



2026-2027

PROGRAM GUIDE





# ENTERING IN . . .

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

# . . . THE WATERS OF LIFE

*The new year is upon 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 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.

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

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CONTACT: Mtr. Maureen Martin, *Associate for Parish Life and Community Engagement*  
313.885.4841 ext 116 | [mmartin@christchurchgp.org](mailto:mmartin@christchurchgp.org)

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## 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 offer to God our prayers and petitions – for ourselves and for those whom we love!*

*Thursday Community Dinners, Formation for all ages, and concerts throughout the program year offer many ways to get connected for newcomers and members alike. Our doors are open for all to come and experience the grace and hope of life in Christ.*

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## 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 flourishing of God's kingdom.

# MEMBERSHIP

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## 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](mailto: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](mailto:rectoroffice@christchurchgp.org)) to inquire about transferring your membership.

### INFANT AND CHILD BAPTISM

We baptize at the following high points of the Christian year: All Saints' Day, The Feast of the Baptism of our Lord, The Day of Pentecost and the Feast of the Transfiguration. The Great Vigil of Easter is reserved for adult baptism.

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](mailto: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 2027. 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

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## BAPTISM & NEWCOMERS RETREAT

*October 30, 6 – 8:30 pm, October 31, 10 am – 2 pm*

*May 14, 6 – 8:30 pm and May 15, 10 am – 2 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 and lunch on Saturday.



**Blessing of the  
Animals**

**Sunday  
October 4, 9 am**

**Bring Your Pets to Church!**

# WORSHIP

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**Contact**     The Rev'd Drew Van Culin, *Rector*  
313.885.4842 | [rectoroffice@christchurchp.org](mailto:rectoroffice@christchurchp.org)  
Mr. Scott Hanoian, *Associate for Worship and Liturgy*  
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## 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.

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## 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

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## 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)<br><i>Children's Chapel is offered during the 9 am service</i> |
| 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*

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### WEEKDAY SERVICES

- |         |                                                                                                                               |
|---------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8:30 am | Morning Prayer, Zoom (find the link on <a href="http://christchurchgp.org">christchurchgp.org</a> )<br><i>Monday – Friday</i> |
| 5 pm    | Evening Prayer, Saint Margaret's Chapel<br><i>Tuesday – Thursday</i>                                                          |
| 5:30 pm | Holy Eucharist, The Nave<br><i>Thursdays</i>                                                                                  |
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## CHRISTMAS AT CHRIST CHURCH

### CANDLELIGHT SERVICE OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

*Sunday, December 20 | 4:30 pm (Pre-service organ recital at 4 pm.  
Doors open at 3:45 pm.)*

### CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY SERVICE WITH CRÈCHE PROCESSION

*Thursday, December 24 | 4 pm*

### CHRISTMAS EVE FESTIVAL EUCHARIST WITH ALUMNI CHOIR

*Thursday, December 24 | 8 pm*

### CHRISTMAS EVE FESTIVAL EUCHARIST WITH CHOIR (INCENSE IS USED)

*Thursday, December 24 | 11 pm (Choral prelude begins at 10:30 pm)*

### CHRISTMAS DAY FESTIVAL EUCHARIST WITH CHOIR

*Friday, December 25 | 10 am*

# WORSHIP

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## HOLY WEEK AND EASTERTIDE AT CHRIST CHURCH

### **PALM SUNDAY**

*Sunday, March 21 | 8 and 9 am*

### **HOLY MONDAY AND TUESDAY**

*Monday and Tuesday, March 22 and 23 | 7 pm*

### **HOLY WEDNESDAY: TENEBRAE**

*Wednesday, March 24 | 7 pm*

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

*Thursday, March 25 | 7 pm (The All Night Watch follows the service)*

### **GOOD FRIDAY**

*Friday, March 26 | Noon and 7 pm*

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

*Saturday, March 27 | 7 pm*

### **EASTER DAY: THE FEAST OF THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD**

*Sunday, March 28 | 7 am, 9 am (with Brass), 11:15 am (with Brass and incense)*

### **EASTER LESSONS AND CAROLS**

*Sunday, April 18 | 4 pm*

### **THE FEAST OF THE ASCENSION**

*Thursday, May 6 | 7 pm*

### **THE FEAST OF PENTECOST**

*Sunday, May 16 | 8 and 9 am*



# WORSHIP

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## SPECIAL SERVICES:

