

# 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**



**2022**

## Christmas Eve Services



**2:00 p.m.**

**Quiet, festive service with Christmas Hymns**

**5:00 p.m.**

**Family Service with procession to the creche  
and music by the Young Choristers**

**10:30 p.m.**

**Christmas music followed by Holy Eucharist  
Choir, Organ, & String Quartet**

*All Services include Holy Communion*

**Christmas Day at 10:00 a.m.**

**Christmas Eucharist in Laurel Lake Community Room**

**First Presbyterian Service in the Chapel at 10:30 a.m.**

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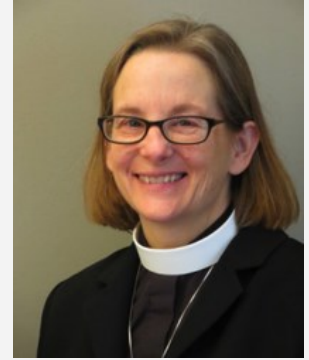
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## THE RECTOR'S REFLECTIONS



Dear Friends,

The fall has been glorious at Christ Church with renewed energy in worship, the return of Potluck Theology and Lego Church, a fabulous “Better Together” party, and many opportunities to help those in need. Now, all of a sudden, our attention is turning to Advent and our anticipation of the Christ Child in our midst. One of the highlights of Christmas at Christ Church is the Children’s Christmas pageant, an event that makes an impact on me each and every year. Yes, the Christmas pageant makes the story of Jesus’ birth come alive through the voices of our children. But even more than that, I think the production of the Christmas pageant tells us something about how we are called to follow Jesus.

First, there is a role for every child, regardless of age or ability (including the ability to follow directions). Every child is welcome and included and is a vital part of the story. How do we welcome and include every child of God in the Body of Christ in this church?

Secondly, no matter how well prepared the children are, there is always an element of chaos. Little sheep run through the church or climb around the steps, sometimes chased down by older siblings. The baby Jesus simply does not want to follow the “no crying he makes” directive. The mics take on a life of their own. The unexpected becomes expected. No matter how much we prepare, the life of following Jesus is not always (or maybe ever?) in our control and we can expect the unexpected. Where are we surprised by the unexpected as followers of Jesus?

Lastly, the story of Jesus’ birth brings us great joy. I wonder if perhaps we open ourselves to be moved by the story more when told by our children than when we simply hear the story read or read it ourselves. The children delight in becoming shepherds, or sheep, or Magi, or even a camel. Their delight is contagious. Who are we in the Christmas story and which part of the story brings us delight?

As we move through Advent, I invite us to prepare for the arrival of the Christ child by watching for the unexpected as we seek to follow Jesus, by welcoming and including all of God’s children in all aspects of our life together and in the wider community, and by opening ourselves to childlike delight in the arrival of Jesus in our midst. Our children have much to teach us!

Blessings,

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.



**End of Year  
Giving**

**Just a reminder that pledges and end of year gifts must be received in the church office by noon on December 30 or postmarked by December 31 to be counted for 2022 tax purposes. Thank you!**



**SERVICE OF HEALING**

**December 1**  
**at 9:30 a.m. in the Chapel**

Once a month, a healing service is offered at 9:30 a.m. in the Chapel for anyone who would like to ask prayers for themselves or others. The service includes Holy Eucharist. Join us for this quiet, yet powerful service.

# Adult Forum

**Born in a Barn**  
**Advent Adult Forum**  
**December 4th & 9th**  
**at 9:00 am in the Parish Hall**

Join Charlotte for a look at the stories of Jesus' birth and what those stories tell us about who Jesus is.

**December 4th**

Matthew 1: 18-25 or if you have a little more time, Matthew 1:1-2:15

**December 11th**

Luke 2:1-20 or if you have a little more time, Luke 1:5-2:20

### 2023 Stewardship Campaign Update

Thank you to all who have made a pledge to our 2023 Stewardship Campaign and to all who raised their pledge to fill the gap and help us exceed our goal of \$485,000. With your generosity, we have 117 pledges for a total of \$488,137 for next year. Thank you!

## The Greening of the Church

Sunday, December 18 after the 10:30 service

Join members of the Flower Guild and help prepare the church for Christmas! Questions? Contact Fern MacMillan at [fadaly05@gmail.com](mailto:fadaly05@gmail.com).



### Baby food Collection for hungry babies in Summit County



You are invited to bring a jar or jars of baby food to be offered at the Creche for the baby Jesus and hungry babies in Akron on Christmas Eve. The baby food will be given to the Hope and Healing Battered Women's Shelter in Akron for the babies sheltered there.

