



December
2017

THE COMMUNICANT



Christmas Eve Worship Schedule

8:00 a.m. Quiet Christmas Eve Service in the Church

10:00 a.m. Christmas Eve Service at Laurel Lake ~ All are welcome!

*5:00 p.m. Family Service in the Church with Festive Christmas Music,
Holy Eucharist and Procession to the Creche*

8:00 p.m. Festive Service in the Church with Harp, Flute, & Choir

No Services on Christmas Day

An offering of baby food will be collected at each service.

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Rector's Reflections



Dear Friends,

Advent is a wonderful gift of time to prepare for the birth of the Christ Child. For those who are new to the Episcopal Church, Advent is often confusing as we wait to decorate the church and sing Christmas hymns until Christmas Eve. Then, when the world is moving on to other things on December 26, we are still singing Christmas hymns. The 12 days of Christmas are actually the 12 days between Christmas and Epiphany on January 6.

In Advent, we wait. Advent waiting is not the bored waiting or passing time, like waiting in line at a restaurant. Advent is like waiting for a fine meal, anticipating who will be around the table, imagining the flavors of the various dishes, pondering the conversation possibilities, and on and on. Advent waiting adds joy to our waiting and raises our excitement for the One who is to come.

Advent is a time to wonder. We wonder where we will find the Christ Child. In what manger will he be born in our own lives? We wonder if we will recognize him, what difference he will make in our lives, why this birth has captivated the human imagination over two millennia. We wonder what difference this birth will make the day after Christmas. Advent wondering adds depth to our Advent waiting.

Wait and wonder this Advent, and look for the Christ child to be born in your midst.

Advent blessings,

Charlotte

Rector's Contact Information:

Contact Charlotte by email at charlotte.reed@christchurchudson.org, by phone in the church office: **330-650-4359**, or by cell phone: **937-925-5200** (*before 9pm please, unless it's an emergency*). This number can also be used for text messages. Please give your name so Charlotte knows who is texting her.

Cottage Meeting Follow Up

Many thanks to everyone who attended one of our cottage meetings. Over 100 people participated in a cottage meeting and there are pages and pages of notes to digest. Pam Zuhl, Dave McCallops, and Reed Stith are working on an analysis of the conversations and a report will be presented to the parish sometime soon after the first of the year. Watch your email and Sunday announcements for a date and time!

2018 Budget Forum Meeting

The Christ Church Budget Forum Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, *January 14th at 9:00 a.m.*

Christ Church Annual Meeting

The Christ Church Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, *January 21 at 9:15 a.m.* We will gather as a parish to elect new vestry members, hear a few brief reports, thank out-going vestry members, and adopt the 2018 Christ Church budget. The Special Vestry Candidates Edition of The Communicant will go out the first week of January.

The Vestry Candidates are:

Janet Daniels, Scott Koebley & Jeane McKinny

The Diocesan Convention Delegates are:

Sallie Bear, Susan Mailey, Dave McCallops, Malcolm Robbie, & George Van Buren

Children's Corner

December is a fun month for children at Christ Church.

Our Christmas Pageant will be **December 17th!**

Rehearsals will be held during Sunday School on the 3rd and 10th. Contact Courtney Bixby for more information regarding the pageant.

Please pay close attention to the dates as our schedule is quite different this month.



December 3rd

Episcopal Youth Community at 9:30
Pageant Rehearsal and Sunday School
PreK-6th Grade at 10:15

December 10th

Pageant Rehearsal and Sunday School
PreK-6th Grade at 10:15

December 17th

Episcopal Youth Community at 9:30

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT during 10:30 service

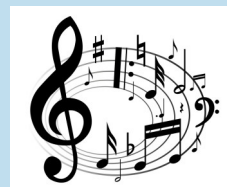
December 24th Christmas Eve
NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

December 31st New Years' Eve
NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

PLEASE NOTE: I will be out on maternity leave until late February/early March. I will be reachable by email, but please give allowance for longer reply times until I return from leave. Thanks! ~Sarah Bhatia

Musical Notes

From the Director of Music,
Valerie Thorson



We are entering one of the most beautiful seasons for music in the church!

The season of Advent provides us with a time to prepare and reflect. The music has a sense of hope and anticipation. During Advent, our choir will sing a choral Introit from the gallery, "Soon and very soon," written by Andrae Crouch. Mr. Crouch (1942-1015) was an American gospel singer, songwriter, recording artist, and Pastor.

