



Gathered Together

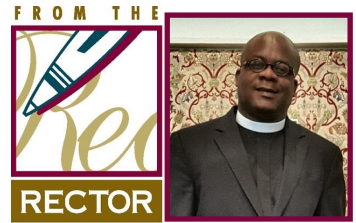
THE CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2019

Enter His gates with ***thanksgiving***;
go into His courts with praise.

Give thanks to Him and
praise His name.

PSALM 100:4



GOOD WORDS TO YOU

I read a story about the morning radio show *Morning Edition*, which was hosted by Bob Edwards. On a particular day of the week, Bob will interview John Ciardi, who shared with listeners the meaning and etymology of words. He would take a word like ‘give’ and produce a mountain of information about that word. The point was to make the word as meaningful and useful as he possibly could. John would always end his show with these words: “This is John Ciardi; good words to you.”

Some would say, ‘I need a word.’ This is the moment where someone truly believes a good word would mean more than anything else. That is the moment where we all feel a good word would lift our spirits up. Good words are hard to come by these days. Good words are shrinking in spaces where we all gather to commune, relax, or even eat. Good words are shrinking in schools among students - my daughter told me about a remark from one of her classmates. I was horrified. Good words are shrinking all around us mainly because we are either all too angry with ourselves and others, or so angry with all the stuff that is going on in our lives and around us. Good words are shrinking.

I have often wondered about the cliché “No news is good news.” Should news be only bad news? It is no wonder, then, that what we watch and read is mostly consumed not by the good and life transforming change that others are inaugurating within our communities, rather it is those things which cast doubt on our social cohesion and undermines any strides towards a peaceful society.

But I *like* to hear the good news. There’s nothing wrong with the good words that are enshrined in the good news. I like to hear the story that [Katherine Hankey](#) writes about in the hymn “*Tell Me The Old Old Story*” – that story about Jesus and His love. That story is of good words to you. And if we can all wrap our lives in that story... if only we could.

One of the strangest conversations I had with an uncle - my father's brother - was in January of 1999. I had visited him at his home after the New Year to bid him good-bye as I returned back to Seminary. Looking back, he sounded like he was giving me his good words. I have always valued those good words that he gave to me, and I have carried those words with me ever since.

That conversation, and the good words he shared, remind me of the Old Testament practice where fathers offered a good word, a blessing to their son before their passing. The patriarchs Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob all gave formal blessings to their children and, in Jacob's case, to some grandchildren. Receiving a good word - a blessing - from one's father was considered in the highest esteem. A good word from a father included words of encouragement and, oftentimes, prophetic words concerning the future.

Remember the story about Isaac's good words to Jacob? Those words were actually meant for Esau. In those good words, Isaac gave him the earth's bounty and authority over his brother ([Genesis 27:28-29](#))? Within the good word was also a promise that those who blessed Jacob would be blessed, and those who cursed him would receive a curse.

And when Esau discovered that Jacob had deceived his father and received the good words meant for him, he was so distraught and asked, "Have you not reserved a blessing for me? Have you not reserved a good word for me?"

Good words are blessings and a blessing is a good word, and we certainly cannot have enough of that. We all need a good word, because our aching world needs a good word. And the fact remains that good words make all the difference in our lives. For when we speak good words to each other, the effect of those words of blessings only confirm the living life in those words and each of us.



Please note that the Church Office will be closed:

Monday, November 11th - Veterans' Day

Thursday and Friday, November 28th & 29th - Thanksgiving



Our reality is one where we all talk to ourselves. But that talk shouldn't be solely about how beautiful or lovely we are, although that is also important. Talking to yourself is that internal conversation that you have with yourself. And in that conversation, you should wonder about what you say to yourself. Do you say a good word to yourself?

I never got the chance to speak to my dad, and to hear the good words that he had for me and my brother before his passing. Maybe you also didn't get the chance to hear those words from your mother or father. But I remember beating up my sister - #23 (if you know what I mean) - a few weeks before my father was taken ill. He was very upset with me, and rightfully so. He invited me to make a promise never to beat up my sister ever again. I promised, and I didn't ever beat my sister again.

Sunday, November 10th will be a very busy day for us. It is our In-Gathering Sunday, where we will bless this community of faith with many of the gifts that we celebrate in our daily lives. We will all bring our pledge cards, which is a symbol of our commitment to this faith community. We will also hold our Annual Meeting. It will be a moment to celebrate our common Christ Church life and elect new Vestry members. Above all, it will be a moment to say a good word to each other for all the many ways in which each has enriched our common life.

