenings. Therefore, the same program will also be offered at 11:30am on Sunday mornings beginning March 10 in downstairs classroom #3.)*

**The Order of St. Luke** will be hosting a Healing Mission “The Power of Resurrection” on Saturday, May 4 from 8:30am—3pm here at Christ Church. Our speaker is The Rev. Mother JoEllen Werthman, with music by “Celebrate”. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. The cost is \$10 per person. Blue registration forms are available on the Name Tag Table and in the Chapel. Any questions, please contact Donna Perry at 732-349-2705 or [johntheforester@comcast.net](mailto:johntheforester@comcast.net)

**YES! We are having a Spring Rummage Sale!** The Sale will be on May 16 & 17. Set up and sorting of items for the Sale will begin on May 13. Donations will be collected on May 13 & 14. If you are available to volunteer some time any of the above days, please contact Judy Beck by phone 732-477-8860 or email [judybeck20@yahoo.com](mailto:judybeck20@yahoo.com) or Nicole in the Church Office. Your volunteer support is appreciated once again this Spring.

**An Outdoor Church Yard Sale** is being considered for Friday, May 17. If you are interested in renting an outdoor space to sell your items, please email Melissa Briggs for details [christchurchevents@yahoo.com](mailto:christchurchevents@yahoo.com)

**Food Pantry:** Thank you for your response this week. We are now in need of: sugar, soups (other than tomato), canned chicken, long-life milk, rice (not instant), canned fruits, pasta meals