



2025-2026

PROGRAM GUIDE





ENTERING IN . . .



Bringing God and people together
to know and live the good news of
Jesus Christ!

. . . THE WATERS OF LIFE

The new year is up on us!

And with it comes all of the excitement that our life together brings – new friendships, new classes and concerts, old friendships and rooted traditions.

I am particularly excited to share this year's program guide with all the offerings that make our life and ministry together so full and meaningful. In the pages that follow you'll find concerts and classes, service opportunities and worship services to enrich your life in faith and deepen your care and love for your neighbor.

So I encourage you to take a little time and read through the opportunities ahead. Even more, I encourage you to circle a few and set them on your calendar – as your commitment to grow in Christ!

I look forward to growing in faith and love with you!



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MEMBERSHIP

CONTACT: The Rev'd Maureen Martin, *Associate for Parish Life and Community Engagement*
313.885.4841 ext 116 | mmartin@christchurchgp.org

WELCOME FRIENDS!

We hope you'll consider making Christ Church your spiritual home. "Membership," in the formal sense, is not required to participate in the common life of Christ Church. Friends and members come together every week for worship and prayer, friendship and care, learning and service. If you are interested in participating in our common life, come! Join us any given Sunday as we offer our thanksgiving to God for all that is good in our lives and the world, and offer to God our prayers and petitions – for ourselves, for those whom we love, and for the world! Or join us for dinner and formation on Thursdays or a concert this fall or spring.

Simply remember this – our doors are open for all to come and experience the grace and hope of life in Christ.

MEMBERSHIP AT CHRIST CHURCH

While membership is not required to participate in the spiritual life and community of Christ Church, the Christ Church community is upheld and enlivened by the deep and lasting bonds among her members. Similarly, the richness of the Christian journey is found in the common journey of faith we share with one another throughout our lives. Therefore, we invite and encourage everyone who finds spiritual refreshment at Christ Church to become active and engaged members of the Christ Church community.

Baptism is the foundation of this community. In Baptism we are revealed to be God's children and proclaimed members of the Household of God. In baptism, we begin our journey to grow and mature in Christ.

Membership in a *particular* Christian community, commonly a "Church," is an invaluable aid in the journey of Christian life. Together we commit to living as Christ's disciples and friends, and only together can we fully understand and reveal the breadth of God's love and gifts to the world.

As members of Christ Church, we commit to this journey of discipleship and faith together. Active members of Christ Church commit to a pattern of regular corporate worship (that is, worship together) to praise God, to on-going study to shape our faith and life, and to working, praying, and giving for the spread of God's kingdom.

We encourage you to join us, to dive into the life of faith, and to experience the richness of life together in Christ.

MEMBERSHIP

BECOME A MEMBER

ADULT BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION

The foundation of membership in any Episcopal Church is an individual's baptism. In the Episcopal tradition we recognize the baptism of Christians through all other Christian denominations, from Roman Catholic to Russian Orthodox to Presbyterian and Baptist.

Adults who wish to explore baptism or to re-commit their lives to Christ should contact Mtr. Maureen Martin at mmartin@christchurchgp.org.

TRANSFER OF MEMBERSHIP

All baptized Christians who wish to join Christ Church as members need simply provide written confirmation of baptism (via letter or signed certificate) from another Christian church. Don't fret if, over the years, these family records have been misplaced! With a little research our office is often able to help families track down a record of baptism. Even when all else fails, a declaration of one's baptism may serve as record enough. If you are a baptized member of another church and wish to transfer your membership to Christ Church, please contact the Rector's office (rectoroffice@christchurchgp.org) to inquire about transferring your membership.

INFANT AND CHILD BAPTISM

Infants through children in the 6th grade may be baptized at any one of our five Baptism services throughout the year. Infant and child baptisms celebrate the great mystery of God's love for each of us, and charges the child's Godparents and the community of Christ Church as a whole with the responsibility of helping your child grow into the full stature of Christ. Please contact the Rector's office (rectoroffice@christchurchgp.org) to inquire about having your child baptized!

YOUTH CONFIRMATION

Our confirmation preparation program is offered every other year. The next class will begin in September 2025. Youth in grade 9 and above are invited and encouraged to explore the depth of their baptism as part of the Confirmation Program in order that they may make a mature, public affirmation of faith. Customarily, this affirmation is made in the presence of the Bishop who, through the laying on of hands, confirms them in faith. Preparation for Confirmation for our youth is offered through the Confirmation Class. Please see the section on Children, Youth, and Families for more information about the Confirmation class.

NEWCOMERS

INQUIRER'S JOURNEY RETREAT

November 2, 9 am – 12 pm

May 22, 6:30 – 8:30 pm and May 23, 9 am – 12 pm

Are you new to Christ Church and interested in deepening your relationship with our community? Are you interested in having a child baptized? Perhaps you are interested in being a sponsor to a Baptism or Confirmation Candidate? The purpose of these retreats is to help you discover where the church fits into your spiritual journey, and why Christ Church Grosse Pointe is a place you can call home. This experience is required for new members and baptism families. Bring your questions and join the conversation. Dinner is provided on Friday.

An illustration featuring a variety of cute animals. In the center is a large brown dog with large ears. To its left is a smaller brown and white dog, and to its right is a white dog. In the foreground, there are several cats: a white cat, a pug, an orange tabby, and a grey tabby. The background is a teal color with a pattern of small white dots. The animals are positioned above a dark blue banner with a scalloped top edge.

**Blessing of the
Animals**

**Sunday
October 5, 9 am**

Bring Your Pets to Church!

WORSHIP

Contact The Rev'd Drew Van Culin, *Rector*
313.885.4842 | rectoroffice@christchurchp.org
Mr. Scott Hanoian, *Associate for Worship and Liturgy*
313.885.4841, ext 102 | shanoian@christchurchgp.org

PRAYER AND WORSHIP AT CHRIST CHURCH

The worship of God lies at the center of all that we do at Christ Church and forms the foundation of our Christian community. Saint Matthew, in fact, reminds us that, before setting out to fulfill the great commission, the first act of the disciples was worship itself.

Each week, each day even, we gather in prayer to offer our gratitude to God from whom all life proceeds. And it is from this great well of gratitude that our lives and ministries – our hospitality and fellowship, our service to the poor within our community, and our formation as Christians – collectively flow.

As a parish within the Anglican Communion and the Episcopal Church, our worship is grounded in the rich liturgical heritage of *The Book of Common Prayer*, expressing a worship tradition rooted in two thousand years of Christian practice. Whether we gather for a formal Choral Eucharist sung by one of our liturgical choirs or the simple daily recitation of Morning or Evening Prayer in Saint Margaret's Chapel, the rhythm of daily worship underpins our life. We invite you to worship with us and experience what makes us who we are.

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

It is our great joy to include children in our worship of God and we encourage our children join us at any service, just as they are. At our family service (9 am on Sunday mornings) children gather at the font during the Hymn of Praise for a blessing followed by Children's Chapel. During the celebration of the Holy Eucharist our children are invited to gather in the Chancel in order to better experience the celebration. During the service older children are invited to serve as Acolytes and Readers, or in one of our liturgical choirs.

If you prefer, child care is available on Sunday morning and during Evensong. Located on the 1st floor of the Education Wing, we offer a safe and inviting space for our youngest members. The trained staff is always eager to receive our children and to provide them engaging and loving care.