Over the coming weeks, we will make a turn toward the season of goodwill: Thanksgiving and Christmas. These are occasions for good words. And as you look towards these joyful seasons of your life and our common lives, I'd like to invite you also to talk to yourself about powerful, inspiring, and life-giving things. Talk to yourself about things that keep you focused and drive you. Talk to yourself about the hurdles that you have overcome to become who you are.

Above all else, say a good word to yourself and talk goodness to yourself, for that is the only way you can be motivated to offer good words to others.

~Manny.



WARDENS' MESSAGE

Please attend the Annual Meeting on November 10th. You will be voting for our church leadership for the coming year. Carefully and prayerfully consider each of the candidates so that you will be ready to vote. There will be one service that day at 9:30 a.m. At that service, we request that pledge cards be turned in. This will be our opportunity to share the bounty that we have in our lives for service to our Lord and our world. After the service, there will be a potluck brunch, followed by our Annual Meeting.

On October 17th, Steve attended the Community Action Council of Howard County's Annual Holland Awards Dinner, which honored Roy and Sue Appletree, the leaders of ***Prepare for Success***. Steve and Linda sat at a table with Mike and Lois Clark. What does this have to do with Christ Church? To quote the evening's program: "In 2000, the Christ Church Link Helpline [Mike Clark was the Director of Christ Church Link], a non-denominational outreach ministry of Christ Episcopal Church, received many calls from parents unable to afford school supplies for their children. Learning the need was far greater and more widespread, they then launched PFS in 2002. In 2008, Christ Episcopal Church's Link help line was looking to transition out responsibility for the program..." Roy and Sue agreed to take it over. Prepare for Success now provides supplies for more than 2,500 students in Howard County. This does not include the supplies donated directly to specific schools by churches such as Christ Church. As Father Manny would say, "We planted a tree and it bore fruit."

Our country lost a giant this month with the death of Congressman Elijah Cummings. He was a passionate defender of those who have little, and a believer that our nation's hope lies in lifting up our younger generation. As passionate as he was, he strongly believed in treating all - whether supporters or political opponents - with dignity and respect.

Mike Humkey, Dione Mahoney, Paula Rees and Duane Smith end their terms on the vestry and as Wardens, we wish to express our deep appreciation for their service.

Steve Alpern
Sara Kirkpatrick
Wardens





THE 2019 CHRIST CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH

The Christ Church Annual Meeting is taking place on Sunday, November 10th so please mark your calendars. On this day we will have only one service, and that takes place at 9:30 a.m. Afterwards, we will share a potluck brunch in New Brick's lower level (please see the sign-up sheet in the narthex), and then return to the church for our meeting.

We'll gather to celebrate the life of our community, and also to show our appreciation to those Vestry members who are concluding their terms in November - Mike Humkey, Dione Mahoney, Paula Rees and Duane Smith. We will also welcome new leaders for the ministry of the Church. To date, parishioners who have offered themselves for nomination to serve on the Vestry are: Lynn Foor, William Ben Jackson, Greta Pike-Barnes, Paula Rees and Jason Whong. A page has been created on our website so that you can learn more about each candidate, and [you can access that page here](#).

Childcare will be available during this gathering,
and we hope that you all will join us.



LITURGY AND WORSHIP



CHORAL EVENSONG - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD

Fall is finally here, and our choirs have been hard at work. At the beginning of October, we were delighted when our first Choral Evensong of the autumn attracted almost fifty worshippers! Our next service of Choral Evensong will be Sunday, November 3rd at 5 p.m. in Old Brick. This service will be more participatory, with congregational singing of the evening canticles (the *Magnificat* and *Nunc dimittis*). Evensong is widely regarded as one of the great “jewels” of the liturgical and musical tradition of our denomination. Come join us for this brief, contemplative, and beautiful service.

IN-GATHERING OF PLEDGES - NOVEMBER 10TH

On Sunday, November 10th during the 9:30 service, we will have our Annual Pledge In-Gathering. Parishioners are invited to bring their pledge cards to church on that Sunday where, with songs of praise and gratitude, we will all place our pledges in a basket on the Altar table.