The organ postludes will be shorter and have a more reflective tone. The annual pageant, which will take place on Advent III this year, will give us a chance to see and hear the Christmas story through the eyes of our children and youth, and to sing some of our most beloved carols.

Our 5:00 service on Christmas Eve will feature music by some of our talented young adults and a wonderful guest flutist, George Pope. At 8:00, an expanded adult choir will be joined by talented harpist Jody Guinn as well as Mr. Pope, for some truly lovely Christmas music.

It is my hope that our music during Advent and Christmas will bring us all a feeling of hope, joy, and peace.



Because we are all busy bees preparing to greet the child Christ this Advent season, there will be no Books & Bagels meeting in December. I look forward to greeting you all with a new book come the new year.

-Allie Heeter



Wednesday, December 6

Location: Peachtree Southern Christmas

Come and bring a friend as we explore the intersection of faith and life. We will gather at the Clock Tower for compline at 7p.m., then head to Peachtree Southern Kitchen for conversation.

Topic: What are we waiting for?

Advent is a season of anticipation and expectation as we await the coming of the Christ child. But what, exactly are we waiting for? How will we know when our longing has been fulfilled?

Bring a friend and join us for great conversation. RSVP to charlotte.reed@christchurchudson or 330-650-4359 and let us know you are coming so we can let Peachtree know how many to expect.



**Wednesdays at Open Door Coffee
December 6, 13, & 20**

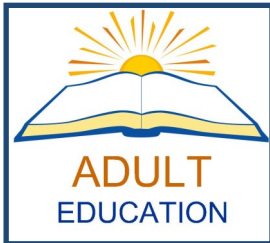
Charlotte continues to hold office hours at Open Door Coffee Company (164 N. Main Street) on Wednesdays from 9am-11am. On the rare weeks that Wednesday is not an option for some reason, the alternate date will be in the e-blast the week before, the Sunday announcements, or if the change is very last minute, in an email.

**Laurel Lake Holy Eucharist and Lunch
Thursday, December 14 at 11:00 AM**



Holy Communion

All Christ Church residents of Laurel Lake, and anyone else who would like to join us, are invited to gather at Laurel Lake's Serenity Chapel at 11am for Eucharist, then for lunch following. For more information or to RSVP (required for lunch, but not for Eucharist), please contact Deacon Gretchen Green at ghg2@aol.com.



Breakfast Theology

Sunday, December 10
9am in the Parish Hall
Breakfast Provided!

Think Pub Theology, breakfast version. Our Sunday morning Adult Christian Ed will take the form of a breakfast Pub Theology on one Sunday each month.

Come for a homecooked breakfast and fascinating conversation as we explore the angel's message to the shepherds, "*Behold, I bring you good news of great joy for all the people.*" What is the good news we long to hear? Where do we find evidence of that good news in our everyday lives?

Everyone is invited for breakfast and great conversation. Please let the church office know you are coming! at 330-650-4359 or Kathy.garber@christchurchudson.org

Healing Service

**Thursday, December 7 at 9:30 a.m.
Christ Church Chapel**



On the first Thursday of each month, at 9:30 in the chapel, a healing service is offered for anyone who would like to ask prayers for themselves or others. The service includes Holy Eucharist. Please join us for this quiet, yet powerful, service.



Christmas Pageant

The Christmas Pageant is such a highlight of the holiday season for our church family. Everyone loves seeing the kids tell the story of Jesus' birth. This year, the pageant will be on Sunday, December 17 at the 10:30 service. We will have four rehearsals:

Sunday, December 3 ~ 10:15, during Sunday School

Sunday, December 10 ~ 10:15, during Sunday School and

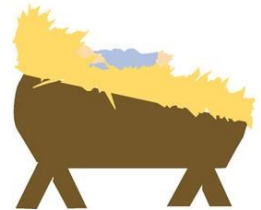
12:00-1:00 after church (have your kids bring a sack lunch to eat)

Saturday, December 16 ~ 10:00-12:00

Questions? Please Contact Courtney Bixby at cbixby@hotmail.com

Baby Food for the Baby Jesus (and hungry babies in Summit County)

On Christmas Eve, you are invited to bring jars of baby food to offer at the Creche during the singing of the doxology at the 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. services. The baby food will be given to Open M for the hungry babies they serve. Keep the baby food with you when you come to the service and instructions will be given for bringing the food to the creche.