WORSHIP

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAY SERVICES

Services are held in the Church Nave

- 8 am Holy Eucharist (said)
9 am Holy Eucharist and Family Service (sung with Choir)
Children's Chapel is offered during the 9 am service
11:15 am Choral Eucharist (sung with Choir) (Sundays in Advent and Eastertide)
4 pm Choral Evensong (select Sundays, sung with Choir)

See page 10 for Special Services held throughout the year

WEEKDAY SERVICES

- 8:30 am Morning Prayer, Zoom (find the link on christchurchgp.org)
Monday – Friday
5 pm Evening Prayer, Saint Margaret's Chapel
Tuesday – Thursday
5:30 pm Holy Eucharist, The Nave
Thursdays
-

CHRISTMAS AT CHRIST CHURCH

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

*Sunday, December 21, 2025 | 4:30 pm (Pre-service organ recital at 4 pm.
Doors open at 3:45 pm.)*

CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY SERVICE WITH CRÈCHE PROCESSION

Wednesday, December 24, 2025 | 4 pm

CHRISTMAS EVE FESTIVAL EUCHARIST WITH ALUMNI CHOIR

Wednesday December 24, 2025 | 8 pm

CHRISTMAS EVE FESTIVAL EUCHARIST WITH CHOIR (INCENSE IS USED)

Wednesday, December 24, 2025 | 11 pm (Choral prelude begins at 10:30 pm)

CHRISTMAS DAY FESTIVAL EUCHARIST WITH CHOIR

Thursday, December 25, 2025 | 10 am

HOLY WEEK AND EASTERTIDE AT CHRIST CHURCH

PALM SUNDAY

Sunday, March 29 | 8 and 9 am

HOLY MONDAY AND TUESDAY

Monday and Tuesday, March 30 and 31 | 7 pm

HOLY WEDNESDAY: TENEBRAE

Wednesday, April 1 | 7 pm

MAUNDY THURSDAY WITH STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR (INCENSE IS USED)

Thursday, April 2 | 7 pm (The All Night Watch follows the service)

GOOD FRIDAY

Friday, April 3 | Noon and 7 pm

EASTER EVE: THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER (INCENSE IS USED)

Saturday, April 4 | 7 pm

EASTER DAY: THE FEAST OF THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

Sunday, April 5 | 7 am, 9 am (with Brass), 11:15 am (with Brass and incense)

EASTER LESSONS AND CAROLS

Sunday, April 19 | 4 pm

THE FEAST OF THE ASCENSION

Thursday, May 14 | 7 pm

THE FEAST OF PENTECOST

Sunday, May 24 | 8 and 10 am



WORSHIP

SPECIAL SERVICES:

ALL SOULS' REQUIEM (INCENSE IS USED)

Sunday, November 2 | 4 pm

A service in remembrance of all those whom we love now absent from us (featuring Maurice Duruflé's *Requiem*).

EVENSONG

Sundays, September 21 | October 12 | March 1 | May 17 | 4 pm

The service of Evensong is drawn almost entirely from the Bible: Psalms, lessons from the Old and New Testaments, and Canticles (songs of praise from the Scriptures). Music is an integral part of this service, and the choirs offer sung prayers to God on behalf of the people of God. A reception follows in the lobby.

ADVENT PROCESSION

Sunday, November 30 | 4 pm

A service of readings and music celebrating the Advent of Our Lord.

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

Sunday, December 21 | 4:30 pm (please note time)

Doors open at 3:45 pm

Pre-service organ recital at 4 pm

A service of lessons and music celebrating the Nativity of Our Lord.

EPIPHANY PROCESSION

Sunday, January 11 | 4 pm

A service of readings and music celebrating the Manifestation of God in the form of Jesus Christ.

CANDLEMAS

Sunday, February 1 | 4 pm

A Candlemas procession followed by a Solemn Holy Eucharist celebrating the Presentation of Jesus Christ in the Temple.

EASTER LESSONS AND CAROLS

Sunday, April 19 | 4 pm

A service of readings and music celebrating the Resurrection of Our Lord.

FEAST OF THE ASCENSION

Thursday, May 14 | 7 pm

Solemn Holy Eucharist celebrating the ascension of Jesus to heaven.

WORSHIP MINISTRIES

ACOLYTES & VERGERS

Serving as an Acolyte is both an honor and service to God, enhancing the congregation's worship services. Acolytes at Christ Church begin their training and service any time after entering the second grade. Being involved in the Ministry of Acolytes gives participants an opportunity to participate in worship services, to connect with one another, and to experience a stronger sense of service to God and the church. Vergers assist the priest and lead the acolytes for the assigned service.

ALTAR GUILD

The Altar Guild helps to prepare for services by setting out, cleaning and storing the appropriate linens and vessels, wine, water, and wafers.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Eucharistic Ministers are confirmed parishioners who assist with the administration of Holy Communion.

FLOWER GUILD

The Flower Guild is responsible for all flowers in worship, arranging altar flowers for services, and providing flowers for delivery to parishioners as part of an outreach ministry.

USHERS AND GREETERS

Whether welcoming visitors at our doors or providing direction and assistance during services, our greeters and ushers extend the hospitality of Christ Church to all who come.

LAY READERS

Lay Readers read the lessons and/or the Prayers of the People during services. Readers read approximately once every 2 – 3 months. All readers from upper elementary age are welcome to participate. Training is offered.

BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS & FUNERALS

BAPTISMS

The festive celebration of Holy Baptism is among the most joyful occasions for the entire Church, proclaiming God's grace and love for all people, welcoming new members into the Body of Christ, and committing her members, through the vows we take, to live our faith in the world. Offered to church members of all ages, Holy Baptism is administered within the Eucharist as the chief service on Sunday, customarily on All Saints' Day (or the Sunday prior), the Feast of the Baptism of our Lord, at the Easter Vigil, on the Day of Pentecost, and the Feast of the Transfiguration (or the Sunday following). All baptismal candidates and their sponsors are required to participate in the Inquirers Journey Retreat which is held twice a year (see page 6). Parents who wish to baptize children should be active participants of this, or another Episcopal congregation, in order to carry out the commitments made in baptism.

UPCOMING BAPTISM DATES

All Saints Sunday, November 2 | 9 am [Rehearsal: November 1 | 9 am]

The Baptism of our Lord, January 11 | 9 am [Rehearsal: January 10 | 9 am]

The Great Vigil of Easter, April 4 | 7 pm [Rehearsal: March 28 | 9 am]

The Feast of Pentecost, May 24 | 10 am [Rehearsal: May 23 | 9 am]

The Feast of the Transfiguration August 2, 10 am [Rehearsal: August 1 | 9 am]

WEDDINGS

With the exchange of vows a couple begins a sacred journey, exploring the depth of human love as both the giver and the recipient. To help a couple make a joyful and meaningful beginning to their marriage, the Christ Church clergy, staff, and volunteers work as a team to assist couples and their families to ensure the joyful day. There is also a helpful presence provided by Christ Church Wedding Coordinators to assist with all the details of wedding preparation and to support a seamless ceremony. Please contact the Rector's Office (rectoroffice@christchurchp.org) for more information regarding Weddings at Christ Church.

FUNERALS

Clergy, support staff, and funeral ministry volunteers are here to assist families following the death of a loved one. A member of the Christ Church clergy will assist with the preparation of and officiate at funerals held here at Christ Church, while the funeral ministry team is available to greet and serve families and guests, and provide a simple reception for those who attend funeral services.

In the event of a pastoral emergency, please phone the Church office at 313-885-4841 – following the prompts to reach the priest-on-call after hours.

Similarly, in the event of a death or to discuss a funeral at Christ Church, please contact the Rector's Office at 313-885-4842 or rectoroffice@christchurchp.org.

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

Contact Ms. Lisa Brown, *Associate for Children, Youth and Family Ministries*
313.885.4841 ext 104 | lbrown@christchurchgp.org

CHILDREN AT CHRIST CHURCH

Christ Church is a place where children are loved and valued, and we strive to provide fertile ground for our children to grow spiritually, physically, mentally, and socially. Here at Christ Church we strive to create and develop an inclusive, intentional and fun community that helps families grow closer with God and one another.

Every Sunday from September through May, we offer regular faith formation classes and activities for children and youth grades PK3 – 12. Our dedicated staff and volunteers work together to lead our children through age-appropriate lessons, crafts, and interactive discussions as they explore a new theme each week.

On any given week, you will see youth singing in the choir, acolyting, doing readings, assisting with Children's Chapel, and much more! Christ Church strives to offer something for everyone. We believe that fostering the spiritual development of our children is just as important as fostering their physical and mental development. In everything we do, we seek to honor their unique experience of God, and give them the tools they need to explore the possibilities of faith in their own lives. Children's Formation classes are for children age PK3 – Grade 12.

We meet on the second floor of the Education Wing on Sundays from 10:15 – 11:15 am.