THANKSGIVING DAY - NOVEMBER 28TH

Christ Church will offer a Thanksgiving Day Eucharist at 10:00 a.m. in Old Brick. All are invited to join us in giving thanks for the innumerable gifts with which God has blessed us.

AT COMMUNION

At Communion, we ask that you allow the chalcist to dip your wafer in the wine. The Diocese feels that this is more sanitary, since parishioners sometimes inadvertently get their fingers in the wine. We appreciate your cooperation as we strive to prevent the spread of germs while preserving the sanctity of the sacrament.

LORD’S PRAYER

During the summer months of traveling, one of our parishioners found themselves worshipping in an Anglican Church in a very cosmopolitan city. The breath of diversity in the parish was so palpable, especially during the Eucharist, where worshippers were invited to pray the Lord’s Prayer in their native language. This story was very heartwarming, especially considering the fact that our parish, in many ways, embodies the ethos of that congregation. In order for us to experience the full breath of our diversity, we would, on the first Sundays of each month, invite parishioners to pray the Lord’s Prayer in the language of their choice.



LITURGY AND WORSHIP

HEALING MINISTRY

We have made a change to our Sunday healing ministry. On the third Sunday of each month (November 17th, in this case), we will invite parishioners to gather around the altar and Fr. Manny will offer laying on of hands and anointing with holy oil. On all other Sundays, we will continue to have lay ministers offer laying on of hands and anointing with holy oil by the doors into the Sanctuary.



ADVENT COMPLINE

Looking for an opportunity to recommit yourself to prayer during this season of Advent? The season of Advent is about waiting in anticipation for the wonderful story of human hope. Christ Church will be offering Advent Compline on each Thursday during Advent: December 5th, 12th, and 19th at 7:00 p.m. each week. Please join us in Old Brick for a quiet and contemplative time of prayer and reflection, as we wait the coming Messiah.

ADVENT QUIET DAY

Christ Church Advent Quiet Day will take place in Old Brick on Saturday December 7th from 8:30 a.m. to noon. This time together helps us to focus and retain our perspective in the weeks leading up to Christmas. We are blessed to have The Reverend Robert Bunker lead the session on our theme: ***Arise for the task is yours, take courage and do it.*** Prior to the morning session, we will gather in Old Brick for breakfast and conversation from 8:30 - 9:00 a.m. The morning will conclude with a Holy Eucharist in Old Brick. Please join us for an enriching time together. A sign-up sheet will be available in the narthex. For further information, contact Ellen Hoke via efboudreau1@gmail.com or 301-452-7115.





BE A PART OF YOUR SUNDAY MORNING AT CHRIST CHURCH!



RING THE BELL IN OLD BRICK

Have you heard the bell ring as you arrived for church? Or shortly before the service started?

Several parishioners are trained to ring the rather finicky bell in Old Brick belfry (it has its idiosyncrasies!) and ring the bell before either the 8 or 10:30 service. It not only alerts those in New

Brick to the start of the service, but it's friendly note to the nearby neighborhoods that Christ Church is a welcoming community of faith. If you would like to serve as bell ringer, please contact

[us.](#)

GREETERS

Greet people in the narthex, as they arrive for worship. In addition to being welcomed and given a service leaflet by the ushers, we are welcomed to New Brick by designated “Greeters”. Greeters are parishioners who are especially on the lookout for visitors or those fairly new to Christ Church to welcome them and give them a chance to ask questions. Serving as a greeter either before or after the service is an easy way to learn the names of fellow parishioners and serve as an “ambassador” for the parish. Greeters serve either on a monthly rotation or ad hoc – arriving 15 minutes before the service or staying afterwards. Please contact Mary Keath or Yetti Lipede if you would like to be scheduled for the ministry OR just show up and “greet”! Note: Being a greeter is a great way to put names and faces together, whether you have attended Christ Church for two months or for twenty-five years!