### ALL SOULS' REQUIEM

*Sunday, November 1, 2026 | 4 pm*

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

### EVENSONG

*Sundays, September 20 | October 11 | March 7 | May 16 | 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 29 | 4 pm*

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

### CANDLELIGHT SERVICE OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

*Sunday, December 20 | 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 10 | 4 pm*

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

### EASTER LESSONS AND CAROLS

*Sunday, April 18 | 4 pm*

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

### FEAST OF THE ASCENSION

*Thursday, May 6 | 7 pm*

Solemn Holy Eucharist celebrating the ascension of Jesus to heaven.

# WORSHIP

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## 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

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## 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 1 | 9 am [Rehearsal: October 31 | 9 am]*

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

*The Great Vigil of Easter, March 27 | 7 pm [Rehearsal: March 19 | 9 am]*

*The Feast of Pentecost, May 16 | 9 am [Rehearsal: May 15 | 9 am]*

*The Feast of the Transfiguration August 1, 10 am [Rehearsal: July 31 | 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](mailto: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](mailto:rectoroffice@christchurchp.org).

# CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

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**Contact** Ms. Lisa Brown, *Associate for Children, Youth and Family Ministries*  
313.885.4841 ext 104 | [lbrown@christchurchgp.org](mailto:lbrown@christchurchgp.org)

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## 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 – 11:30 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

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## CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

### 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 27, 2026 – May 2, 2027*

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*

### ATRIUM 3

*Grades 6 – 8*

*Sundays | 10:15 – 11:15 am*

# CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

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## CAMINO SMALL GROUPS FOR HIGH SCHOOLERS

*Grades 9 – 12*

Camino is Spanish for “journey.” Starting the week of July 28, small groups of 5–7 high schoolers will gather weekly for faith, friendship, and community - rooted in Ignatian Spirituality, part of our Christian tradition that invites us to notice God at work in everyday life, pay attention to our deepest inner workings, and grow through reflection on our scriptures and honest conversation with others. Like any good journey, we don’t need to know exactly where we’re headed - we just need a willingness to take the next step, together. So here’s ours: choose a group, pick a time, and be enriched this year on our journey of faith through scripture, community, and conversation.

All high schoolers are welcome - even if you are not a member of Christ Church, another church, or any church at all, and whether you’ve been exploring faith for years or are just curious. No experience or prior commitment required. ALL are welcome, no exceptions.

Choose whichever time fits your weekly schedule:

- Tuesdays, 3:30 – 4:30 pm
- Tuesdays, 5 – 6pm
- Wednesdays, 5 – 6pm
- Sundays, 10:15 – 11:15 am (walk-ins welcome)

And Thursdays are for everyone! All our Camino Groups come together at 6:45 pm to hang out, talk, and plan justice and peace activities we’re passionate about beginning September 17, 2026

Looking further ahead: we’re in early, prayerful conversations about a possible pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela, Spain. It’s tentative, but we’re excited enough to start dreaming - and if it happens, scholarships will make sure cost is never a barrier. For now, the best step is simply signing up for a Camino Small Group via our website or by contacting Lisa Brown, [lbrown@christchurchgp.org](mailto:lbrown@christchurchgp.org).



# CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

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## 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 17 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 in September 2027. 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 is offered at a variety of classes and events on select Thursdays and Sundays throughout the year.

### 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

# CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

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## SPECIAL EVENTS

### HOMEcoming

*Sunday, September 13 | 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 4 | 9 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 29 | 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 11 | 6 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 31 | 10:15 am*

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

### TEEN RETREAT

*Saturday, January 30 – 31*

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 9 | 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.



# CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

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## **PALM CROSS WORKSHOP**

*Sunday March 21 | 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, March 25 | 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, March 26 | 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.

## **EASTER EGG HUNT**

*Sunday, March 28 | 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 am*

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

## **PRIDE PARADE**

*Saturday, June 20 | 3:30 – 9 pm*

Come represent our CCGP community at the Pride Parade! We're looking for a few teens to volunteer at our table, connect with folks, and be a visible sign of welcome.

## **TREE RUNNER ADVENTURE PARK OUTING**

*Date TBA | 12 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. Carpooling available for older children.

# CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

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## DETROIT WALKING TOUR

*Date TBA | 2 – 5 pm*

All our families are invited this fall to join CCGP member Rod Arroyo for a Detroit Legacy Walking Tour of downtown's most iconic districts - Griswold Street, Campus Martius, and Grand Circus Park - before journeying into the historic neighborhoods of Paradise Valley and Black Bottom, once home to a thriving Black business and entertainment scene where jazz and blues reigned supreme. Along the way, hear stories of legendary jazz clubs, tight-knit neighborhoods, and local businesses upended by urban renewal and freeway construction.

## 2027 TEEN RETREAT

*January 30 – 31*

*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.



# CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

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## NEW INITIATIVES

### YOUTH SUMMER SERVICE

We're excited about our new partnership with the University of Detroit Mercy centered on food equity! Each summer, our teens will be invited to participate in a variety of service projects in Detroit - including delivering fresh produce to low-income seniors - rolling up our sleeves, meeting real needs, and building relationships with our neighbors along the way.

### PONDERING PARABLES: SUMMER PROGRAM

What happens when you give a child a parable and invite them to wonder about its meaning? Something wonderful! Join us for Pondering Parables, our summer program for PreK–4th graders, June 21–24, 2027, from 9:00 am – Noon. Rooted in Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, our children will spend the week wondering together over parables of growth and new life - through story, music, art, movement, and time outdoors.

### THE VILLAGE: A PARENT COMMUNITY

Find your people. Grow together. The Village is our community for parents of young children, meeting every 1st and 3rd Thursday, 4:45–6:00 PM, beginning September 17. Come connect over real relationships, shared experience, and support - with free child care provided, so you can simply show up and be part of it. During the summer of 2027, we'll also offer a handful of playdates and field trips to keep the community going year-round.

### OUR NEW PRESCHOOL IS UNDERWAY!

Please keep our little CYF team in your prayers as we begin building our new Montessori preschool - that our education wing may become a true home for education, wonder, growth, and the presence of God in the youngest among us.

# ADULT FORMATION

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

- 13    **FALL HOMECOMING FESTIVAL** – We’re back with BBQ, ice cream and fun on the front lawn following the 10 am service.
- 20    **COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP** – Join us for coffee and conversation.
- 27    **COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP** – Join us for coffee and conversation

### OCTOBER

- 4    **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, and a petting zoo. All are welcome to this fun family service!
- 11   **ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND HUMAN FLOURISHING** – Anna Martin Boyle, PhD Candidate in Computer Science at the University of Minnesota, will present her latest research on the impacts of AI on scientists in their workplaces and discuss the implications this has for everyday AI users.



# ADULT FORMATION

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- 18 **MIDTERM ELECTIONS: UNDERSTANDING MICHIGAN** – Sandy Baruah, President and Chief Executive Officer, Detroit Regional Chamber, is back to discuss what we know from Michigan polling data leading up to the midterms.
- 25 **FRIENDSHIP WEEK** – What does friendship look like? How can we expand our understanding of what it means to concretely build community in our lives and neighborhoods? Join Fr. Drew and Mtr. Maureen as they kick-off Friendship Week at Christ Church

