

# THE COMMUNICANT

## Christ Church Episcopal

*A ministry of the Diocese of Ohio*

*Seeking to be a welcoming community of faith, grounded  
in the gospel of Jesus Christ, serving Hudson and beyond.*

**December**



**2020**

## CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES on Zoom & Facebook Live

**5:00 p.m.  
Family Service**

**8:00 p.m.  
Festive Service  
with special music**



As with all things this year, our annual Christmas Pageant will be going virtual. While much has changed, it will remain a beautiful depiction of the Christmas story. This year's theme is "Do Not Be Afraid," which is timely message in a year full of uncertainty and the anxiety that comes with it. The pageant will air on December 20 during the 10:30 service on Zoom and Facebook Live.

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## Rector's Reflections



Dear Friends,

Last night, as I write this, I participated in the online Interfaith Thanksgiving Service. Because of the pandemic, I believe we had to be even more intentional about bringing together the three faith traditions in a meaningful way. Together, in our new, virtual way, we gave thanks to God through music, readings, and prayer.

Despite the challenges, and because of the challenges, we have found new ways to do most things since last March. We have supported outreach efforts, worshipped, had choir rehearsals, launched a building project, learned a LOT about technology, held a stewardship campaign, had Bible studies, book groups, and Christian Education for children and adults, and even had a marvelous organ recital (thank you, Mario!). While much has changed, together we have managed to keep much the same as we muddle through the pandemic.

Now we come to Christmas, which will follow a Thanksgiving that for many of us did not go as we planned months ago. Christmas, too, will look different this year as we worship online on Christmas Eve rather than in a packed church, and listen to Christmas music rather than singing our hearts out with our fellow parishioners and visitors. We may or may not be able to gather with family by Christmas. But much will stay the same. We will hear the story of how Mary and Joseph had to travel to Bethlehem to be counted for the census. Jesus will still be born, wrapped in bands of cloth and placed in a manger. The angels will still sing, and the shepherds will still leave their flocks to go find the baby Jesus and his parents.

This is the heart of the Christmas message-God will be born in our midst as the infant Jesus regardless of the circumstances of our lives. No pandemic can stop God's arrival. No pandemic can keep the angels from singing or the shepherds from worshipping. The pandemic may change the way we celebrate, but the pandemic cannot change the cause of our celebration. The apostle Paul put it this way in his letter to the Romans: "For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation (not even a pandemic), will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

A blessed Advent and Christmas to each of you,

Charlotte

### Rector's Contact Information:

Contact Charlotte by email at [charlotte.reed@christchurchudson.org](mailto: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.



### ZOOM OFFICE HOURS

DECEMBER 2, 9, & 16  
FROM 10AM- NOON

Join Charlotte Reed on Wednesday mornings for a cup of coffee or your favorite beverage and conversation. The Zoom link will be sent out each week in the E-News.



### 2021 Annual Stewardship Update

Many thanks to everyone who pledged for 2021 and for your commitment to Christ Church as we look forward in faith, love and generosity. We have received 112 pledges for a total of \$438, 234. Please contact the office at 330-650-4359 if you have not made a pledge and would like to.

# Advent Service of Hope and Light

Sunday, December 13 at 5pm  
on Zoom and Facebook Live

Join us for a time of prayer, candlelight, and music as we wait with hope for the arrival of the Christ Child.

## COMPLINE & CONVERSATION

December 8 & 22  
8:00 p.m.



Join your Christ Church family and friends on Zoom for this brief service of quiet prayer and bit of conversation afterwards. The link, service bulletin and conversation prompt, will be sent out the Thursday prior, so watch your email!



Join us for  
ONLINE  
**Sunday Worship**  
10:30 A.M.  
ON ZOOM AND  
FACEBOOK LIVE

## Monday Bible Study

Join us on Zoom at 8:00 on Monday mornings to look at the gospel reading for the upcoming Sunday. Everyone is welcome! Contact Jim Lang with questions or to request the link to attend at [jglang00@gmail.com](mailto:jglang00@gmail.com).