The Greening of the Church Sunday, December 17th

Following the 10:30 service. Many hands make light work, so please plan to stay after church and help prepare the church for Christmas.



175th Anniversary Commemorative Ornaments

Don't forget to pick up a Christ Church 175th Anniversary Commemorative ornament. These beautiful, limited edition ornaments will be on sale in the Parish Hall throughout the month, or until they are gone. The cost is \$15.



Boy Scout Christmas Tree Sale

If you're in the market for a Christmas tree, you might consider purchasing one from Boy Scout Troop 333, sponsored by Christ Church. The Troop will sell pre-cut trees through December 17 at the "Cabin on the Green" on the corner of Routes 303 and 91. Proceeds from the sale enable the Troop to deliver a quality scouting program in Hudson.



WHAT'S YOUR 200?

Knitters of Christ Church Hudson



When we set the goal of 200 items to be knitted, crocheted, or sewn in 2017, we weren't at all sure it was possible.

We are a small group, part of the international organization Knitting for Peace. Sustained by our monthly meetings, we create products for distribution locally and through K4P.

We invited others in our parish to add items to our collection box. Several did, anonymously.

We displayed a knitting ball circle graph charting our progress. At our meeting on November 8, we achieved our 200 ... 208, to be exact!

During the year, these products have been donated:

- ◆ Baby blankets to Akron Children's Hospital and Newborns in Need
- ◆ Many caps, scarves, and mittens to the 330 students at Robinson Elementary School in Akron, through partnership with knitters of Laurel Lake Retirement Community
- ◆ Quilted sleeping mats to AIDS orphans' centers in Swaziland through partnership with Knitting for Peace
- ◆ Peace Pal dolls to refugee camps through partnership with Knitting for Peace

We enjoyed the challenge and are very pleased with the achievement.



YOGA CLASS EXTENDED

**Monday Mornings at 9:00
in Parish Hall**

Due to popular demand, we have added two more weeks to our Monday morning yoga class. Join certified yoga instructor Kay Powers for a free yoga class on Monday mornings through December 18. The class is a gentle, mindful yoga practice designed to increase strength and flexibility, while releasing tension, reducing stress and promoting relaxation. Suitable for all levels, especially beginners and those with some yoga experience. Please bring a yoga mat.

Thank you to our Cub Scouts!

Thank you to Christ Church sponsored Cub Scout Pack 3322, who prepared 13 Thanksgiving baskets for the guests at Welcome Table, along with a \$15 gift card to go with each basket. The laundry baskets consisted of canned yams and corn, potato flakes, stuffing, and a hand made card with all of their names.

A troop leader, cub mom and five cub scouts came on Sunday to hand out the baskets to the families. All were well received.



The 2017 Annual Diocesan Convention



The **Episcopal**
Diocese of Ohio

The Bicentennial Convention of the Diocese of Ohio was held in Cleveland on November 11.

**Christ Church Delegates were:
Janet Daniels, Dave McCallops & Pam Zuhl**

Our delegates have shared some of their reflections with us below.

Saturday, November 11, Charlotte, Pam Zuhl, Dave McCallops and I attended the Diocesan Convention in Cleveland. Two resolutions were passed regarding clergy compensation and our recommitment to racial reconciliation in the diocese. There were also 3 modifications to the constitution of the national Episcopal church. Beyond the business of the convention there was the celebration of the 200th anniversary of the Diocese of Ohio. Did you know that ours is the first Episcopal diocese founded outside the original 13 colonies? Eucharist, accompanied by a choir of 100 voices from around the diocese, including members of our own choir, was celebrated by the presiding bishop, Michael Curry. He preached an electrifying sermon, exhorting us to be witnesses to God, to Jesus Christ, and to the power of love in the world. The service was followed by a banquet and recognition of those who have made significant contributions of time, talent and treasure to the diocese.

~Janet Daniels

Attending the 201st Annual Convention of the Diocese of Ohio last Saturday with my fellow delegates, Dave McCallops and Janet Daniels, along with our Rector, Charlotte, was a privilege and great fun as well. As you might expect, business was conducted in an orderly and democratic manner. We elected lay and clergy nominees to the committees of the diocese, including our own Don Reed to the Diocesan Disciplinary Board. The 2018 diocesan budget was approved. Two resolutions were passed – one on clergy compensation and the other on a recommitment to racial reconciliation. A report on Bellwether Farm, which will open for retreats and camping in the spring, was also presented.