HOST REFRESHMENTS

Formation at Christ Church resumed on September 15th. We are using New Brick, Old Brick, and the Parish Hall for classes and activities. As a result, our refreshment time after each service has been modified. Coffee, tea, juice, and light refreshments will be served in Old Brick after the 8:00 service, where the Adult Forum will convene at 9:30. The refreshments will then move to the Hospitality Room (elevator room) in New Brick for serving after the 10:30 service. Parishioners are urged to sign up to provide light refreshments on a given Sunday, so please use the sign-up sheet in the narthex of New Brick to indicate which Sunday you wish to host. As volunteer for Coffee Hour, one large bottle of juice or lemonade should be brought, and some examples of store-bought food you can provide are: cookies, cakes (banana, pumpkin, pound), cheese & crackers, muffins (mini-sized; nut-free), mini bagels (or regular ones cut in half or quartered) and cream cheese, yogurt, or a selection of fresh fruit such as apples, grapes and strawberries that are washed and plated, or larger fruit items such as melons cut into bite-sized pieces. You can choose a selection of a couple different items, or feel free to keep it simple and bring just one type.

Thank you for your contributions!



PARISH LIFE

IT'S AUCTION TIME!!! SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2ND

The CEC 30th Annual Auction is here! Join us this Saturday, November 2nd in the lower level of New Brick. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. and you are welcome to bring family and friends. This is the largest, and most memorable, fundraiser of our calendar year. We will have both live and silent auctions with a wide range of wonderful items donated by our generous members and friends. In fact, there are so many interesting items that you will find yourselves trying to outbid your friends for many of them!



Some of those items are:

- One week's use of a Maui condo (between 5/31 and 11/1/20)
- Tickets for two to see CATS at the Hippodrome on 1/22/20
- Gospel brunch for 20 at the Alpern residence on 6/7/20
- Whitetail lift tickets with rental equipment on 1/5 - 3/1/20
- French dinner for 6 people at the Pruitts on 2/1/20
- Candle making class by Diya, Deepti and Amisha on 3/7/20
- Tickets for two to see Aladdin at the Hippodrome on 11/19/19

In addition to the comical antics of our two auctioneers, Steve Alpern and Patrick Frith, we will have mouth-watering appetizers, wine and other beverages. Babysitting will be provided by our excellent childcare givers. We hope you can come! Please [email us with any questions](#).

AUCTION ITEM DELIVERIES - TODAY AND TOMORROW

Delivery of your auction items may be delivered in the afternoon on Friday, November 1st (until 5:30 p.m.) to New Brick LL. You can also bring them the morning of Saturday, Nov. 2nd from 9:30-11:00 a.m. to New Brick LL. We would like to thank all who have made donations. They are very much appreciated, and help support our parish family and home. Thank you!

PARISH LIFE (CONTINUED)

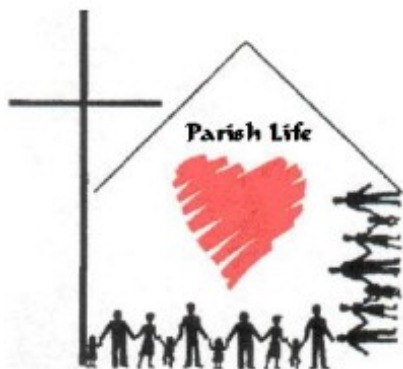


WOCC : WOMEN OF CHRIST CHURCH NEWS

Our regular meeting will be held on Monday, November 4th at 1 p.m. in LLNB – Vestry Room. We will be nominating a slate for the 2020 officers. Officers include: Vice President, Financial Officer, Secretary, and Chaplin. The WOCC bylaws state that the current VP will automatically become President the following year. We hope you will plan to join us for the meeting. Please note the WOCC calendar of events through the end of the year. All women of Christ Church are members, and so we hope that you will join us for any and all events:

Monday, November 4th at 1 p.m. LLNB – monthly meeting with nominations and election of officers for 2020

Sunday, December 8th at 1 p.m. at King's Contrivance – Annual Christmas luncheon (details to follow in upcoming Christ Church communications).



MOCC : MEN OF CHRIST CHURCH NEWS

Men of Christ Church, I want to continue to encourage you to join us in our efforts to develop and expand our ministry, so that we can be a resource to the members of our local community, and beyond. Please support the MOCC's next Random Act of Kindness for our fellow neighbors in the Columbia area as we raise funds to provide coffee, juice, and donuts for the nurses and staff of the maternity ward at Howard County General Hospital. Please consider giving a donation to Ron Couch or Duane Smith when you see them at church, as every contribution goes toward helping fuel those very important folks during their long work days. If you have any questions, please contact or see Ron or Duane. Thank you.