## NOVEMBER

- 1 **ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY AND PARISH BREAKFAST** – 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 new members of Christ's Body. All are invited to join us for a Parish Reception in the Undercroft to greet the newly baptized and their families.
- 8 **POETRY IN STONE** – Join Mtr. Maureen and Eric Ash for a tour of Christ Church architecture and the theological meaning conveyed in stone, glass and wood. We will also reflect on how the Saint John's Bible represents an extension of Gothic architecture and how it has enhanced our worship life.
- 15 **A BIBLICAL VISION OF MAKING FOR A CULTURE OF CONVENIENCE** – Jim Watkins, Ph. D, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs at Nashotah House will present an exploration of the biblical vision for human creativity and making and what it means in our world of technological convenience today.
- 22 **THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MARK: THE PROLOGUE** – This Forum begins a three-part series exploring the Gospel according to Mark which we will hear throughout the coming liturgical year. Using the beginning verses of Mark's Gospel, enhanced by images from the St John's Bible, we will explore key themes in Mark's understanding of the life of Christ.
- 29 **ADVENT WREATH WORKSHOP & CHRISTMAS TREE SALE** – It's time to make Advent wreaths and begin our preparation for the in-breaking of God's love! Balsam, Fraser Firs and Blue Spruce are available, with plenty of 7 and 8 foot trees, which we source through Allemon's Landscape Center. Every sale helps fund our work through the Carsten's Literacy Initiative.

# ADULT FORMATION

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## DECEMBER

- 6 **FORWARD MOVEMENT: YESTERDAY, TODAY & TOMORROW** – Join Fr. Drew in a conversation with Forward Movement Executive Director, The Rev. Scott Gunn, as they discuss matters of importance on the national church scene.
- 13 **CHRIST CHURCH MONTESSORI** – Join Fr. Drew for a conversation with Karen Zehnal, the Director of our new Montessori Program!
- 20 **COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP** – Join us for coffee and conversation.

## JANUARY

- 3 **HAPPY NEW YEAR** – Eing in the new year with coffee and Epiphany cake.
- 10 **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.
- 17 **COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP** – Join us for coffee and conversation.
- 24 **EPISCOPAL MIGRATION** – Join Fr Drew and Mtr Maureen in a conversation with a panel of members who were raised in other traditions but found their home in the Episcopal Church.
- 31 **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.

## FEBRUARY

- 7 **THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MARK: LIFE OF JESUS** – We continue or exploration of the Gospel according to Mark, turning today to the life, teachings, miracles and sayings of Jesus retold by Saint Mark.
- 14 **COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP** – Join us for coffee and conversation
- 21 **COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP** – Join us for coffee and conversation
- 28 **FRIENDSHIP WEEK** – What does friendship look like? How can we expand our understanding of what it means to concretely build community in our lives and neighborhoods? Join Fr. Drew and Mtr. Maureen for our second Friendship Week at Christ Church.



# ADULT FORMATION

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## MARCH

- 7 **THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MARK: THE PASSION** – We conclude our exploration of the Gospel according to Mark as we look at the account of Jesus' Passion, death, and Resurrection as told by Saint Mark.
- 14 **COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP** – Join us for coffee and conversation.
- 21 **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!!
- 28 **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 refreshments for all adults.

## APRIL

- 4 **EASTERTIDE COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP** – Join us for coffee and conversation.
- 11 **COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP** – Join us for coffee and conversation.
- 18 **CHRIST CHURCH MONTESSORI** – Join Fr. Drew for a conversation with Karen Zehnal, the Director of our new Montessori program!?
- 25 **A CONVERSATION WITH FATHER DREW**

## MAY

- 2 **FRIENDSHIP WEEK** – What does friendship look like? How can we expand our understanding of what it means to concretely build community in our lives and neighborhoods? Join Fr. Drew and Mtr. Maureen for our third Friendship Week at Christ Church.
- 9 **MOTHER'S DAY**
- 16 **PENTECOST – WEAR RED!** – A Strawberry Shortcake Reception follows the service.