But for me, the highlight of the day was the afternoon worship service attended by 850 people, a 100-voice choir with organ and brass, and nine bishops. Christ Church was well represented at this event. Tina Monreal served as an usher, Gretchen Green helped to administer communion as a deacon, and Heather Swift, Ann Kirk and Eileen Gaston sang in the choir. Dave McCallops and Greg Daniels processed down the aisle with other lay and clergy members of diocesan committees. Charlotte, Allan Belton and Paul Gaston processed with the clergy. And if anyone can send a group of Episcopalians out the door filled with the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, it is our Presiding Bishop Michael Curry. He called on us to witness to the good news of the gospel and to follow the advice of our bumper sticker: “Love God. Love your neighbor. Change the world.” With God’s help, may our diocese continue to do just that for its next 200 years.

~Pam Zuhl

Convention Reflections continued.....

I had the privilege and honor representing Christ Church Hudson at the 201st Diocesan Convention along with Pam Zuhl and Janet Daniels as delegates. The convention was held in downtown Cleveland at the new(er) convention center and it was a celebration of our 200 years as a diocese....the oldest diocese outside the original 13 colonies (an interesting factoid!).

As this was my first convention, I wasn't sure what to expect and I was excited to attend. The first thing that struck me was how well organized the convention was, especially given the large number of attendees and a very packed agenda. Bishop Hollingsworth as the moderator and the various speakers kept us right on schedule, almost to the minute. The second thing that stood out was the how polite, kind, loving and welcoming everyone was at the convention. I saw a lot of smiling faces and a genuine happiness and desire to be at the convention, even on a Saturday!

The Presiding Bishop Michael Curry was in attendance to help celebrate our 200th anniversary. Bishop Curry is quite a dynamic person and his sermon during the Eucharist had a lot of typically stoic Episcopalian's saying "amen" and "alleluia" out loud at various points during his sermon. It was a very uplifting and moving experience and one that I won't forget any time soon.

Christ Church Hudson was well represented at the convention.....besides the 3 delegates, we had 3 of the approximate 100 members of the choir that sang during the Eucharist (Heather Swift, Eileen Gaston & Ann Kirk), members Tom and Gretchen Green, Julie Micheletti & Jim Gray, Paul Gaston (I still count him as one of us!), one of our newest members Paul Franks, Allie Heeter, Fred and Tina Monreal, RuthAnne and Allan Belton, and of course our own Charlotte Collins Reed. I want to thank the parish for allowing me to attend the convention and I hope this will be my first of many in the coming years.

~Dave McCallops

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Paul Frank! Paul was the recipient of one of Bishop Hollingsworth's Bicentennial Medals at Diocesan Convention in recognition of Paul's long and exemplary service to the Diocese.



-Eileen Gaston and the many people who helped with the service and reception for Dick Hall
-Guy Wylie and all who helped with the yard work day
-Midge Karam and members of the Western Reserve Academy for their glorious music on November 12

-Pam Zuhl, Dave McCallops, and Janet Daniels who served as our delegates to the Diocesan Convention
-Len Harrison for getting the Wi-fi up and running in the church and for helping the office to get back up and running after some technical difficulties
-Chris and George Van Buren, Ginger Rogers, Lucy Kistler, Shirley Eells, Jim and Sallie Bear, Linda Irving, Jim and Dot Lang, Guy and Ruth Wylie, George and Judy Murray, and Gretchen Green for hosting our cottage meetings
-George Van Buren, Susan Mailey, Courtney Bixby, Charlotte Reed, Pam Zuhl, Debbie Sergi, Sallie Bear, Kathie Balcerzak, Dave McCallops, Janet Daniels, and Reed Stith for facilitating our cottage meetings

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS



Donations for sanctuary flowers are welcome from individuals or families, in celebration, as a memorial, or in thanksgiving.

