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.



Church Contact Info Evensong Page 13

September

2023

THE RECTOR'S REFLECTIONS



Dear Friends,

You may remember that last Lent we were blessed at Christ Church with the births of four baby boys. So, this late summer and fall, we have four baptisms which are always joyous occasions in the life of a church.

In the course of the baptism service, the congregation is asked "Will you who witness the vows do all in your power to support this child in her life in Christ?" Our answer is always a resounding "We will!"

When we say "we will" and promise to support this child in her life in Christ, we are making a big promise.

- First, we are promising to show up each Sunday so that the children know they are part of a community that cares and that being in church matters.
- Secondly, we are promising to model the Christian life so the children know what that looks like. Believe me, they are watching to see how we treat each other, whether we act like we believe what we say we believe, and whether this really is a place that demonstrates God's unconditional love.
- Thirdly, we are promising to actively support our children and youth in their life in Christ. This might include teaching Sunday School or Vacation Bible School, but it could also include cooking for youth group and Lego Church, or supporting Vacation Bible School by shopping, helping set up or clean up, or serving snacks. This might also include making a point to be here when the Young Choristers sing, or the youth group leads worship, or one of our youth is a lector (which is almost every Sunday).

As we begin a new program year this fall, may we keep our promise to be a church that supports all of our young people in their life in Christ.

Blessings,

Charlotte

Rector's Contact Information:

Contact Charlotte by email at <u>charlotte.reed@christchurchhudson.org</u>, by phone in the church office: **330-650-4359**, or by cell phone: **937-925-5200** (before 9pm please, unless it's an emergency).

| | 2023 Pledge Update | Total dollars pledged for 2023 | Pledge dollars expected/budgeted year to date | Pledge dollars received year to date |
|---|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| Ŧ | Opdate | \$490,212 | \$367,659 | \$371,330 Includes \$85,520 in prepaid pledges |



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.

The Blessing of Teachers & Students Sunday, September 10 at 8am and 10:30am

Whatever you teach, wherever you learn, join us on September 10 as we ask God's blessing on all of our teachers and students. If you neither teach nor learn in any formal capacity, come and support those who do!

Holy Eucharist Service at Laurel Lake September 21 at 11:00 a.m.

All Christ Church residents of Laurel Lake, and anyone else who would like to join us are invited to gather in The Chapel at Laurel Lake for Eucharist at 11am.



Sundays at 9am in the Parish Hall Signs and Wonders a video series with Amy-Jill Levine

Many of us enjoyed and learned from Amy-Jill Levine last Lent when we explored her "Witnesses at the Cross" video series. This fall we will again enjoy and learn from Dr. Levine as we look at the miracles of Jesus.

From the Abingdon Press website: "In Signs and Wonders: A Beginner's Guide to the Miracles of Jesus," Amy-Jill Levine explores selected miracles of Jesus in historical and theological context. For each miracle, she discusses not only how past witnesses would have understood the events, but also how today's readers can draw meaning from Jesus's words and actions."

September 10

Giving sight to the blind: Metaphors of understanding (Mark 8, John 9)

September 17 "Take up your pallet and walk" (the paralyzed man): On the role of caregivers

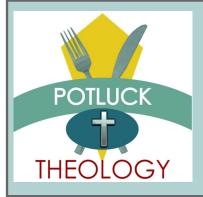
> **September 24** *A bleeding woman and a dead girl:* The importance of women's bodies

October 1 Walking on water and stilling the storm: Ecological readings of the Gospels

October 8: Off

October 15 *The feeding of the 5,000 (or more):* The centrality of bread

October 22 The raising of Lazarus: Taking death seriously



Wednesday, September 20th 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall *"Ask the Philosopher" with Don Reed*

Fried chicken provided. Bring a salad, side dish, dessert, or beverage to share! Question due to Don at doncollinsreed@icloud.com by noon on Saturday, September 16. Sign up at https://tinyurl.com/potlucktheo23 by September 18.