### Holiday Office Closures

**The church office will be closed on**  
**Monday, December 26th**  
**Tuesday, December 27th**  
**Monday, January 2nd**

**In the event of a pastoral emergency, please contact Charlotte at 937-925-5200.**



# Children's Corner

## Christmas Pageant 2022

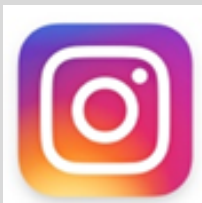
December 18th  
10:30 a.m.



Our annual Christmas pageant is back! Courtney Bixby is working hard with our wonderful children and youth to bring the Nativity story to life. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us for this special service. The pageant will be during 10:30 service on December 18.

### EYC ON INSTAGRAM

Follow Christ Church EYC's Instagram @cceh\_eyc for inspiration, reflections, fun photo challenges!



## DECEMBER CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SCHEDULE

### December 4th

- Pageant Rehearsal & Children's Chapel during 10:30 Service
- Youth Group at 4:30p in Youth Room

### December 11th

- Pageant Rehearsal & Children's Chapel during 10:30 Service
- Advent Lessons and Carols at 5:00p

### December 17th

- Pageant Dress Rehearsal at 10:00 am

### December 18th

- Christmas Pageant during 10:30 service

### December 24th

- Christmas Eve Family Service at 5:00 p.m.

# Youth December Events

### December 4: Youth Group at 4:30

- Holiday Game and Prizes!
- Carolina BBQ Dinner

### December 18: Youth Group at 4:30

- Ugly Sweater Contest
- Favorite Things Gift Exchange (\$10 limit on gift that represents one of your favorite things)
- Lasagna Dinner

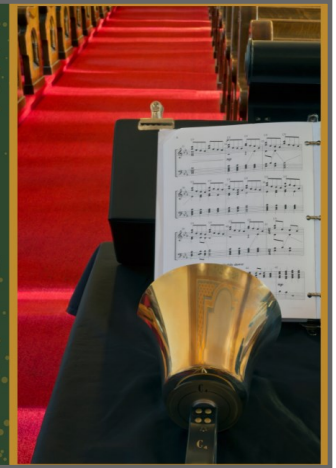
SIGN UP AT  
[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/CCEYOUTHGROUP](https://tinyurl.com/cceyouthgroup)



# Advent Lessons and Carols

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11TH AT 5:00 P.M.

Come hear the Adult Choir sing a service of Advent Lessons and Carols on December 11. This service is totally different than a Sunday morning service. We will hear Advent lessons read by youth lectors and interspersed with favorite Advent hymns and great choral anthems. Please come join us for this special service and bring a friend!



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



Photo credit: Andrew Le

I so look forward to Advent every year. What about Advent, you ask? Technically there are only twelve days of Christmas, and as you might have guessed, none of them are in November. In our church calendar, we have four Sundays of Advent (In Roman times, there were six weeks of Advent) and only a couple Sundays of Christmas. You may think, “That’s it?” but yes that IS it.

History lesson: The word “advent” comes from the Latin *adventus* meaning “coming”. It symbolizes the Second Coming of Christ. For a thousand years, Christians have spoken of three comings of Christ: at Bethlehem, in our hearts and minds, and in the glory of the end times. Advent is a time of anticipation and waiting for the coming of Christ.

This is why I am so excited about our Advent Lessons and Carols Service on December 11th, 5pm. It is a festive service: great choral music sung by our Adult Choir, big hymns, descants, etc. However, it is also a time for us to sit and reflect on the beauty of the scripture readings in Advent. This is a service I hope we continue to offer every year and I hope you come attend.

So I ask: what does Advent mean for you? Maybe, like Lent, we examine our own lives and see what we can do to be better followers of Christ. I ask myself each year: do I really need that new [insert electronic device here]? Is Christmas really about giving expensive presents to my friends who are already financially stable? What if I gave that money to someone less fortunate than me or is there a local soup kitchen that needs volunteers?

When I go to the store and see that 1,000th reindeer on the shelf and that blow-up elf for my front lawn, I am reminded that Jesus had none of these. Jesus didn’t have a comfy bed, an electric space heater, or a cashmere coat. Instead, he had the love of others to welcome him into this world. May you all have a blessed Advent season. I so look forward to seeing you at Advent Lessons and Carols on December 11th at 5pm.