Your gift will be noted in the Christmas Eve bulletins provided the necessary information is received in the church office by

Monday, December 18th

Christ Church 2017 Christmas Floral Donation

NAME: _____ AMOUNT: _____

As a memorial to... In celebration of... In thanksgiving for...
(please circle one of the above and provide the details below)

Please return with your check payable to Christ Church with "Christmas Flowers" on the memo line to the office by:
Monday, December 18th



- Julie Ridgway ~ 12/2
- Cian Trainor ~ 12/3
- Terri Bortnik ~ 12/7
- Trish Davis ~ 12/9
- Pam McCallops ~ 12/11
- Jim Gray ~ 12/14
- Ava Klespies ~ 12/14
- Bob Madison ~ 12/14
- Kevin Cicen ~ 12/15
- Thomas Hopper ~ 12/18
- Bob Bush ~ 12/20
- Karen Myers ~ 12/24
- Silas Anglewicz ~ 12/26
- Pam Bellin ~ 12/26
- Joe Klespies ~ 12/27
- Jay Bixby ~ 12/28
- Steve Greer ~ 12/28
- Lucy Harvey ~ 12/28
- Marcie Harvey ~ 12/29
- Betsy Redmond ~ 12/29
- John Stansbrey ~ 12/30
- Kate Greer ~ 12/31



Ted & Susan Mailey ~ 12/10

FOR THE RECORD . . .

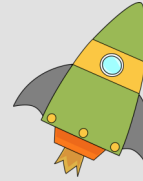
Deaths: Richard (Dick) Hall
Donn Hobbs

**Stewardship Campaign 2018
“Ready for Lift Off!”**

2018 Stewardship Committee

*Pam Zuhl, Chair
Irene Gillette, Roxanne Grattan, Reed Stith*

As of November 22, we have received 112 pledges, for a total of \$420,369.00. That total includes 10 new pledges and an increase in 53 pledges. Thank you for your generosity as we head into 2018!



November Vestry Meeting Highlights



The Christ Church vestry met on November 28 at 7:15.

- The meeting began with prayer and Bible Study.
- Lou Young made a presentation on the stewardship drive. Pledging increased by over 9% for 2018. The vestry will continue to work on the 2018 budget which will be completed in time for the December vestry meeting.
- The vestry affirmed an increase in outreach funds for the 2018 budget.
- Bob Zuhl went over proposed changes to the Christ Church bylaws. A presentation will be made to the parish on Sunday, December 3 at 9am in the Parish Hall, and if needed, another presentation will be made on January 7.
- Lou Young reported that we have 5 people running for delegate to Diocesan Convention and a slate of three people running for vestry.
- Conversation was held around Sunday morning security at Christ Church as well as weekday security. Charlotte will contact the Hudson Police Department and ask for an officer to do a walk through of our building to see where our security issues are and what their recommendations are for better security. Guy Wylie, Kathy Garber, and Charlotte will do the walk through with the officer.
- Guy Wylie updated the vestry on upcoming work to the exterior of the chapel.

The next vestry meeting is Tuesday, December 19 at 7:15.

21 Aurora Street
Hudson, OH 44236

Phone: 330-650-4359

Fax: 330-655-0695

On the Web: www.christchurchudson.org



Find us on Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/ChristChurchHudson>

Clergy

The Rev. Charlotte Collins Reed, Rector
Charlotte.reed@christchurchudson.org

Affiliated Clergy

The Rev. Allan Belton, Priest

The Rev. Gretchen Green, Deacon

Staff

Kathy Garber, Parish Administrator

kathy.garber@christchurchudson.org

Valerie Thorson, Organist/Choirmaster

valtel@yahoo.com

Sarah Bhatia, Director of Christian Education and
Youth Ministry, Sbhatia@christchurchudson.org

Susie Vanaman, Parish Accountant

Svanaman@christchurchudson.org

Dennis Hido, Sexton

Darlene Gresco, Housekeeping

Theresa Venham, Housekeeping

Vestry

Lou Young, Sr. Warden

lgyoung@gmail.com

Bob Zuhl, Jr. Warden

robertzuhl@gmail.com

Kay Eileraas

Eileen Gaston

Roxanne Grattan

Janet Greer

Gabe Lefebvre

Susan Mailey

Guy Wylie

Marilyn Hansen, Treasurer, ex officio

Linda Irving, Clerk, ex officio

Christ Church Hudson is a Parish of the
Episcopal Diocese of Ohio -
www.dohio.org

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:00 am Rite I/Quiet—Chapel

10:30 Rite II/Festive—Church
with Children's Chapel

11:45 Coffee Hour

Nursery available for children

3 and older 10:00—12:00



Please Note: The Church Office will be closed on
**December 25th, December 26th,
& January 1st.**