CARING FOR OUR CHILDREN AND PARENTS

CHRIST CHURCH CHILD CARE

Sundays, 8:30 – 11:30 am; 3:30 – 5:15 pm (during Evensong)

Thursdays, 5:15 – 8:15 pm

Child care is often your child's earliest experience of church and our goal at Christ Church is to make this experience as nurturing as possible. During your child's first years, they will learn that church is a safe and happy place where they are loved and their needs are met.

Our child care space is a cheerful, safe and welcoming environment for our very youngest members and those who need special support. Staffed by trained caregivers, we are committed to providing a safe, pleasant, and clean environment for our children. Time spent in child care is a worthwhile opportunity to learn about our christian tradition through creative play, sharing, stories, and a whole lot of fun.

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

LISTENING FOR GOD

Faith Formation for children PreK – Grade 12 on Sundays & Thursdays

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

PreK3 – Grade 4

Sundays | 9 am

During our regular Sunday Eucharist, children are invited to a special age appropriate liturgy of the word in our Children's Chapel. Following the Collect, children are invited to follow the Children's cross to be escorted by chapel volunteers and youth shepherds to the Education Wing for Children's Chapel, returning for the Peace. After the collection they are invited to follow the cross once again to be seated in the chancel, flanked by our amazing choir with a front row seat at the altar for our ancient Eucharistic prayer.

ATRIUM FAITH FORMATION FOR CHILDREN

Sundays | 10:15 – 11:15 am

Thursdays | 4:45 - 6 pm (By registration only)

September 21, 2025 – May 3, 2026

Using the rich and reflective principals of Montessori education, PreK – Grade 5 children gather for age appropriate, contemplative learning experience in an atrium setting. In their time together our children not only deepen their bond of community but learn that the expression of faith is a life of compassionate peacemaking and service to our neighbor.

ATRIUM 1

Pre – K3 through Grade 1

Sundays | 10:15 – 11:15 am

Ages 3 – 6 years old (must be potty-trained)

Thursdays | 4:45 – 6 pm (By registration only)

ATRIUM 2

Grades 2 – 5

Sundays | 10:15 – 11:15 am

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

YOUTH SPIRITUAL FORMATION AND COMMUNITY BUILDING

Sundays | 10:15 – 11:15 am

September 21, 2025 – May 3, 2026

MIDDLE SCHOOL GATHERING

Grades 6 – 8

Sundays | 10:15 – 11:15 am

HIGH SCHOOL GATHERING

Grades 9 – 12

Sundays | 10:15 – 11:15 am

THURSDAYS AT CHRIST CHURCH

COMMUNITY DINNER

All ages

6 – 6:45 pm, Undercroft

The Christian community first formed around the dinner table and we continue the tradition. Join us any Thursday evening for a wonderful community dinner. Our children are invited to join the kid's table or sit with parents. With but a few exceptions, every Thursday evening September 12 through May at 6 pm a community dinner is served – and our children are welcome at the table. Cost is \$10 per person, \$25 per family

ONE BIG WORLD JUSTICE AND PEACE YOUTH GATHERINGS

Grades 6 – 12

6:45 – 8 pm, Education Wing

Following our community dinners, from 6:45 – 8 pm each week we invite area youth to join together in a little prayer, community building, and planning parish wide events that help raise awareness and funds for today's most pressing issues of justice and peace

ENRICHING THE SACRAMENTS

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

Grade 9 and above

Our confirmation preparation program is offered every other year. Our next cohort begins Thursday, September 18th, 2025 at 6:45 pm. Youth in grade 9 and above are invited and encouraged to explore the depth of their baptism as part of the Confirmation Program in order that they may make a mature, public affirmation of faith. Customarily, this affirmation is made



CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

in the presence of the Bishop who, through the laying on of hands, confirms them in faith. Preparation for Confirmation is offered at a variety of classes and events on select Thursdays and Sundays throughout the year. **NOTE:** If you missed the orientation back in the Spring 2025, we are offering an RSVP ONLY make-up class. Please contact Lisa Brown at 586-306-5254 or lbrown@christchurchgp.org to register.

DEEPENING OUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE EUCHARIST

Grade 2 and above

Our Eucharist enrichment course is offered every other year. Our next cohort begins in November 2026. The program consists of three, two-hour parent and child retreat events designed to explore the depth and meaning of our central celebration of the Eucharist

SPECIAL EVENTS

HOMECOMING

Sunday, September 7 | 10:00 am

Enjoy fellowship and fun festivities on front lawn including rock climbing, balloon animals and more following the 10 am Eucharist

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Sunday, October 5 | 9:00 am

Bring your beloved pet(s) to the 9 am Eucharist to be blessed in the church and then enjoy a fun fall festival on the front lawn including petting zoo and pony rides!

ADVENT WREATH WORKSHOP

Sunday, November 30 | 10:15 am

Begin our sacred season of Advent by assembling a beautiful wreath with your family members out of live greens to bless your shared table at home. \$10 suggested donation.

ST. NICHOLAS CELEBRATION

Friday, December 12 | 6:00 pm

While the adults enjoy our Gifts & Greens/Parish Christmas Party, our children are invited to the lower level for an evening of fun and fellowship including pizza, popcorn, games, crafts, and a Christmas movie. Wear your favorite cozy holiday pajamas and slippers!

MOVIE MORNING!

Sunday January 25 | 10:15 am

During the Annual Meeting, our children are invited to the lower level to enjoy food, fellowship and a movie.

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

TEEN RETREAT

Saturday, January 31 | 10 am – Sunday February 1 | 1 pm

All our High School age area teens are invited to the extraordinary Subiaco Benedictine Retreat House in Oxford for a couple of days of making new friends in a sacred, fun, and radically welcoming environment. Teens do not need to be members to attend – bring a friend! Registration required no later than January 9.

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE DINNER & RACES

Tuesday, February 17 | 5:30 pm

As part of our Pancakes & Plams evening, CCGP teens invite you to a special pancake dinner fundraiser followed by pancake flipping races in the Nave for all ages. Proceeds help cover the cost for the Teen Retreat.

ROLLERSKATING PARTY

Sunday, March 15 | 1– 5 pm

Join us during spring break for an afternoon of pizza, music and rollerskating at Skate World of Troy! All ages are welcome to this fun, family event. Bring your friends!

PALM CROSS WORKSHOP

Sunday March 29 | 10:15 am

Start Holy Week with the whole family learning how to make beautiful woven crosses out of the palms from Eucharist. A beautiful, contemplative activity to launch the most sacred week of the year.

MAUNDY THURSDAY DINNER

Thursday, April 2 | 6 pm

A special invitation is extended to our confirmands and their sponsors to this unique meal. We eat all the delicious food that Jesus and his disciples may have enjoyed at that first Eucharistic meal together. It is a holy night of food and fellowship, followed by the Maundy Thursday service. All are invited.

ALL NIGHT WATCH & BREAKFAST

Friday, April 3 | 5 am

Teens are invited to an hour of silent contemplation and prayer in St. Margaret's Chapel as we keep watch with Jesus in commemoration of his darkest hour on the evening prior to his suffering and crucifixion, followed by a light breakfast.

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

EASTER EGG HUNT

Sunday, April 5 | 10:15 am

Come celebrate the risen Christ at the 9 am service followed by a host of fun family events on the front lawn. Food, games, and of course the annual Easter Egg Hunt!

SENIOR SUNDAY

Sunday, May 31 | 10:00 am

On this special Sunday we recognize and celebrate our high school graduates.

TREE RUNNER ADVENTURE PARK OUTING

Date TBA | 3:30 – 9 pm

All youth are welcome to come climb and fly through the trees on high ropes and zip lines at this fabulous park in West Bloomfield. Children 10 and under must be accompanied by a parent. Car-pooling available for older children.

2026 TEEN RETREAT

Saturday, January 31, 10 am –

Sunday February 1, 1 pm

Subiaco Youth Group House, Oxford

ALL 9th – 12th graders are welcome to attend – even if they do not attend CCGP – so please invite your kids to bring a friend or two if they like.