## Healing Services

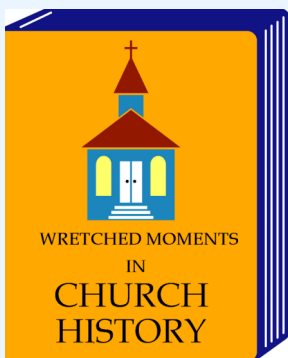
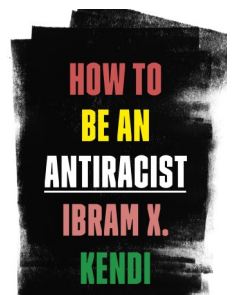
Thursday, December 3  
at 9:30 am

Thursday, December 17  
at 7:00 pm

Join us as we seek God's healing for ourselves and others. The link and service bulletin are sent out ahead of time, so please watch your email.

## Talking about Race in America

The next piece of our conversation about race in America will be a discussion of the book "How to be an Antiracist" by Ibram Kedi. We will discuss the book in early January (on Zoom, of course), so there is plenty of time for a good read. If you would like to be part of the discussion, please let Charlotte know.



## Wretched Moments in Church History

How did our church get to where it is now? In the series "Wretched Moments in Church History: How the Church Shifted", we will explore the good, the bad and the ugly of church history and the acts of men & women who shaped the face of the church today. In this series we will take a look at:

Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>- King Henry VIII

Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>- The Reformation

Sessions will be held at 6:00p. If you're interested in joining this series, please contact Robin Woodberry by email: [robinw10@prodigy.net](mailto:robinw10@prodigy.net) or text 330-506-6647. A Zoom link will be sent out to you prior to class.





## Sign Up for 2021 Altar Flowers

The flower guild depends solely on donations from parishioners to defray the cost of the flowers placed on the altar each Sunday. The current cost of altar flowers for the church each week is \$75. If you would like to sign up for altar flowers for next year, you can go to <https://tinyurl.com/Altar-Flower-Sign-Up> or call the church office. Payment can be mailed to the church at 21 Aurora St. or made through the “Give Online” button on our website at [www.christchurchudson.org](http://www.christchurchudson.org). Please submit the dedication you would like us to put in the bulletin when you sign up, email to [kathy.garber@christchurchudson.org](mailto:kathy.garber@christchurchudson.org), or call the office at 330-650-4359.



**Mario Buchanan, Director of Music and Organist**  
[mario.buchanan@christchurchudson.org](mailto:mario.buchanan@christchurchudson.org)

Friends,

Advent is a time of waiting, however I find myself this Advent waiting more than I want. Advent reminds us of ourselves, our needs both mentally and spiritually. It's a time of introspection. The pandemic has shown me clearly what are my needs, wants, and what drives me. When things are taken away from you, it is easier to see which ones you need and which ones you want. This Advent, let us work on our own spirituality, whether that be listening to Advent music (I can recommend TONS of great albums for your listening pleasure) or calling an old friend to wish them a blessed Advent. Spotify and iTunes are wonderful resources for Advent music and a cell phone is easily at hand.

You may ask yourself in all of this, “What will I be looking forward to? Christmas will look like what!?” Someone on Facebook asked this same question to a number of church musicians, “What will Christmas look like without glorious singing, big organ music, and great choral music?” A friend responded, “It will probably look like it did in the manger.” Perspective.

One final thought for your Advent, God loves you by your character, not by how many things you own. It is hard to remember that in our society.

Advent blessings,

**Mario**

## Festive, Unusual, and Ugly Christmas Sweater Contest

The holiday season looks a little bit different this year, so we thought we would try something new and lighthearted to lift our spirits and connect with one another while we are apart. Please don your most **festive, unusual, or ugliest** Christmas sweater, get your cameras going, and send us photos to post on Facebook and in our weekly e-news. We will pick the best in each category on December 17 and announce our favorites during the Christmas Pageant Service. You can text your photos to Charlotte at 937-925-5200 or email them to Kathy Garber at [kathy.garber@christchurchudson.org](mailto:kathy.garber@christchurchudson.org). We can't wait to see your pictures and smiling faces!