PARISH LIFE (CONTINUED)

***"CHRIST CHURCH, TODAY AND TOMORROW"* UPCOMING GATHERINGS**

- November 7th @ 7:00 p.m. - Home of Tim & Sherry Beaty
- November 12th @ 7:00 p.m. - Home of Preethi & Samuel Jackson

Please RSVP for these gatherings, so that we can ensure space. If you need more information, [email the church office](#).

THIRD SUNDAY BRUNCH - NOVEMBER 17TH

Please note that we are changing restaurants from Ale House to Stanford Grill for this month's brunch. Come and join us at 12:30 p.m. at the Stanford Grill, 8900 Stanford Blvd in Columbia. This is fun way to get to know other parishioners over the breaking of bread. All are invited, and the sign-up sheet will be in the narthex.



CHRIST CHURCH HOCKEY NIGHT – DECEMBER 9TH

The Men of Christ Church group is inviting the entire Christ Church parish family to an exciting December gathering. On December 9th at 7:00 p.m. we will attend the Washington Capitals game at Capital One Arena in Washington D.C. If you are planning on joining us, payment must be made by Sunday, November 3rd in order to secure a ticket. You can leave payments (\$49. per ticket, which includes a Capitals t-shirt; in either cash or check form, and sealed in an envelope, please) for Duane Smith in the church office. Also, please [email us](#) with the number of tickets you want so he can place an accurate order on Monday (he is away from Christ Church this weekend). Thank you.

CHRIST CHURCH TRAVELS TO GHANA IN 2020

Next year, join Christ Episcopal Church as we embark on a cultural heritage immersion journey into Africa. In 2020, Father Manny will lead our group to Ghana and West Africa, where we will tour various cultural and historical sites as well as worship in an Anglican church for a unique liturgical experience. More details will be in future editions of our weekly and monthly newsletters. For more information, please speak with Father Manny.

WE HAVE A NEW, PORTABLE SOUND SYSTEM!

It is with great pleasure we announce the purchase of a portable sound system for on-campus events. It will be stored in the Sacristy, and further details as how to reserve the system are to follow. The Auction, a CEC Gathering on November 2nd, will be the first time it is used so come hear it in person... and let the bidding begin!



MUSIC MINISTRY

Fall is finally here, and our choirs have been hard at work. At the beginning of October, we were delighted when our first Choral Evensong of the year attracted almost fifty worshippers! Our next service of **Choral Evensong will be November 3rd at 5 p.m. in Old Brick**. This service will be more participatory, with congregational singing of the evening canticles (the *Magnificat* and *Nunc dimittis*). Evensong is widely regarded as one of the great “jewels” of the liturgical and musical tradition of our denomination. I encourage you to join us for this brief, contemplative, and beautiful service.



Also, mark your calendars for **Lessons and Carols on December 15th at 6 p.m. in New Brick**, featuring classic carols, anthems from our choirs and performances by the [Lumen Christi dance ensemble](#).

We have seventeen Choristers enrolled in our new [RSCM program](#), and their momentum continues to grow. Our young professionals are learning more difficult music, more of it, and much more quickly. We hired a new Vocal Coach, Dr. Madeline Miskie, for Tuesday evening rehearsals, and she has already contributed so much to the program. You can read more about her at Christ Church’s [staff page](#).

We have also placed a large order for new cassocks for the Choristers – hopefully they will arrive by Christmas! This large purchase was fully supported by generous donations from the [Women of Christ Church](#) and a donor from outside the parish. Our kids will look as polished and professional as they already sound!

If any of you are interested in enrolling your child(ren) or volunteering with the program, please don’t hesitate to be in touch with me at music@christchurchcolumbia.org. You can also find a program description on the RSCM web page: www.christchurchcolumbia.org/rscm - at the bottom of this page, you can find a detailed Choir Handbook in PDF format. Help us grow this vital ministry by spreading the word to your friends and neighbors - **my goal is to have thirty Choristers enrolled by the end of the season in 2020.**

(continued)



MUSIC MINISTRY (CONTINUED)

Likewise, our Adult Choir continues to grow from strength to strength. **Won't you consider joining our choir family?** We are especially looking for sopranos, altos, tenors, and basses – that is, all voice parts! **Anyone and everyone is welcome to join.** We ask only that you bring your best attitude and commit to regular attendance (roughly 80% attendance rate) and punctuality in rehearsal and worship. We rehearse Thursday evenings from 7:30 to 9 p.m. in the Choir Loft, and lead the 10:30 a.m. Eucharist on Sunday mornings, meeting at 9:45 a.m. to warm up and rehearse. We're a fun group! **Give us a try!**

I continue to learn about the talented soloists and instrumentalists hidden in the congregation – please, hide no more! We would love for you to share your musical gifts with the congregation as a prelude, postlude, or communion meditation.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me with any comments, questions, concerns, ideas, or for any other reason, at music@christchurchcolumbia.org.