ADULT FORMATION

Contact The Rev'd Maureen Martin, *Associate for Parish Life and Community Engagement*
313.885.4841, ext 116 | mmartin@christchurchgp.org

As “Followers of the Way” – that is, *the Way of Jesus, the Way of Love* – Christ Church members are committed to the ongoing exploration of the way of Jesus’ love for the world and the practices of Christian life that nurture the Life of Christ within us.

It is our hope that these diverse opportunities for faith formation that follow will help to deepen your awareness of God’s grace and presence in the world and within your own life.

THE RECTOR’S FORUM: SACRED CONVERSATIONS ON FAITH AND SOCIETY TODAY

Sundays, 10:10 – 11:10 am
Undercroft

The weekly *Rector’s Forum* provides a unique opportunity to explore matters of practical faith and contemporary society in a personal, conversational setting. Hosted by Fr. Drew and Mtr. Maureen, these *Sacred Conversations* will explore various subjects relevant to Christian life.

SEPTEMBER

- 7 **FALL HOMECOMING FESTIVAL** – We’re back with BBQ, ice cream and fun on the front lawn following the 10 am service.
- 14 **MINISTRY FAIR** – Now is the time to register for fall Christian Education Programs and various worship ministries at Christ Church! Registration and information will be available for the Church School and youth programs, Adult Education classes, our mid-week prayer groups, the Youth Choir, acolytes, and more! Parishioners of all ages are invited and encouraged to learn about and sign up for the programs and ministries of interest.
- 21 **THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER: LEAVING THE LEAFLET BEHIND AND ENTERING INTO THE IMMERSIVE WORSHIP EXPERIENCE.** Join Fr. Drew and Mtr. Maureen for a discussion on our transition to using the BCP during the Holy Eucharist.
- 28 **READING THE BIBLE: MAKING FRIENDS WITH THE OLD TESTAMENT** – Join Mtr. Maureen and Dr. Matthew Lynch, Associate Professor of Old Testament at Regent College and co-founder of the *On Script* podcast, for a thought provoking conversation on why the Old Testament matters for Christians today.



ADULT FORMATION

OCTOBER

- 5 **BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS** – Bring Your Pets to Church! In the spirit of Saint Francis of Assisi, who believed that God’s love encompasses all creation, we invite “all creatures great and small” to this beloved family service. Bring all your family pets to be blessed by the clergy. After the service we will have treats and refreshments for people and pets, pony rides, petting zoo and a Fall Harvest Market. All are welcome to this fun family service!
- 12 **RENEWAL WORKS DIRECTOR; LOREN DIXON** – Help us welcome Loren Dixon, director of Renewal Works at Forward Movement as she shares with us key insights into our 2025 inventory results.
- 19 **RENEWAL WORKS PART II:** Mtr. Maureen and Fr. Drew will discuss the findings in our 2025 inventory and go over the dot exercise done the previous week
- 26 **THE CHOIR TOUR:** Join Choir Director Scott Hanoian as he presents highlights from the Choir’s residencies at Bristol and St. Paul’s Cathedrals last summer.

NOVEMBER

- 2 **ALL SAINTS’ SUNDAY AND PARISH RECEPTION** – Each year on All Saints’ Sunday, Christians throughout the world celebrate the lives of loved ones and friends in faith who have entered into God’s eternal embrace, and to welcome new members of the Christian Community into the Body of Christ through the Rite of Holy Baptism. Join us in this ancient and global celebration as we welcome into our community new members of Christ’s Body. Following the service, all are invited to join us for a Parish Reception in the Undercroft to greet the newly baptized and their families.
- 9 **STAINED GLASS WINDOW TOUR** – Grab a coffee and a donut in St. David’s Crossing and join CCGP Vestry Member Michael DeFillipi in the Nave for an illuminating tour of our windows.
- 16 **WORLD HUNGER AWARENESS MEAL** – Join our youth for an interactive simulation of global economics that brings to life the inequalities in our world related to food, hunger, shelter, and personal income and allows participants to experience first-hand how their decisions affect others in the world. It is a meal and role-play type event that raises funds and awareness of world hunger by inviting guests to eat in proportion to how the world eats. Everyone 11 years old to 111 years old is invited! Bring a friend!
- 23 **CARSTENS LITERACY INITIATIVE AND OUR PARTNERS SOAR DETROIT** – Join Fr. Drew and Mtr. Maureen in a conversation with Doug Kempton, founder and CEO of Soar Detroit to learn about his personal story and how God moved in his life, inspiring him to start SOAR.

ADULT FORMATION

- 30 **ADVENT WREATH WORKSHOP AND CHRISTMAS MARKET** – Advent is nearly here, which means it's time to make Advent wreaths and to begin our preparation for the in-breaking of God's love! Buy your Christmas tree from our market and shop at our first-ever Christmas market.

DECEMBER

- 7 **ST. JOHN'S BIBLE** – Today marks the beginning of our year-long experience of the St. John's Bible with special guest Brad Neary, Director of the St. John's Bible Heritage Program.
- 14 **THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW: THE PROLOGUE** – Today's Forum begins a three-part series exploring the Gospel according to Matthew which we will hear read throughout the new liturgical year (Year A). Using the prologue of Matthew's Gospel as our starting point, we will explore key themes of Christ's story which Matthew carries through his account of Jesus' life.
- 21 **THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE PRESENTS THE 2026 VESTRY SLATE** – Come get to know the nominating committee's picks for the Vestry Class of 2029.

JANUARY

- 4 **HAPPY NEW YEAR** – Join us in the Undercroft to ring in the new year with coffee and Epiphany cake.
- 11 **PARISH BREAKFAST** – We celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of our Lord with baptisms of our own as we welcome into our community new members of Christ's Body. Following the service, all are invited to join us for a Parish Breakfast in the Undercroft.
- 18 **THE 2026 BUDGET: A DOCUMENT OF FAITH** – Join Fr. Drew and Beth Arroyo (Treasurer) to discuss the ministry commitments for 2026 Budget approved by the Vestry. This will be an opportunity to discuss the vision of mission and ministry to which we have been called as a community, and our plans to fulfill our collective call.
- 25 **ANNUAL PARISH BREAKFAST AND MEETING** – Following the 9 am service, we will gather for an All Parish Breakfast and the Annual Meeting of Christ Church at which we will hold the election of Vestry Members, and receive the presentation of the Parish Annual Report, financial statements, and conduct additional church business as necessary.

ADULT FORMATION

FEBRUARY

- 1 **THE FIRST BCP:** Join Fr. Drew and Mtr. Maureen in a conversation about The Brilliance of Archbishop Thomas Cranmer, the author of the first book of Common Prayer in 1549.
- 8 **CROSSROADS: OUTREACH PARTNERS** – Join Crossroads Board of Trustees Co-Chairs, Colleen Fitzgerald and Ross Kogel as they discuss Crossroads’ return to its roots and core values.
- 15 **COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP** – Join us for coffee and conversation. The Rector’s Forum resume February 22.
- 22 **SWEENEY LECTURE WEEKEND** –Jim Wallis’ visit is tentatively rescheduled for this weekend.

MARCH

- 1 **SOARING SOUNDS IN A SACRED SPACE: MUSIC IN OUR COMMUNITY AND BEYOND** Scott Hanoian and Jacob Surzyn will discuss The Lakeshore Chamber Singers and Opera de Metro and how CCGP supports music in and outside of our communit.
- 8 **THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW: LIFE OF JESUS** – We continue or exploration of the Gospel according to Matthew, turning today to the life, teachings, miracles and sayings of Jesus retold by Saint Matthew. .
- 15 **MARTYRDOM IN THE ENGLISH REFORMATION** – Join us and member Eric Ash, History Professor at Wayne State, as he shares a little understood aspect of church history: Martyrdom in the English Reformation. He will explore the lives of ordinary English people, both Roman Catholic and Protestant, that were cut short by shifts political and theological in their cultural landscape.
- 22 **THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW: THE PASSION** – We conclude our exploration of the Gospel accouding to Matthew, as we look at the account of Jesus’ Passion, death, and Ressurrection as told by Saint Matthew.
- 29 **PALM CROSS WORKSHOP** – All ages are invited to join us for an intergenerational morning of fellowship as we learn to make Palm Crosses from our Palm Sunday palms fronds. Join us for this fun start to Holy Week!!