# ADULT FORMATION

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## THURSDAYS AT CHRIST CHURCH

*September 17, 2026 – May 6, 2027*

Join us for a weekly evening of faith, fellowship, and formation to nourish your soul, mind, and body. The evening begins with Holy Eucharist and a community dinner prepared by a variety of local chefs and parishioners alike. This year we will have cook offs, tail gates and a special Parish wide Thanksgiving dinner, as well as fun themed events during the cold days of winter. Thursday evenings provide something for everyone to enjoy and it is a great way to take the load off your shoulders when planning your family's meals for the week. Even if you can't stay for formation we would love to join you around the table for food and conversation. A Suggested donation of \$10/person, \$25/family helps us cover the cost.

Adult formation is offered in our Undercroft classroom, Children and youth formation is offered in the Education Wing.

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      |

Each week will include a variety of exciting options with themed dinners all made fresh! Cost for dinner is \$10 per person, \$25 per family.

## ADULT BIBLE STUDY

*Wednesdays, 1 – 2 pm, Family Room*

Church members gather weekly in the family room for a member led Bible Study. We are enjoying a continuous study of the New Testament.

## THURSDAY FORMATION OFFERINGS FOR ADULTS

### WHAT GROWS IN WEARY LANDS: ON CHRISTIAN RESILIENCE

*September 17 – November 19*

Tish Harrison Warren's latest book, published in May of 2026, is written for anyone seeking a life of depth in a distracted age. Warren notes that for centuries "aridity" was seen as a necessary prerequisite for growth and maturity. How different from the world in which we find ourselves today, in which we are taught that if we aren't comfortable we are not doing it right. Join us as we learn how Church Mothers and Fathers from our ancient tradition found their growing edge in even the driest and most trying times and learned that nothing is ever wasted in our spiritual journey.



# ADULT FORMATION

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## THE ANGLICAN SPIRIT: A HISTORY OF OUR FAITH

*January 14 – May 6*

Archbishop Michael Ramsey was one of the church's most remarkable twentieth-century saints: wise and humble, humorous and compassionate. This collection of lectures, given here in the United States, reveal the breadth of Ramsey's theological understanding and his vision of the church and the Christian life.

During this class we will cover the nuts and bolts of the history of Anglicanism, discover our place within it as the Episcopal Church, and grow in appreciation for our rich heritage and what makes us stand out in the American religious landscape.

## SEASONAL BOOK GROUP

*One season, one book, one evening of conversation!*

*6:30 – 8:30 pm, Miller Hall*

## THE BERRY PICKERS (JOSEPH LACONTE)

*November 15*

Winner of the Andrew Carnegie medal of Excellence, Amanda Peters debut novel explores the meaning of kin, grief, loss, and the permanence of family. In it a little girl is stolen from her family of migrant Mi'kmaq berry pickers in the blueberry fields of Maine. The loss of Ruthie, renamed Norma, haunts her family for decades, while the gaining of a daughter through violent means locks another family in a permanent state of mourning for the children they cannot have on their own. Ms. Peters has written a novel difficult to put down filled with the healing power of love and the grace of forgiveness. She is an author of Mi'kmaq and settler Ancestry who lives and works in the Annapolis Valley, Nova Scotia.

## SMALL THINGS LIKE THESE (CLAIRE KEEGAN)

*January 24*

Our January selection tells another tale of love and what it means to be a family in a culture of indifference and shame. It is 1985 in a small Irish town. During the weeks leading up to Christmas, Bill Furlong, a coal merchant and family man faces into his busiest season. Early one morning, while delivering an order to the local convent, Bill makes a discovery which forces him to confront both his past and the complicit silences of a town controlled by the church.

Already an international bestseller, *Small Things Like These* is a deeply affecting story of hope, quiet heroism, and empathy from one of our most critically lauded and iconic writers.

# ADULT FORMATION

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## THE SPIRITUALITY OF JANE AUSTEN (PAULA HOLLINGSWORTH)

*April 18*

Best known for her novels *Pride and Prejudice*, *Sense and Sensibility*, *Mansfield Park*, and *Emma*, published anonymously, Jane Austen commented, critiqued, and illuminated the life of the British gentry at the end of the 18th century. But did Jane's writings highlight anything about her own spirituality? In this celebratory book, Paula Hollingsworth explores Jane Austen's gentle but strong faith and the effect it had both on her life and her writing. Drawing on Jane's life story, her letters, her friendships, her books, and the characters portrayed, Paula shows the depth of Jane Austen's spirituality.