In Christ,
Adam Detzner

Thank you all for keeping Christ Church beautiful!



MISSION AND OUTREACH

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE DURING OUR FALL FOOD DRIVE

Last month, a group of parishioners under the auspices of the Mission and Outreach Ministry of Christ Church gathered at the GIANT Store located at Center Park Drive to solicit for food from shoppers for the Howard County Food Bank. Sincere appreciation to all who helped in collecting about 950 pounds of food and \$200.00 in cash donations.





MISSION AND OUTREACH (CONTINUED)

FOOD DONATIONS

Following on our second successful food drive, we invite you to also bring non-perishable food each week to place in the basket in front of the altar. This food goes to FISH of Howard County each week. You are also invited give grocery store gift cards which Fr. Manny gives out to our neighbors-in-need. Gift cards may be placed in the offering plate on Sundays, or dropped off at the office.

ADDITIONAL MEMBERS OF THE CHILDREN OF UGANDA BOARD OF DIRECTORS SOUGHT

The Children of Uganda (COU) is a 501c(3) non-profit organization established in 1995 in Uganda to educate and care for vulnerable children whose families had been affected by poverty and AIDS. Over the last 20-plus years, over 1000 children have been educated under these auspices in Uganda. COU has partnered with 3 primary schools, 4 secondary schools, and several vocational schools, as well as a number of universities in Central Uganda to provide life skills and a career-focused education to their current 220 students. Their newest focus has been Family Empowerment - to provide seed grants for the mothers of students in order to set up a small business or agricultural initiative. The COU U.S. headquarters is located 75 minutes away in Charles Town, West Virginia. The COU Board of Directors now has 8 members, and would like to expand to 12 members. The time commitment is approximately 8-16 hours per month. The feeling of accomplishment, the gift of warm relationships, and the ability to make a difference in hundreds of lives is the benefit of your participation. [If you are interested in further information, please email us.](#)

GIVE OUR NEIGHBORHOOD KIDS AN UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCE

This year 56% of the LEMS students are on free or reduced meal plans. This level of need creates challenges not faced by other Howard County schools with wealthier school populations. One of those challenges, according to LEMS Principal Melissa Shindel, is that teachers at LEMS have not felt comfortable planning field trips because so many students cannot afford to participate. We are asking for donations to pay for or subsidize field trips for students who otherwise could not afford to participate. The fund will be administered by Ms. Shindel. You may make a donation by mailing a check to the church office or placing one in the offering plate. The check should be made out to Christ Church with "LEMS field trip" in the memo line. Thank you for your generosity. Your Wardens, Steve and Sara.

LEOLA DORSEY COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER (RT 1) NEEDS

Right now, the Dorsey Center needs paper towels, 4 lbs. of sugar, chocolate syrup, canned meats (no tuna), canned Chunky brand and Progresso brand soups, canned meals (like Chef Boyardee and Dinty Moore), beef hash, and all types of canned fruits. Thank you for your contributions.





SUNDAY MORNINGS AT CHRIST CHURCH



Welcome back! Christ Church has begun the year with much enthusiasm and excitement about all the work we have done over the past several months to begin a new journey. There will be changes to our Sunday mornings, but all of these changes are designed to meet the needs of every parishioner &/or visitor, young or old, who finds him or herself gathering on Sunday mornings at Christ Church. We hope to minister to all.

One of the changes we have made is to dedicate the Great Hall exclusively for Sunday School. All of the children and youth will gather in the Great Hall, share breakfast, and then retire to their classrooms. The youth will have their classes in the two new classrooms which will be developed and furnished for the middle and high school.

Sunday School for children and youth will run from 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. The children and youth will then join their parents at service during the peace. Children who are not old enough to join Sunday School are very much welcome to the nursery.

[Contact us](#) if you need nursery information.

BREAKFAST

We will continue one of the new offerings from last year, which was a continental breakfast for children and youth, and for families who may want to share a breakfast meal with the children before Sunday School. The goal is to get children to initiate the building of a community by way of eating together. Just as Jesus invited his friends for breakfast after the resurrection, all are invited to join us in the Great Hall in New Brick each Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m.