APRIL

- 5 **EASTER DAY: THE SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION** – It’s Easter and that means that it’s time to celebrate! Join us on the Front Lawn following the 9 am service (or before the 11:15 am service!) for the annual Easter Egg Hunt and other fun and games for our kids, and

ADULT FORMATION

refreshments for all adults.

- 12 **EASTERTIDE COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP** – Join us for coffee and conversation. The Rector’s Forum resume April 19.
- 19 **THE FIRST BCP:** Join Fr. Drew and Mtr. Maureen in a conversation about The Brilliance of Archbishop Thomas Cranmer, the author of the first book of Common Prayer in 1549.
- 26 **TBD**

MAY

- 3 **YEAR IN REVIEW** – Join Fr. Drew and Mtr. Maureen for a look back at the program year as it comes to a close.

THURSDAYS AT CHRIST CHURCH

September 11, 2025 – May 7, 2026

Join us for an evening of faith, fellowship, and formation to nourish your soul and deepen your faith. The evening begins with Holy Eucharist and a community dinner (free, donations appreciated) and concludes with formation for all ages ending at 8 to be mindful of parents and little ones. (The nursery is available for children under 8 from 4 – 8 pm in the Nursery Room.)

Thursday evenings will follow this pattern:

5 – 5:20 pm	Evening Prayer
5:30 – 6 pm	Holy Eucharist
6 – 6:30 pm	Dinner
6:45 – 8 pm	Formation

This year’s meals will be provided by *BP Private Chef and Catering*. Each week will include a variety of exciting options with themed dinners all made fresh, including homemade desserts! Cost for dinner is \$10 per person, \$25 per family.



ADULT FORMATION

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Tuesdays, 3:30 – 5 pm, Family Room

Led by CCGP Vestry member Michael DeFillipi, the group will continue their study of the Gospel of Matthew, finishing up mid-November, then moving on to the Gospel of Luke. Bring your Bible and your questions, we will provide the rest.

THURSDAY FORMATION OFFERINGS FOR ADULTS

LITURGY OF THE ORDINARY

September 11 – November 20

What if the overlooked routines of your day became sacred invitations? *Liturgy of the Ordinary* by Tish Harrison Warren is a gentle reminder that God's presence is not just in the extraordinary but in the midst of the ordinary. Through the lens of her own daily life, Warren invites you to find holiness in the mundane and recognize how seemingly small, daily habits shape your spiritual growth.

Framed around one typical day, this book explores life through the lens of liturgy, small practices and habits that form us. In each chapter, Warren considers a common daily experience like making the bed, brushing her teeth, and losing her keys. Using this book as a springboard for examining our lives we will explore ways of feeling God's presence in the ordinary for ourselves and learn to savor the moment we are in rather than always hungering after an unachievable image of who we think we are to be. By the end of this class each member will learn how to write a Rule of Life for their own family.

THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW: GOD WITH US

January 15 – May 7

With all we have to unite us, we still find ways to create division. It is an age-old question: do we focus on what sets us apart, or what holds us together? According to Matthew, it is Emmanuel, God with us. The First Evangelist and the new Christian community saw themselves first as part of Judaism, not separate from it.

A distinguishing feature of the Gospel according to Matthew is its use of the Greek term *ekklesia*, which means an assembly of ones who are called out. It conveys nothing of the static conception of the word "church" held by many today.

According to Matthew, the Church is an earthly manifestation of the kingdom of God, and it is comprised of Jesus' followers who have been called out to live righteously in the world and to serve in the manner of the Christ with deep humility and unfathomable forgiveness. In Jesus, there is a new community at work for the blessing of the world. What is it that binds us together? Jesus – God With Us. Join us for an in-depth study of The Gospel of Matthew.

ADULT FORMATION

SEASONAL BOOK GROUP

One season, one book, one evening of conversation!

6:30 – 8:30 pm, Miller Hall

A HOBBIT, A WARDROBE, AND A GREAT WAR (JOSEPH LACONTE)

November 16

For a generation of men and women, World War I brought the end of innocence—and the end of faith. Yet for J. R. R. Tolkien and C. S. Lewis, the Great War deepened their spiritual quest.

This book illuminates how the horrors of the Western Front shaped their faith and the timeless tales of Middle-Earth and Narnia. Witness how the Great War not only tested their faith but also ignited their remarkable Christian imaginations.

THE WATER DANCER: A NOVEL (TA-NEHISI COATES)

January 18

Young Hiram Walker was born into bondage. When his mother was sold away, Hiram was robbed of all memory of her – but was gifted with a mysterious power. Years later, when Hiram almost drowns in a river, that same power saves his life. This brush with death births an urgency in Hiram and a daring scheme: to escape from the only home he's ever known.

This is the dramatic story of an atrocity inflicted on generations of women, men, and children—the violent and capricious separation of families—and the war they waged to simply make lives with the people they loved.

HOW WE LEARN TO BE BRAVE (MARIANN EDGAR BUDDE)

April 26

On January 21, 2025, many Americans were introduced to Bishop Mariann Budde thanks to what The New York Times called “an extraordinary act of public resistance.” During her prayer service for Donald Trump’s second inauguration, Bishop Budde addressed the president directly, imploring him “to have mercy on the people in our country who are scared now.” With *How We Learn to Be Brave*, she teaches us that being brave is not a singular occurrence; it’s a journey that we can choose to undertake every day.

LIVING WITH GRIEF

December 4, 11, 18 and January 13 | May 21, 28, June 4 and 11

Living with Grief is a 4-week encounter with grief for people who are mourning the loss of someone they love. Each class is centered in prayer, scripture, and story. The class is co-led by Mtr. Maureen and a team of trained lay women and men.



MUSIC

Contact Mr. Scott Hanoian, *Associate for Worship and Liturgy*
313.885.4841, ext 102 | shanoian@christchurchgp.org

MUSIC AT CHRIST CHURCH

Music is at the heart of our Christ Church community and is one of the primary ways in which we worship, love, and serve our Lord Jesus Christ. With an annual repertoire of over 250 anthems and motets, the Christ Church Choirs offer a beauty and depth to our worship that is unique not only in Grosse Pointe, but throughout metro–Detroit.

In addition to our commitment to offer music at the highest standard for the praise of God, the Christ Church choir program seeks to provide excellence in musical education for choir members, including music theory and performance, while supporting the overall spiritual and personal development of each chorister.

NOVICE PROGRAM

Tuesdays and Thursdays | 4 – 4:20 pm
September through May

The novice program is the preparatory program for aspiring choristers. Novice choristers learn the basics of music theory, vocal production, and sight–reading. Even if a novice chooses not to become a chorister or is not successful in being admitted to the full choir, they will benefit from the experience and knowledge gained by being a novice.

Parents of boys and girls with an aptitude and enthusiasm for music are encouraged to speak directly with the Director of Music as their child approaches his or her eighth birthday until his or her tenth birthday.

BOYS & GIRLS CHOIR

Ribbon Training, Tuesdays and Thursdays | 4:20 – 5 pm
Treble Rehearsals, Tuesdays and Thursdays | 5 – 6 pm
Young Men's Rehearsal, Thursdays | 5 – 6 pm

The choir consists of boys and girls who have completed the novice program, and professional singers who sing alto, tenor, and bass to complete the traditional choral sound. All our boy and girl choristers excel at musical performance, learning to read music, and perform at a level well beyond their peers in age.

CHRIST CHURCH SCHOLA

The Schola is made up of select girls and boys and professional singers from Grosse Pointe and the surrounding area. As an advanced choir for girls and boys, the Schola affords choristers an opportunity for musical excellence and performance unique in Detroit. With a repertoire that includes over 250 anthems and motets spanning seven centuries and ranging from plainsong chant to 21st-century compositions, the Christ Church Schola is among the finest choirs in Detroit and the Midwest.