## LIVING WITH GRIEF

*May 13, 20, May 27 and June 3*

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

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**CONTACT:** Mr. Scott Hanoian, *Associate for Worship and Liturgy; Director of Music*  
313.885.4841 ext 102 | [music@christchurchgp.org](mailto:music@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.

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### 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, [music@christchurchgp.org](mailto:music@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

### 2026–2027 CONCERT SERIES

*All concerts and other musical events have open, non-reserved seating. If tickets are required, they may be purchased in advance on the website, the church office or day-of at the door. There will be a free pre-concert lecture before Chorale concerts at 3 pm hosted by Scott Hanoian, Associate for Music and Worship*

#### HOME

*Sunday, October 25, 2026 | 4 pm*

*Lakeshore Chamber Singers, Scott Hanoian, Musical Director*

*Free-will offering*

Our series opens with a concert featuring the Lakeshore Chamber Singers featuring music that reflects on the 250th anniversary of the United States of America. The performance will include music by American composers Caroline Shaw, Stephen Paulus, Eric Whitacre, Marques Garrett, and many more.

#### ALEXANDER'S FEAST – GEORGE FRIDERIC HANDEL

*Sunday, November 22, 2026 | 4 pm*

*Christ Church Chorale and Orchestra*

*Tickets: \$25*

Join the Christ Church Chorale, Orchestra, and soloists in a performance of George Frideric Handel's oratorio *Alexander's Feast*. Written to celebrate the Feast of Saint Cecilia, Handel's vibrantly colorful work moves listeners from heartfelt pity to fiery revenge, and from tender love to transcendent joy.

#### CHRISTMAS CONCERT – AN IRISH CHRISTMAS

*Sunday, December 13, 2026 | 4 pm*

*Christ Church Chorale and Orchestra*

*Tickets: \$25*

Christ Church celebrates the season with Christmas favorites from Ireland, featuring the first part of George Frideric Handel's *Messiah* as heard at its first performance in Dublin in 1742 and other traditional Irish holiday favorites. Then, everyone joins to sing some of our favorite Christmas carols. Then, the audience is invited to join in to sing some of our favorite Christmas carols and the Hallelujah Chorus.

#### EVENSONG

September 20, October 11, March 7, May 16

*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). Free and open to the public.*

## THE LITTLE MATCH GIRL PASSION – DAVID LANG

*Saturday, February 6, 2027 | 7 pm*

*Lakeshore Chamber Singers, Scott Hanoian, Musical Director*

*Free-will offering.*

Join Scott Hanoian and the Lakeshore Chamber Singers in a performance of David Lang's Pulitzer Prize winning work *the little match girl passion*. Based on Hans Christian Andersen's story, this heartbreaking work waves together Andersen's narrative with Lang's versions of the crowd and character responses as experienced in J. S. Bach's *St. Matthew Passion*.

## DER TOD JESU – GEORGE PHILIPP TELEMANN

*Palm Sunday, March 21, 2027 | 4 pm*

*Christ Church Schola and Lakeshore Baroque, Scott Hanoian, Musical Director*

*Free-will offering*

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.

## DONA NOBIS PACEM – RALPH VAUGHAN WILLIAMS

*Sunday, May 2, 2027 | 4 pm*

*Christ Church Chorale and Orchestra*

*Tickets \$25*

Join the Christ Church Chorale in their performance of Ralph Vaughan Williams' *Dona nobis pacem*, a cantata written at a time when England was slowly awakening to the possibility of a second European conflict. Vaughan Williams sets three poems of Walt Whitman amongst other texts in this heart-wrenching plea for peace.