The **Episcopal**  
**Diocese of Ohio**

## Updates from the 204th Annual Diocesan Convention held on November 14, 2020.

**Convention Delegates: Sallie Bear, Dave McCallops, and Pam Zuhl**

I have served three times as a delegate to our diocesan convention, and never has the commute been easier. I walked upstairs to my bedroom, turned on my computer, and clicked the Zoom link. The technology was impressive. A voting app allowed us to vote for candidates, amendments, and resolutions. Delegates who wished to speak were able to raise their hands, electronically, and wait in a virtual line for their turn. Charlotte, Sallie, Dave and I stayed in touch during the meeting through a text thread. Christ Church was well represented with Greg Daniels serving on the Nominating Committee, Dave McCallops winning a spot on the Standing Committee (on which Charlotte already serves), and Tina Monreal being elected to the position of Diocesan Trustee. A Resolution to Create a Commission on Racial Justice was passed. This was researched and submitted by a committee that included Robin Woodberry. I was honored to serve on behalf of our parish this year. Despite enjoying the comfort of my bedroom chair, I missed the camaraderie and excitement of being in a room filled with Episcopalians, the beauty of common worship with music and the Eucharist, and even the turkey sandwich boxed lunch! I prayerfully hope that next year’s delegates will be able to come together in person to do the work of the church and share in the fellowship that supports our community.

*~ Submitted by Pam Zuhl, with concurrence from Sallie and Dave, who agree that they also missed the boxed turkey sandwich lunch. 😊*



## CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS to support the Peter Maurin Center

Because we will have only limited flowers this Christmas, much of our Christmas flower offering in memory of or in thanksgiving for our loved ones will support the Peter Maurin Center in Akron ([petermaurincenter.org](http://petermaurincenter.org)). This year, because of the pandemic, the Peter Maurin Centers and other shelters in Akron will not be able to open as emergency shelters when the temperature dips down well below freezing at night. This means that more people than ever will be living and sleeping under bridges in the sub-freezing weather. The Peter Maurin Center will work this winter to provide coats, blankets, hand and foot warmers, bus passes and other things to help people survive the winter.

Your gift will be noted in the Christmas Eve bulletins provided the necessary information is received in the church office by **Friday, December 18th**. Please return with your dedication and check payable to Christ Church with “Christmas Flowers” on the memo line to the office or use the “Give Online” button or our website.

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**Christ Church 2020 Christmas Flower Donation**

NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNT: \_\_\_\_\_

As a memorial to...

In celebration of...

In thanksgiving for...

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- Suzanne Lund ~ 12/1
- Julie Ridgway ~ 12/2
- Peter Ryerson ~ 12/3
- Cian Trainor ~ 12/3
- Mario Buchanan ~ 12/4
- Shanti Bhatia ~ 12/4
- Terri Bortnik ~ 12/7
- Patricia Davis ~ 12/9
- Amy Andrews ~ 12/11
- Pam McCallops ~ 12/11
- Jim Gray ~ 12/14
- Ava Klespies ~ 12/14
- Bob Madison ~ 12/14
- Kevin Cicen ~ 12/15
- James Dalton ~ 12/17
- Cindy Frisby ~ 12/17
- Thomas Hopper ~ 12/18
- Bob Bush ~ 12/20
- Libby Hickey ~ 12/21
- Kathy Garber ~ 12/23
- Karen Myers ~ 12/24
- Silas Anglewicz ~ 12/26
- Joe Klespies ~ 12/27
- Alexa Scheiferstein ~ 12/27
- Jay Bixby ~ 12/28
- Steven Greer ~ 12/28
- Lucy Harvey ~ 12/28
- Jacob Phillips ~ 12/28
- Marcie Harvey ~ 12/29
- Betsy Redmond ~ 12/29
- Kelly Hickey ~ 12/30
- John Stansbrey ~ 12/30
- Kate Greer ~ 12/31



- Ted & Susan Mailey ~ 12/10
- Fern & John MacMillan ~ 12/26
- Bruce & Paula McBrian ~ 12/29

**FOR THE RECORD...**

**Births:** Stratton Cole Parker to Brandon & Samantha Parker  
**Deaths:** Carol Esper

- ◇ **CONGRATULATIONS** to Dave McCallops who was elected to a four year term on the Standing Committee and to Tina Monreal who was elected to a 5 year term on the Diocesan Trustees at the Diocesan Convention on November 14.
- ◇ **THANK YOU** and congratulations to Mario Buchanan for his amazing and successful organ recital on November 5!