CHRIST CHURCH CHORALE

Wednesdays | 7:30 – 9 pm

The Christ Church Chorale is a community oratorio society of volunteer adults offering concerts each year. Performing with an orchestra, the Christ Church Chorale is known for its excellence in presentations of the great choral/orchestral masterworks. Recent performances have included Bach's *Mass in B minor*, Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, and Brahms' *Ein Deutsches Requiem*.

PRIVATE MUSIC EDUCATION

Directly arranged through Mr. Hanoian

From theory to performance, choristers and music lovers are invited for private music education including music theory and voice lessons with professional musicians from the greater Detroit area. Voice lessons are invaluable not only from the point of view of developing technique, but also for managing the substantial work load placed upon young voices. For more information, contact Scott Hanoian, shanoian@christchurchgp.org.

CHOIR TOURS

2027 Tour: Lincoln and Westminster Abbey

Our choirs frequently travel nationally and internationally. These tours provide our choristers opportunities to build and deepen friendship, celebrate the excellence and success of their work throughout the past year, expand their horizons as they experience new communities and cultures, and deepen their experience and understanding of their spiritual lives. Past tours have included England, Germany, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, France, Italy, Spain, and Australia. The 2027 tour will be to England, with residencies at Westminster Abbey in London as well as Lincoln Cathedral.

MUSIC

SOARING SOUNDS IN A SACRED SPACE

2025–2026 CONCERT SERIES

*There will be a free pre-concert lecture before most concerts at 3 pm
hosted by Scott Hanoian, Associate for Worship and Liturgy.*

LYYRA

Saturday, October 25, 2025 | 7 pm

Tickets \$25 (students \$15)

Note: There is no pre-concert lecture.

Our season opens with a concert featuring the new all-women vocal ensemble from The VOCES8 Foundation, Lyyra. Specializing in classical, jazz, pop, and folk music from diverse traditions and backgrounds, Lyyra redefines the genre of upper voice music in the choral landscape, highlighting the astonishing capabilities within the full spectrum of women's singing. The sound of this bright, young group combines velvety richness alongside star-like brilliance with a broad texture and exhilarating range of sound.

HARMONIEMESSE – FRANZ JOSEPH HAYDN

Sunday, November 23 | 2025 | 4 pm

Christ Church Chorale and Orchestra

Tickets: \$25

Join the Christ Church Chorale, Orchestra, and soloists in a performance of Franz Joseph Haydn's first mass, his *Missa Brevis in F* and last mass, known as the *Harmoniemesse*. Composed over 50 years apart, this concert highlights the progression of a young aspiring composer to the refined and impactful father of future generations of composers.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT – A FRENCH CHRISTMAS

Sunday, December 14, 2025 | 4 pm

Christ Church Chorale and Orchestra

Tickets: \$25

Celebrate the joy of the Christmas season in this festive afternoon of traditional favorites and choral masterpieces. This year's concert features selections from the French choral tradition including Marc-Antoine Charpentier's *Messe de minuit pour Noël* and other holiday favorites. Then, the audience is invited to join in to sing some of our favorite Christmas carols and the *Hallelujah Chorus* from Handel's *Messiah*.

LET MY LOVE BE HEARD

Saturday, February 7, 2026 | 7 pm

Lakeshore Chamber Singers, Scott Hanoian, Musical Director

Free-will offering

Note: There is no pre-concert lecture.

Scott Hanoian and the Lakeshore Chamber Singers explore how music depicts themes of love. The concert will feature music of Jake Runestad, Morten Lauridsen, Ola Gjeilo, David Hurd, and many more.

ST. JOHN PASSION – JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH

Palm Sunday, March 29, 2026 | 4 pm

Christ Church Chorale and Orchestra

Tickets \$25

Begin the journey of Holy Week as the Christ Church Chorale, Orchestra, and soloists perform Bach's gripping masterpiece retelling the arrest, trials, death, and burial of Jesus.

THE ARMED MAN – A MASS FOR PEACE

Sunday, May 3 | 4 pm

Christ Church Chorale and Orchestra

Tickets \$25

Join the Christ Church Chorale, Orchestra, and soloists in a performance of Welsh composer Karl Jenkins' stirring setting of the mass. Brought back to Christ Church by popular demand, this beloved work based on texts from the Ordinary of the Mass, Rudyard Kipling, Alfred Lord Tennyson, and Sankichi Toge.

All concerts and other musical events have open, non-reserved seating.

If tickets are required, they may be purchased in advance at the church office or day-of at the door.

EVENSONG

September 21, October 12, March 1, May 17

The service of Evensong (or sung Evening Prayer) is drawn almost entirely from the Bible: Psalms, lessons from the Old and New Testaments, and Canticles (songs of praise from the Scriptures). Music is an integral part of this service, and the choirs offer sung prayers to God on behalf of the people of God.

Free and open to the public.

PARISH LIFE

CONTACT: The Rev'd Maureen Martin, *Associate for Parish Life and Community Engagement*
313.885.4841 ext 116 | mmartin@christchurchgp.org

COMMUNITY AND PARISH LIFE AT CHRIST CHURCH

Some appreciate the anonymity of a large parish when they first attend, however, at some point most look forward to connecting with others sharing the same journey. At Christ Church, we gather all the time: to meet and make new friends, deepen old bonds, to learn and to pray, to help and encourage, and to serve. Being a living community means caring for one another as well, especially in times of transitions and need. Consequently, we often find ourselves reaching out to one another – to old friends and to new friends within our wide embrace – as a visible sign of God's love and our community's care.

Whether you're an expert at navigating Coffee Hour or don't know what a "Nave" is, when you are ready to become involved, there is a community here for you. We are better together!

CHRIST CHURCH FILM SERIES

Dessert, Film and Conversation
Select Fridays, 6:30 pm, Christ Church Undercroft
\$10

SENTENCED

October 3, 2025, appropriate for ages 15 and up

This documentary profiles four families marked by the lasting negative impacts of illiteracy. The film, narrated by Steph Curry, takes us inside the homes of families in Los Angeles, New York, and North Carolina. Adults are interviewed about their experiences in childhood, often traumatic, which led to their illiteracy and accompanying challenges in getting and holding down jobs and securing stable living conditions.

THEY SHALL NOT GROW OLD

November 13, 2025, appropriate for ages 16 and up

Academy Award winning Director Peter Jackson's assemblage of restored footage – colored and rendered in 3D, with added sound effects, voices, and narration – is an astonishing achievement, a distillation of war itself.

EUCHRE TOURNAMENTS

*October 17, 2025 and February 6, 2026 | 6:30 pm, CCGP Lower Level
\$10 plus a toiletry item for Crossroads*

Please bring a snack to share, your choice of beverage and your friends. Experienced players, 21 and older.

COMMON THREAD

*2nd, 4th and 5th Wednesdays each month
2 - 4 pm | Education Wing*

Bring your current project and join fellow crafters for an afternoon of stitching, knitting and fun!

O.W.L.S. (OUTINGS, WISDOM, LOVE, SERVICE) FOR THE 55 AND BETTER CROWD!

AN ART EXHIBIT AT THE SHEPHERD

*October 10, 2025 | 11 am
The Shepherd, 1265 Parkview Street Detroit
Followed by lunch at Alma Kitchen, 15042 Mack Avenue*

Join us for a morning tour of the latest exhibit at the Shepherd, a space that not only blurs the lines between commercial gallery, institution, and community arts center while also providing a creative opportunity for collaboration with galleries, museums, and arts organizations, both locally and abroad.

EAT DESSERT FIRST! | CONCERT: LYRA

*Saturday, October 25, 2025 | Dessert: 6 pm | Concert: 7 pm
Tickets \$25*

A special Night Owls event – Eat Dessert First! We'll meet in Miller Hall for dessert at 6 pm then head to the Nave to attend the first concert of the 2025–26 season, featuring the new all-women vocal ensemble Lyra.

PARISH LIFE

CRAFT NIGHT: COZY NIGHT LIGHTS WITH SANCTUM HOUSE

December 3, 2025 | 6 – 8 pm | \$40, all proceeds benefit Sanctum House

Creativity meets community! The women of Sanctum House will teach us how to make a cozy night light in a relaxing atmosphere with light snacks and refreshments, plus the chance to create a unique craft item. Tickets available at sanctumhouse.org/event.