## OPERA DE METRO: DON GIOVANNI – WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART

*Saturday, May 22, 2027 | 7 pm & Sunday, May 23, 2027 | 3 pm*

*Tickets: \$30 (students \$20) available at [www.operademetro.org](http://www.operademetro.org).*

## BON VOYAGE CONCERT

*Wednesday, July 23, 2027 | 7 pm*

*Christ Church Choir*

*Free-will offering*

Spend a summer evening with the Christ Church Choirs as they sing music from their upcoming pilgrimage to England. As they prepare to offer services in Lincoln Cathedral and Westminster Abbey, hear the choir sing some of their favorite music spanning several centuries.

# PARISH LIFE

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

### EUCHRE TOURNAMENTS

*February 19, 2027 | 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!

### INTRODUCTION TO CALLIGRAPHY AND THE SAINT JOHN'S BIBLE

*September 23, 2026 | 6:30 pm  
Undercroft*

Vicki Corwin, Master Calligrapher will lead a class on Calligraphy basics as well as discuss the beauty of the St John's Bible, in conjunction with Mtr. Maureen Please RSVP to reserve a seat, all materials will be provided for you to try your hand at the art of lettering!

## **PSYCHEDELIC SOUL: A JOURNEY THROUGH RHYTHM & TIME**

*Friday, September 25, 2026 | Motown Museum*

*Tickets \$15 plus lunch*

Join us for a private tour at the Esther Gordy Edwards Centre for Excellence and learn more about how Motown music was transformed by cultural influences of the late 60s and early 70s. Lunch to follow at the Mercury Bar. RSVP required.

## **DETROIT LEGACY TOURS: BEBOP, BOULEVARDS, AND BOOMTOWN: A DETROIT STORY.**

*October 30, 2026 | Time TBA*

*Tickets \$40*

This walking tour led by our own Rod Arroyo features downtown highlights as well as the historic neighborhoods of Paradise Valley and Black Bottom. Hear the stories of historic jazz clubs, cohesive neighborhoods and thriving local businesses. This is The Detroit Jazz Tour you do not want to miss! RSVP required

## **MORNINGSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD CHRISTMAS SHOPPING TOUR.**

*November 13 | 10 am*

Begin your morning with us relaxing over coffee at Morningside Cafe in the Morningside neighborhood and then join us as we head over to Next Chapter Books for some Christmas shopping.

## **TOUR OF THE FAIR LANE ESTATE**

*Saturday, February 7, 2026*

Come and see Fair Lane all decked out for the holidays! We will enjoy a guided tour and then relax at the iconic Miller's Bar in Dearborn for a world famous burger and a Vernors!

## **TBA**

*January 2027*

## **EUCHRE TOURNAMENT**

*February 19, 2027 | 6:30 pm*

*Cost: \$10 plus a personal care item for Crossroads*

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



# PARISH LIFE

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## OSCAR-NOMINATED SHORT FILMS - ANIMATION AND LIVE ACTION

*March 6, 2027 | 1 pm*

*Detroit Institute of Arts, Dinner following at Alma Kitchen | \$11 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.

## MIGRATION IN THE MITTEN, BIRDING AT BELLE ISLE

**FOLLOWED BY COFFEE**

*May 1, 2027 | 9 am*

*Belle Isle and Post*

Attention bird lovers (and early risers!) – Join us for a morning of bird watching at Belle Isle followed by coffee at Post.

## PARISH EVENTS

### FALL HOMECOMING FESTIVAL

*Sunday, September 13, 2026 | 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 4, 2026 | 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 11, 2026 | 6 pm, 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 16, 2027 | 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 24, July 22, August 19 | 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!