All my best,

Mario




# CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

**Wednesday, December 7th at Noon**

The Christ Church Episcopal Church Women had a tradition of hosting a Christmas Luncheon at the Country Club of Hudson for many years prior to the pandemic. This year, in place of that, the Christ Church staff will host an all-parish luncheon Wednesday, December 7 at noon in the Parish Hall. The luncheon will feature a catered taco bar (with gluten-free and vegetarian options) from Barrio in Kent, a along with dessert and beverages. The cost is \$10 per person. Please sign up to attend by December 2 by calling the church office or at <https://tinyurl.com/CCEChristmasLunch>.

## *The Frosty 5 and Mistletoe Mile: Restrooms for Runners!*



The Hudson Frosty 5 mile and Mistletoe 1 mile race is Saturday, December 24. The 1 mile race starts at 8am and once again we will have hundreds if not thousands of people gathering right across from Christ Church that morning. We will open our building from 7:30-10:30 that morning for those who wish to use indoor plumbing (rather than port-a-potties) and get warm before or after their run.

Your help is needed as we offer hospitality to the runners. We need at least four people from 7:30-8:30, four people from 8:30-9:30, and two people from 9:30-10:30 to greet people and show them through the building to the restrooms. This is an excellent opportunity to show some great Christ Church hospitality! Please let Charlotte know that you can help.



### HUDSON COMMUNITY CHORUSES

#### TIDINGS OF COMFORT AND JOY: DECEMBER 4th AT 4:00 P.M.

The Hudson Community Choruses - Children, Youth, and Adults; will ring in the holiday season with its annual holiday concert, *Tidings of Comfort & Joy* on Sunday, December 4 at 4:00 p.m. at Christ Church. All three choruses will sing classical works from Ralph Vaughan Williams, Benjamin Britten and Felix Mendelssohn and contemporary pieces from Pinkzebra and Cecilia McDowall. Emily Laurance, harpist and Darrell Zhang, cellist, will accompany the choruses. Our own Mario Buchanan is the Director of the Youth Choruses. Tickets are available online at [www.hudsonsings.org](http://www.hudsonsings.org). Presale tickets are \$15, or \$20 at the door. Student tickets are \$5.



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 19th**

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**Christ Church 2022 Christmas Floral Donation**

**NAME(S):** \_\_\_\_\_ **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 19th**

Prayers for healing are offered during communion at the 10:30 Sunday service at the healing station to the right of the pulpit. Typically, either the Rev. Allan Belton or the Rev. Daniel Grossoehme will be at the healing station. If someone is already being prayed for at the healing station, please wait a respectful distance away until they are finished. Prayers for healing will continue to be offered until there is no one left in line.



## Getting to Know You

Each month we will feature a little “getting to know” you vignette of a Christ Church parishioner or family in the Communicant. If you would like to be featured in an issue of The Communicant or know someone who would, please let us know. This month, Eileen Gaston helps us get to know a little bit more about The Le/Walvoord Family. We look forward to getting to know you better, too!

### Get to Know The Le/Walvoord Family

In 2019, Drew Le (pronounced Lee) came to Kent State University as associate professor of piano. That move resulted in Christ Church’s gain of an entire musical family! You have seen and heard Drew’s fabulous performances on piano, both our small grand and the large one brought in for a Music of the Western Reserve concert. You have heard lovely duets with his wife Jenny Walvoord playing the violin. And you’ve seen and heard their children Matthew (11) and Kate (9) singing with the Young Choristers. What a musical gift to our parish!

Drew and Jenny grew up in Michigan - Drew in Kentwood (near Grand Rapids) and Jenny in Holland. She was active in the 3rd Reformed Church of America. They met, and later married, as faculty at Hope College, in Holland. Drew was then baptized in the Reformed Church. He became a deacon in the church.



After teaching at Hope College for fourteen years, Drew was recruited by Kent State. They moved on August 3, 2019, a date that Matthew remembers because it was a major change in their lives. They visited several churches but, upon arriving at Christ Church, they immediately felt at home. Drew and Jenny appreciated the music program, especially the children’s choir. Matthew said he had a strong sense of belonging. They had all been baptized in the Reformed Church, but quickly adjusted to the liturgy and traditions of the Episcopal Church.

Jenny, who had been a violinist with the Grand Rapids Symphony, has found a home with the Cleveland Pops Orchestra. She also gives private violin lessons. She is exploring an additional career as a UX (User Experience) designer. She will assist clients with website, app, and graphic design.

Matthew is in 6th grade at Hudson Middle School. Kate is in 4th grade at Eastwood Elementary. They like to read and play outside with their dogs Cookie and Coda.