WORSHIP AT 9:30

New this fall is a worship opportunity for children, youth, and any adult who would like to pray and sing with children. This will be a simple service with prayer and music. The service will be held at the Lower Level-New Brick, right where the children and youth gather for breakfast. All are invited to join us.



ADULT FORMATION

NOVEMBER 3RD - *ECHOES OF GRACE: THE NEUROSCIENCE OF GRATITUDE*

Ever thought there was a connection between neuroscience and gratitude? *Echoes of Grace* is designed to help us recognize the depth, height, length and breadth of the grace that abounds in our lives. More importantly, it is meant to respond to this grace with gratitude. Please join us as we welcome Linda Burton, who is a founder and Managing Partner of DRW Coaching.

NOVEMBER 10TH - CHRIST CHURCH'S ANNUAL MEETING

Please come and join us for one of our most important gatherings of the year. More information is available on page 6 of this newsletter, and in our weekly *Christ Church Gatherings* emails and Sunday service bulletins.

NOVEMBER 17TH - *JOURNEY TO BETTER HEALTH*

PRESENTED BY CHRIST CHURCH WITH HOWARD COUNTY GENERAL HOSPITAL

Part of our mission is to bring a sense of health awareness to our parishioners. *Journey to Better Health* will be the first of many interactions with Howard County General Hospital's Community Health programs. The HCGH staff will be on-site to discuss their faith and community health initiative, and support us with building a Health Ministry here at Christ Church by sharing an overview of potential goals and objectives.

NOVEMBER 24TH - *FAITH IN THE PUBLIC SQUARE*

A FOUR-PART SERIES WITH VARIOUS PRESENTERS

This series is intended to foster discussion about the nature of faith in the contemporary world, and the exercise of faith in today's culture. The series are meant to provide members of Christ Church, and the wider community, with opportunities to reflect on issues having to do with civic society and the common good, the maintenance of a flourishing culture, and the public exercise of religious faith. The first in the series, *Pluralism, Identity, Reconciliation* is presented by John Keiss of Loyola University.

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

This class will be reading *We Are the Church...Let's Act Like It* by Linda Tower Pevey, and is a seven-week study. The New Testament's Acts of the Apostles is the reference for this work and explores how the early church dealt with keeping the early Christians together and the problems they encountered.

WEEKLY WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Weekly Bible Study has resumed on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. in the Vestry Room, lower level of New Brick. As a group, we will be studying the prophet Hosea. You don't have to know much about the Bible to join us, we are all studying. Your presence is more important than anything else. There's usually a brief Eucharist after the service.



CHILDREN & YOUTH FORMATION



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

We are so very thankful for the many students that attend Sunday school! We are also thankful for the team of volunteers who sing and feed our students each week! If you would like to be a part of this exciting and rewarding ministry, please contact Jennifer Atkins (dandjatkins@verizon.net).

Reminders:

- Please remember to sign in your child(ren) when dropping them off for class
- There will be no Sunday school classes on November 10th (Annual Meeting) or December 1st (Thanksgiving holiday).
- **Please look for information about the Christmas Pageant coming soon!**

As always, we are looking for more teachers! The ideal commitment would be to teach once a month – especially if more people volunteer! Please contact Jennifer Atkins (info@christchurchcolumbia.org) for more information.

OUR CHILDREN & YOUTH IN OCTOBER!



PASTORAL CARE

“HELPING HANDS” MINISTRY

This ministry has begun anew, offering transportation to people in our congregation who need a ride to the grocery store or a doctor's appointment, or perhaps need a dog walked after having surgery, or during a short illness. This ministry is just one of many that enable us to take care of one another. If you would like to participate in this ministry, please call the Church Office at 410-381-9365, or [email the office](#).



CHRIST CHURCH’S SPRINGFIELD HOSPITAL MISSION

Members of Christ Church have been visiting Springfield Hospital since 1951, with the aim of bringing a little happiness to the patients. Our visits take place on the morning of the third Thursday of each month from September through May. There are currently ten people participating in this ministry. We rotate the schedule so that three of us will go each month. We are very grateful for any donations of bingo prizes: toiletries, socks, hats, gloves, t-shirts, sweat shirts, in sizes L through 3XL (new only, please). If anyone is interested in joining this ministry, please contact us at info@christchurchcolumbia.org



PRAYER LIST INFORMATION

We ask that you obtain permission from those you are commending to the prayer list. Thank you.