*Save the Date!*



**Join us in the Undercroft for  
holiday cheer and hors d'oeuvres.**

*All net proceeds benefit the Carstens Literacy Initiative*

**For more information contact Colleen Fitzgerald, [cfitzgerald@christchurchgp.org](mailto:cfitzgerald@christchurchgp.org)**



# PASTORAL CARE MINISTRIES

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## 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 a 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 its 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

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## 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              | Teachers and Mentors      | Bakers               | Adopt-a-Garden  |
| Altar Guild           | Guild of the Christ Child | Circle Shepherds     | Crossroads      |
| Eucharistic Ministers |                           | Funeral Min. Team    | Holy Dusters    |
| Flower Guild          |                           | Take-a-Meal          | Receptionist    |
| Ushers   Greeters     |                           | Wedding Coordinators | Summer Starters |
| Readers               |                           | Eucharistic Visitors | Tellers         |
| Vergers               |                           |                      |                 |

## 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

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## **CROSSROADS OF MICHIGAN**

*November 8, 2026; February 14, 2027; April 25, 2027*

The first Sunday “Soup Kitchen” in Detroit, Crossroads of Michigan has long been a recipient of our care and attention. Three Sundays a year, 40 Christ Church Volunteers gather (in two shifts) to prepare and serve the Crossroads meal. No experience necessary, ages 10 and up welcome!

## **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.

## **STUFF THE BUS!**

*Mid-August – Homecoming*

Help us help Carstens students start the year in style. From mid-August until Homecoming Sunday, we stuff the bus with uniform shirts, pants and sweaters to stock the closet at Carstens.

# THE JOURNEY OF GENEROSITY

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**Contact** Mr. Tim Wood, Associate for Finance and Administration  
313.885.4841, ext 111 | [twood@christchurchgp.org](mailto: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.

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## 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

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## 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

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## 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 commitmentss 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.

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## 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 ([rectorsoffice@christchurchgp.org](mailto:rectorsoffice@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](mailto:twood@christchurchgp.org)) or Fr. Drew ([rectorsoffice@christchurchgp.org](mailto:rectorsoffice@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.



# NOTES

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# Seventh Annual Christ Church Hymnathon!



**Saturday, October 3 | 8 am to 6 pm**

*Join us in person or watch online at [christchurchgp.org](http://christchurchgp.org).*

From Father We Praise Thee all the way to the National Anthem, (yes, the National Anthem is in the hymnal!) the choir will sing a minimum of one verse of each hymn.

Scan the QR code to sponsor a chorister, a hymn or the event. All proceeds support our music program.



# CLERGY AND STAFF

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## THE RECTOR'S OFFICE

The Rev'd Andrew Van Culin, *Rector*

313-885-4842 | [rectorsoffice@christchurchgp.org](mailto:rectorsoffice@christchurchgp.org)

Ms. Marisa Bennett, *Executive Assistant to the Rector*

313-885-4842 | [rectorsoffice@christchurchgp.org](mailto:rectorsoffice@christchurchgp.org)

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

313-885-4841, ext 115 | [cfitzgerald@christchurchgp.org](mailto:cfitzgerald@christchurchgp.org)

Mr. Miles Kennedy, *Rector's Verger*

313.885.4841, ext 131 | [mken尼迪@christchurchgp.org](mailto:mken尼迪@christchurchgp.org)

Ms. Karen Zehnal, *Director, Christ Church Center for Children*

313.885.4841, ext 121 | [kzehnal@christchurchgp.org](mailto:kzehnal@christchurchgp.org)

## SENIOR ASSOCIATES

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

313-885-4841 ext 104 | [lbrown@christchurchgp.org](mailto:lbrown@christchurchgp.org)

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

313-885-4841 ext 102 | [shanoian@christchurchgp.org](mailto:shanoian@christchurchgp.org)

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

313-885-4841 ext 116 | [mmartin@christchurchgp.org](mailto:mmartin@christchurchgp.org)

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

313-885-4841 ext 111 | [twood@christchurchgp.org](mailto:twood@christchurchgp.org)

## PROGRAM AND ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Mr. Randy Anderson, *Maintenance and Preservation Supervisor*

313.885.4841, ext 112 | [randerson@christchurchgp.org](mailto:randerson@christchurchgp.org)

Mr. Clayton Farmer, *Assistant Director of Music and Organist*

313-885-4841, ext 103 | [cfarmer@christchurchgp.org](mailto:cfarmer@christchurchgp.org)