You may have seen Drew with a very important-looking camera, snapping photos at church functions. He is a talented and dedicated amateur photographer, who has committed to a “365 Project,” in which he takes a photo EVERY DAY, representing something memorable about that day. These are printed and collected in family albums.

What would this musical family like to see in the future for Christ Church? Continue to expand the Young Choristers. Drew would like a nine-foot Steinway! And Matthew says “continue to have amazing people who are friendly and welcoming.”





# DECEMBER

## BIRTHDAYS

- Suzanne Lund ~ 12/1
- Julie Ridgway ~ 12/2
- Peter Ryerson ~ 12/3
- Mario Buchanan ~ 12/4
- Patricia Davis ~ 12/9
- Gary Cook ~ 12-9
- Amy Andrews ~ 12/11
- Pam McCallops ~ 12/11
- Olivia Robinson ~12/13
- Jim Gray ~ 12/14
- Ava Klespies ~ 12/14
- Kevin Cicen ~ 12/15
- James Dalton ~ 12/17
- Cindy Frisby ~ 12/17
- Libby Hickey ~ 12/21
- John Longenecker ~ 12/22
- Karen Myers ~ 12/24
- Silas Anglewicz ~ 12/26
- Joe Klespies ~ 12/27
- Jay Bixby ~ 12/28
- Jacob Phillips ~ 12/28
- Marcie Harvey ~ 12/29
- Betsy Redmond ~ 12/29
- Kelly Hickey ~ 12/30



# DECEMBER

## ANNIVERSARIES

- Ted & Susan Mailey ~ 12/10
- Fern & John MacMillan ~ 12/26

### FOR THE RECORD...

Baptism: Anna Longenecker  
 Births: Suhani Kavita Bhatia

### Thank you to...

- ...Midge Karam and Western Reserve Academy for the use of the timpani for our glorious All Saints service
- ...Mario Buchanan and the Christ Church Choirs for their wonderful All Saints music
- ...RuthAnne Belton, Malcolm Robbie, and Ellen Turner for serving as our Diocesan Convention delegates and hosting our Bishop election party
- ...Judy Brookhart, Jeanne McKinny and Pam McCallops for serving dinner to the youth group in October and November
- ...RuthAnne Belton for organizing our November Ladies' Night
- ...All who gave generously to The Giving Tree, Hoodies for First Serve and Yams for Open M
- ...Cathy Agnor, Sallie Bear, & Pam McCallops for coordinating The Giving Tree this year



The Christ Church delegation to the 206th Diocesan Convention on November 19, where The Rev. Anne Jolly was elected Bishop Coadjutor.

### Hudson Food Pantry- Laundry Detergent Collection




The Christ Church monthly offering to the Hudson Food Pantry is liquid or pod laundry detergent, which cannot be purchased with government assistance (SNAP). The Hudson Food Pantry has requested **35 jugs or packs of pod detergent** by December 14 for the December distribution. Detergent can be left on the bench inside the parking lot door, or if it is locked, can be left outside the door. Thank you for helping to support the Hudson Food Pantry!



21 Aurora Street  
Hudson, OH 44236

Phone: 330-650-4359  
Fax: 330-655-0695

**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. Daniel Grosseohme, Priest  
The Rev. Gretchen Green, Deacon

**Staff**

Kathy Garber, Parish Administrator  
[Kathy.garber@christchurchudson.org](mailto:Kathy.garber@christchurchudson.org)  
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[Mario.buchanan@christchurchudson.org](mailto:Mario.buchanan@christchurchudson.org)  
Sarah Bhatia, Director of Christian Education and Youth Ministry,  
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Susie Vanaman, Parish Accountant  
[Svanaman@christchurchudson.org](mailto:Svanaman@christchurchudson.org)  
Gary Cook, Custodian  
Matt Baker, A/V Technician  
Phoebe Hilson, Nursery Attendant  
Lillian Ivey, Nursery Attendant

**Vestry**

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[kirkanpa@roadrunner.com](mailto:kirkanpa@roadrunner.com)  
  
James Boazzo, Jr. Warden:  
[jamesboazzo@yahoo.com](mailto:jamesboazzo@yahoo.com)  
  
Kathie Balcerzak  
Judy Brookhart  
Tom Dukes  
Mark Metoki  
Tina Monreal  
George Murray  
Jacob Phillips

**Christ Church Hudson  
is a Parish of the  
Episcopal Diocese of Ohio  
[www.dohio.org](http://www.dohio.org)**



# Mark Your Calendar!

## 2023 Budget Forum

January 22nd at 9am in the Parish Hall

## 2023 Annual Meeting

January 29th at 9am in the Church