TAPAS NIGHT WITH KIRSTEN HIBBS

JANUARY DATE TBD | 6 - 8 PM

Undercroft | \$12 plus dinner

Christ Church Commons maker, Kirsten Hibbs, of Dillicious Pickles, not only makes amazing pickles and bloody mary mix, she's also a teacher! She'll teach us how to make Tapas, then as we enjoy our meal we'll be serenaded by a Spanish guitarist!

EAT DESSERT FIRST! | CONCERT: LET MY LOVE BE HEARD

Saturday, February 7, 2026 | Dessert: 6 pm | Concert: 7 pm | Free-Will Offering

A special Night Owls event – Eat Dessert First! We'll meet in Miller Hall for dessert at 6 pm then attend the Lakeshore Chamber Singers concert in the Nave.

OSCAR-NOMINATED SHORT FILMS - ANIMATION AND LIVE ACTION

March 14, 2026 | 1 pm

Detroit Institute of Arts, Dinner following at Alma Kitchen | \$12 plus dinner

Only the best will do! Join the OWLS (and others from the Christ Church community) for an afternoon of this year's Oscar-Nominated Short Films – Animation and Live Action. We'll stop on our return at Alma Kitchen for dinner and discussion.

PEWABIC POTTERY TILE GLAZING WORKSHOP

April 17, 2026 | 7 pm

Undercroft | Cost: \$55

In this one hour hands-on experience, we will glaze a tile using the same techniques as Pewabic production staff.

MIGRATION IN THE MITTEN, BIRDING AT BELLE ISLE

FOLLOWED BY COFFEE

May 1, 2026 | 7 am

Belle Isle and Eastside Roasterz

Attention bird lovers (and early risers!) – we'll be lead by our own David Redfield for a morning of bird watching at Belle Isle followed by coffee at Eastside Roasterz.

PARISH EVENTS

FALL HOMECOMING FESTIVAL

Sunday, September 7, 2025 | following the 10 am service

Now is the time to register for fall Christian Education Programs and various worship ministries at Christ Church! Registration and information will be available for the Church School and youth programs, Adult Education classes, our mid-week prayer groups, the Youth Choir, acolytes, and more! Parishioners of all ages are invited and encouraged to learn about and sign up for the programs and ministries of interest. As always, everyone is encouraged join us for the BBQ and activities on the front lawn following the 10 am service.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Sunday, October 5, 2025 | 9 am

Turtles, Dogs, Cats, Bunnies – all are welcome! Bring your pets to church for our annual Saint Francis celebration followed by cider and donuts on the front lawn, pony rides and a petting zoo!

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY | GIFTS AND GREENS SILENT AUCTION | ST. NICHOLAS PARTY

Friday, December 12, 2025 | 6 pm, CCGP Undercroft

Every year Christ Church comes together for the annual Christ Church Christmas Party to celebrate Christmas as a community of friends, new and old. If you're in need of a special gift, don't worry – the Gifts and Greens Silent (and not so silent!) Auction is this night, the entire proceeds of which support the excellent ministry of Carsten's Literacy Initiative and SOAR Detroit. Bring your friends! Children are invited for movies, pizza and fun in the Education Wing!

STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE FESTIVAL

Sunday, May 24, 2026 | following the 10 am service

What better way to celebrate Pentecost than with Strawberry Shortcake? Members and friends alike gather on the front lawn following the 10 am service on Pentecost for a lively time of fellowship and sweet strawberry shortcake.

SUMMER BBQs

June 25, July 23, August 20 | 6 – 8 pm

Gather for Food and Fun! Games on the front lawn, hang out with cool CCGP People! Bring a dish or dessert and a friend and share the love!



PASTORAL CARE MINISTRIES

CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

At times, we need a companion to pray with us and support us in faith as we encounter the struggles of human life. From hospital rooms to bedsides to kitchen tables and altar rails, our Pastoral Care Ministries provide prayerful, spiritual support in times of difficulty and need.

PASTORAL CARE AND THE PRIEST-ON-CALL

At all times, a priest of Christ Church is available to provide counsel and support when an emergency, such as a death or critical incident, occurs.

To reach the priest-on-call, call 313-885-4841 and select Option 4.

In non-emergency situations, the clergy are available for one-to-one counseling and prayer. Our clergy team also keeps a weekly visitation schedule in the hopes of visiting hospitalized and home-bound members regularly.

EUCCHARISTIC VISITORS

Eucharistic Visitors are trained volunteers who extend the embrace of God and the Christ Church community by offering the Eucharist, consecrated Bread and Wine, to the home- or hospital-bound. Preparation for this sacred ministry is offered annually.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER TEAM

Our Intercessory Prayer Team is comprised of women and men who have a heart to pray and intercede for others who are in need. Intercessory Prayer Team members commit to a practice of daily prayer.

TAKE-A-MEAL MINISTRY

Difficulty comes to all of us. Perhaps it's a new and daunting illness, or a death in the family, or maybe a new baby. Regardless, when life is upturned, a simple meal can be a great relief. The Take-a-Meal ministry is just that: individuals prepare a home cooked meal and deliver it to a member when things are tough.

FUNERAL MINISTRY

Funeral Ministry teams assist families in their time of need, serve as greeters to families and friends who come for a funeral, and staff light receptions when requested. Volunteer funeral ministers commit to a two hour service slot when funerals are scheduled.

SERVICE AT CHRIST CHURCH

CONTACT: The Rev'd Maureen Martin, *Associate for Parish Life and Community Engagement*
313.885.4841 ext 116 | mmartin@christchurchgp.org

A LIFE IN SERVICE

It is not enough to learn of God's love for us; we must become doers as well. As disciples of Christ, as the very body of Christ in the world, we are called to make God's love known in the world, in the circles of our community here at Christ Church and beyond.

To help make this possible, we provide ministry opportunities that support and strengthen our life together in Christ and extend Christ's love into the world beyond "CCGP."

SERVICE AT CHRIST CHURCH

All members of Christ Church are encouraged to be engaged in at least one ministry to support the life of our community. There are too many ministries to describe in full, but here's a starting list. If you are interested in participating in any ministry, simply speak with the senior staff member responsible for that ministry.

WORSHIP	FORMATION	PARISH LIFE	SERVICE
Acolytes	Daughters of the King	Bakers	Adopt-a-Garden
Altar Guild	Teachers and Mentors	Circle Shepherds	Crossroads
Eucharistic Ministers	Guild of the Christ Child	Funeral Min. Team	Holy Dusters
Flower Guild		Take-a-Meal	Receptionist
Ushers Greeters		Wedding Coordinators	Summer Starters
Readers		Eucharistic Visitors	Tellers
Verger			

CARSTENS LITERACY INITIATIVE

September through May

Tuesdays or Thursdays | 9:30 to 11:30 am

Did you know: children *learn to read* through the 4th grade, but after 4th grade children must *read to learn*. It's all about 2nd grade readers! Of the children at Carstens Elementary, the majority are currently reading significantly below their grade level. In partnership with SOAR Detroit, Hope Community Church, and Hope House, CCGP volunteers serve as weekly reading mentors to an individual student (or two!) at Carstens Elementary School, helping to improve her/his writing, vocabulary, and reading skills with the goal to help the student to be "on level" by year's end.



SERVICE IN THE COMMUNITY

REBUILDING TOGETHER

October 25, Jefferson-Chalmers Neighborhood

Join Christ Church for a hands-on service project in conjunction with Rebuilding Together Southeast Michigan (the recipient of the 2025 Easter Appeal).

CROSSROADS OF MICHIGAN

November 9, 2025; February 8, 2026, April 26, 2026

The first Sunday “Soup Kitchen” in Detroit, Crossroads of Michigan has long been a recipient of our care and attention. Two to three Sundays a year, 40 Christ Church Volunteers gather (in two shifts) to prepare and serve the Crossroads meal. No experience necessary!