If you signed up to receive Giving Envelopes for 2021, they will be available for pick up after December 15. Contact Kathy Garber at [kathy.garber@christchurchudson.org](mailto:kathy.garber@christchurchudson.org) or 330-650-4359 to make arrangements to pick up your envelopes or to request a box.

**November Vestry Meeting Highlights**




- The vestry met on November 17 via Zoom and began the meeting with prayer and Bible study.
  - The finance report indicates that we are about \$10,000 behind in pledges this year relative to where we were at this time last year.
  - The vestry reviewed the preliminary draft budget prepared by the staff with input from Jim Bear, chair of finance, and Rich Wilson, chair of buildings and grounds. Pledges are \$35,000 behind last year at the end of the stewardship campaign, although a few more pledges may trickle in and every pledge matters. The budget was balanced using the remainder of the Payroll Protection Plan loan not used in 2020. The vestry anticipates that the loan will be forgiven, but there is no guarantee. As presented, the budget includes no increases for staff. The vestry took that under consideration in an executive session at the end of the meeting.
  - The vestry created a Memorial Fund to receive undesignated memorial gifts to Christ Church. Those gifts will no longer go into the operating budget but will be used to fund things that currently have no funding, such as vestments for acolytes and Lay Eucharistic Ministers. The amount received each year as undesignated memorials is typically about \$1000.
  - Tina Monreal reports that Christ Church is on track to close on the equity line of credit on or around the end of November. The line of credit will be used to pay the construction bills once the funds we have already received have been exhausted and while we wait for the remainder of the pledges to come in over the next two years.
  - Janet Daniels reported that the Nominating Committee (Janet, Pam Zuhl, Jeanne McKinny, Susan Mailey, and Dave McCallops) is working on a slate on individuals to stand for vestry and a slate to stand for delegate to Diocesan Convention. Our Annual Meeting will be on Zoom in January.
- The next vestry meeting (and last of 2020) is Tuesday, December 15 at 6pm on Zoom.





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Street

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On the Web:

 Find us on Facebook!  
[www.christchurchudson.com](http://www.christchurchudson.com)

#### Clergy

The Rev. Charlotte Collins Reed, Rector  
[Charlotte.reed@christchurchudson.org](mailto: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](mailto:Kathy.garber@christchurchudson.org)

Mario Buchanan, Director of Music  
[Mario.buchanan@christchurchudson.org](mailto:Mario.buchanan@christchurchudson.org)

Sarah Bhatia, Director of Christian  
Education and Youth Ministry,  
[Sbhatia@christchurchudson.org](mailto:Sbhatia@christchurchudson.org)

Susie Vanaman, Parish Accountant  
[Svanaman@christchurchudson.org](mailto:Svanaman@christchurchudson.org)

Dr. Robin Woodberry, Seminary Field  
Education Student  
[robinw10@prodigy.net](mailto:robinw10@prodigy.net)

Dennis Hido, Sexton  
Darlene Gresco, Housekeeping  
Teresa Venham, Housekeeping

#### Vestry

Janet Daniels, Sr. Warden:  
[janetsdaniels@gmail.com](mailto:janetsdaniels@gmail.com)

Pam Zuhl, Jr. Warden:  
[zuhlfamily@aol.com](mailto:zuhlfamily@aol.com)

Sallie Bear  
Tom Dukes  
Doug Harvey  
Ann Kirk  
Scott Koebley  
Jeanne McKinny  
George Murray  
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](http://www.dohio.org)**

#### SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

10:30 am online service via  
Facebook Live and Zoom



The Church Offices will be closed on December 24 and 25  
for Christmas and will close at noon on December 31 and reopen  
on Monday, January 4. In the event of a pastoral emergency,  
please contact Charlotte at 937-925-5200