Please let us know if you:

- Would like to place a name on the prayer list
- Would like to request visit from Fr. Manny or LEV
- Have been admitted to the hospital
- Need help with meals or assistance getting to appointments

For the above, and all other Pastoral Care needs, call: 410-381-9365 or 410-844-1850



STEWARDSHIP



It is that time of year where we are all invited to support the Ministry Resource Budget of our beloved parish, Christ Church. If you have not yet received your Stewardship letter and pledge card, please do not hesitate to reach out to us by calling or [emailing the Church Office](#). Our pledge to each other is to be aspirational, and we can only do that by counting on your support and generosity. We invite you, therefore, to prayerfully consider blessing our life together with your gifts. Pledge In-Gathering is scheduled for Sunday, November 10th. At the In-Gathering, pledge cards will be received and blessed in appreciation for all the blessings that abounds in in our lives, and in this place we all share.





ONLINE GIVING

Many of our parishioners have inquired about online giving at Christ Church. We'd like to assure parishioners that we currently are in the final testing phases and will be able to launch our online giving portal to the parish family very soon. However, in order to be able to give online and have Church Office to be able to credit you with your donation appropriately, you would have to be able to sign into your Realm account. If you have received an email from Christ Church inviting you to create your account, we ask that you to do so as soon as you are able. And if you have any questions about online giving, need help setting up or managing your Realm account, or if you have not received an invitation to set up your account in Realm, [please email us](#). Thank you.



Christ Church Budget Report
as of
9/30/2019

Summing It Up: At the close of September we are on target for projected revenues and less than 5% over projected expenses.

Funds on Hand

4.4 weeks average church expenses

Undesignated + Cash Reserve	\$42,145
Designated	\$173,462

Revenue	Actual This Month	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Total Budget
Plate Offerings	\$3,654	\$30,508	\$22,500	\$30,000
Pledge Payments	\$38,838	\$318,193	\$339,953	\$453,271
Designated Gifts	\$80	\$1,677	\$4,500	\$6,000
Undesignated Gifts	\$125	\$23,043	\$0	\$0
Facility Use	\$2,663	\$23,994	\$12,750	\$17,000
Fundraising	\$0	\$387	\$22,500	\$30,000
Investment Income	\$0	\$11	\$0	\$0
Other Income	\$500	\$2,500	\$1,800	\$2,400
Total Revenue	\$45,860	\$400,313	\$404,003	\$538,671

Expenses				
Worship	\$1,039	\$8,996	\$8,625	\$11,500
Education	\$863	\$2,647	\$6,000	\$8,000
Outreach	\$2,350	\$8,596	\$8,250	\$11,000
Salaries and Benefits	\$24,292	\$196,707	\$178,146	\$237,528
Mortgage	\$2,829	\$25,458	\$25,458	\$33,944
Utilities	\$1,833	\$25,231	\$25,125	\$33,500
Property Maintenance	\$6,443	\$49,183	\$47,025	\$62,700
Office Operations	\$1,704	\$15,490	\$12,638	\$16,850
Diocese	\$5,693	\$56,067	\$56,632	\$75,509
Other	\$1,115	\$6,176	\$8,438	\$11,250
Total Expenses	\$48,161	\$394,551	\$376,336	\$501,781
Reserve Funding	\$0	\$0	\$19,500	\$26,000





CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

COLUMBIA, MARYLAND

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The Reverend Emmanuel “Fr. Manny” A. Mercer, Rector

Adam Detzner, Music Director

Christie Anderson, Parish Administrator

Mary Keath, Ministry Coordinator

Amanda Kirkpatrick & Manuela Eguakun, Nursery Caregiver

VESTRY

Vestry@ChristChurchColumbia.org

The Rev. Emmanuel “Fr. Manny” A. Mercer, Rector

Steve Alpern (Sr. Warden)

Sara Kirkpatrick (Jr. Warden)

Dennis Read (Treasurer)

Ron Couch (Registrar)

Gavin Watson

Mike Humkey

John Hadley

Rose Kirby

Dione Mahoney

Tim Beaty

Alfred Titus-Glover

Paula Rees

Duane Smith

Michon Semon

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