SUMMER STARTERS

Sundays, June through August, following the 10 am Service

Every year countless Detroit children start their summer days hungry. Throughout the summer when children who rely on school breakfast programs often go without, Christ Church volunteers gather to make difference. The children’s collection plate funds this program.

We invite you to join us any Sunday this summer to make a difference and help others know the good news of Jesus Christ.

LOAVES AND FISHES

Sundays in July

During the summer, many emergency food pantries suffer neglect and run short on supplies. In the weeks leading up to the story of Jesus feeding the 5,000 (the story of the loaves and fishes), member of the community are invited to take a grocery bag and shopping list to buy essential items for the Crossroads of Michigan Emergency Food Pantry. On the Sunday we read of Jesus feeding the 5,000, bring your full grocery bag to church.

THE JOURNEY OF GENEROSITY

Contact Mr. Tim Wood, Associate for Finance and Administration
313.885.4841, ext 111 | twood@christchurchgp.org

THE JOURNEY OF GENEROSITY

Since the earliest days of the Christian community, Jesus' disciples have understood that we are on a journey, not only a journey through life, but a life-long journey characterized by the very life and generosity of Jesus.

As we make our way to the heart of Christ, we strive to live our life as he lived his – with abundant generosity! In seemingly inexhaustible ways, Jesus lived with remarkable generosity, sharing every gift he possessed – his peace, his wisdom, his mercy and forgiveness, his bread and his wine, his dying breath – with the women and men he encountered...friends and strangers, loved ones and enemies alike.

As a Christians we must undertake our own *Journey of Generosity*, as we strive to love God with all our heart, mind, and spirit, and our neighbors as ourselves.

PLEDGING

Pledging members are the primary support for Christ Church. Yet, we invite pledge commitments not to raise money, but as a spiritual tool for our members. When we make a financial commitment or pledge as an *expression of our faith* – our gratitude to God, our commitment to God's ministry of grace and mercy, our support of the community of Christ of which we are members – our pledge and gift becomes much more than simple fundraising.

As a spiritual practice, pledging expresses our gratitude to God for God's abundant love, reshapes our relationship with money and wealth as tools for God's mercy and grace, and resets our relationship to money from one of need to one of utility. Pledges that financially challenge us remind us that money and the things which money makes possible are not the purpose of our life, nor are they the source of our happiness and peace. Rather, we are reminded that all of our life is an opportunity to express our gratitude to God and our love for our neighbor – the very place where complete joy is found! In fact, the act of generous, sacrificial, extravagant giving for the love of another and the building up of God's kingdom, is at the heart of Christian discipleship and the very purpose of teaching gratitude and generosity.

At Christ Church, all members are encouraged to make a sacrificial pledge of a tithe (10% of their personal or household income) to support the ministry of God through Christ Church. If a tithe seems too daunting at first, we encourage you to make a 5-year commitment to reach a tithe, gently increasing your annual giving by 2% of your income each year.

No doubt, such a gift is challenging. Yet, a pledge that doesn't challenge us, doesn't transform us either.

And that is our purpose, to be transformed for Christ.

GIVING

SPECIAL APPEALS

On occasion we are called upon to respond to an urgent need in the world, or to support a local ministry of service and care. These special appeals are invitations for us to extend the love of Christ to our sisters and brothers within the Detroit community and across the nation. We encourage members to respond with a gift equal to one day's income – as if we were to give one day of our life for those in need.

COMMON SPECIAL APPEALS INCLUDE:

Hurricane or Disaster Relief

Gifts and Greens Appeal

Christmas Appeal

Easter Appeal

Crossroads Sunday | Ask of the Month

TO EXCEL IN LOVE

To Excel in Love is a five-year strategic plan and investment in the future of Christ Church. The process of developing this strategic plan and identifying long term goals for our congregation began in 2017. The pillars of this strategic plan are to become a church that is *Christ Centered, Community Focused, and Future Driven*. To date, over 95 families have made commitments totalling over \$6.5 million toward this campaign! To learn more or to participate, please speak with Fr. Drew at 313-885-4842 or with Mr. Tim Wood at 313-885-4841, ext. 111.

FLOWER MEMORIALS AND CELEBRATIONS

Our Sunday worship is adorned with a floral arrangement prepared by our Flower Guild throughout the year. This weekly offering reminds us of the joy of the “family gathered” – friend with friend, brother with sister, and all in the embrace of Christ our host and Lord. This is even more pronounced at times of particular joy and solemnity, such as Easter Day and All Saints' Sunday, as we recall our loved ones who join us still in the eternal banquet of Christ.

These arrangements, however, are not just about the flowers. They are opportunities for you to offer a personal celebration as a memorial for a loved one or a thanksgiving for personal joy, and for our community to come together in shared remembrance and gratitude.

Contact the Rector's Office (rectoroffice@christchurchgp.org) directly if you would like to make a memorial gift. A suggested donation of \$100 per memorial/thanksgiving is recommended.

LEGACY GIVING

Even in death, God comes to us. Let us, in death, make a gift to God. Legacy gifts may be made to any of the Christ Church Endowment Funds as a means of sustaining your pledge for the generation to come. Legacy gifts come in all forms including cash and stock transfers, insurance policy and 401(k) beneficiaries, real estate transfers, and more. All gifts help assure the future of Christ Church.

Becoming a member of the *Christ Church Legacy Society* is simple. Notify the church that you have included a gift in your will or estate plan and indicate whether you want your name to be published as a society member or prefer to remain anonymous.

Please contact Tim Wood (twood@christchurchgp.org) or Father Drew (rectoroffice@christchurchgp.org) to discuss legacy giving opportunities or to learn more about planned giving and the Christ Church Endowment Funds.

THE CHRIST CHURCH ENDOWMENT FUNDS

THE CHRIST CHURCH ENDOWMENT

An annual draw (5%) supports the ministry and operations of Christ Church.

THE CONSERVATION TRUST FUND

An annual draw is available for capital repairs and improvements to Christ Church.

THE CHRIST CHURCH ENDOWMENT FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

An annual draw supports the Christian Education ministry.

THE CHRIST CHURCH ENDOWMENT FOR OUTREACH

An annual draw supports Christ Church Outreach ministries.

THE DEHAVEN ENDOWMENT FOR MUSIC

An annual draw supports the Christ Church Music Program.

THE SWEENEY LECTURE FUND FOR CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY AND ETHICS

An annual draw supports the Sweeney Lecture Series when scheduled.

CLERGY AND STAFF

THE RECTOR'S OFFICE

The Rev'd Andrew Van Culin, *Rector*

313-885-4842 | rectorsoffice@christchurchgp.org

Ms. Doris Walker, *Executive Assistant to the Rector*

313-885-4842 | rectorsoffice@christchurchgp.org

Ms. Colleen Fitzgerald, *Director of Communications and Member Engagement Coordinator*

313-885-4841, ext 115 | cfitzgerald@christchurchgp.org

Mr. Miles Kennedy, *Rector's Verger*

313.885.4841, ext 131 | mkennedy@christchurchgp.org

SENIOR ASSOCIATES

Ms. Lisa Brown, *Associate for Children, Youth and Family Ministries*

313-885-4841 ext 104 | lbrown@christchurchgp.org

Mr. Scott Hanoian, *Associate for Worship and Liturgy; Director of Music and Organist*

313-885-4841 ext 102 | shanoian@christchurchgp.org

The Rev'd Maureen L. Martin, *Associate for Parish Life and Community Engagement*

313-885-4841 ext 116 | mmartin@christchurchgp.org

Mr. Tim Wood, *Associate for Finance and Administration*

313-885-4841 ext 111 | twood@christchurchgp.org

PROGRAM AND ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Mr. Randy Anderson, *Maintenance and Preservation Supervisor*

313.885.4841, ext 112 | randerson@christchurchgp.org

Ms. Marisa Bennett, *CYF Administrative Assistant*

313.885.4841 | mbennett@christchurchgp.org

Ms. Leah Mannino, *Director of Christ Church Parents Day Out*

313.885.4841, ext 131 | lmannino@christchurchgp.org

Mr. Jackson Merrill, *Assistant Director of Music and Organist*

313-885-4841, ext 102 | jmerrill@christchurchgp.org