Sunday, September 17th

Supper at 5:30p Choir Call at 6:00p Candles & Quiet at 6:15p Compline at 6:30p

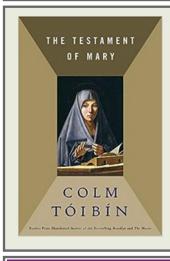
Choral Compline is "Prayer at the close of the day", a service with no sermon, mostly chanted, a lot of candles and the choir offering special music. The service usually runs 20-25 minutes and will held on the 3rd Sunday of each month at 6:30 p.m. through May. We hope you will join us!



We receive, we share, we give.

Save the date! Pancake Breakfast!

Sunday, October 8th after the 10:30 Service



WORDS AND WISDOM BOOK DISCUSSION

September 19 at 8:00 p.m. on Zoom

Women of Christ Church and First Presbyterian are invited to join Sarah Bhatia monthly for a book discussion.

For the month of September, we will join together for discussion of <u>The Testament</u> <u>of Mary</u> by Colm Tóibín. Shortlisted for the 2013 Man Booker Prize, Tóibín's provocative, haunting, and indelible portrait of Mary presents her as a solitary older woman still seeking to understand the events that become the narrative of the New Testament and the foundation of Christianity. Email Sarah to sign up at sbhatia@christchurchhudson.org.



CCEH Ladies Night Out Tuesday, September 19th at 5:30 p.m.

Join your Christ Church sisters for an evening of great food, good conversation, and lots of laughter! We will meet for dinner at The Flipside in Hudson on Tuesday, September 19 at 5:30 p.m. This is a great way to make and meet new friends and catch up with old ones. Please sign up through the church office or at <u>https://tinyurl.com/CCEHLadiesnight</u> by Friday, Sept. 15. Contact Emily Longenecker at jelongenecker@gmail.com with questions.

Children's Corner



Check out what's coming starting September 10:

Children's Chapel

Ages 3-2nd Grade 1st Sunday during 10:30 Service

Nursery Ages 0-3 Every Sunday

10:00am-12:00pm

Faith Explorers PreK-5th Grade 2nd-5th Sundays 10:15-11:00am

Youth Group Grades 6-12 1st and 3rd Sundays 4:30-6:00

Lego Church All Ages 1st Sunday 4:30-6:00

Lego Church

On the first Sunday of each month, beginning in October, we will gather in Parish Hall to unleash our creativity and engage with familiar Bible stories in new ways. Legos are for all ages and will allow you to explore your faith in a creative way. After a brief, imaginative service, we will enjoy a home cooked meal together.

Mark Your Calendar!



Save the date for these important Faith Formation events:

- September 10: Faith Explorers Sunday School Kick-Off Ages 3yo-5th Grade
- September 10 afternoon: First Serve Akron All Ages
- September 17: Youth Group Kick-Off Grades 6-12
- October 1: Lego Church All Ages

Christian Education and Youth Ministry Sarah Bhatia, Director Christ Church Episcopal, Hudson sbhatia@christchurchhurdson.org



Youth Group September 17th at 4:30 p.m.

After an amazing first year, Youth Group is back on September 17. It is an opportunity for students in grades 6-12 to explore faith formation topics, build close relationships with their peers, and discover how to navigate their world in the light and love of Christ. We will meet on the 1st and 3rd Sundays for fellowship, faith formation, and food! Keep an eye out for outreach and service events throughout the year as well.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL RECAP

We had a great week of Vacation Bible School in August with 12 kids in attendance, not including the five teen volunteers and the baby and toddler who were along for the ride. We learned how to be menders of the world with God through feeding, healing, forgiving, praying, and resting.

Thank you to everyone who volunteered and donated! I am so lucky to have had such amazing volunteers engaging with and leading the kids. I could not have done it without you!

Susan Arnold Sallie Bear Ketan Bhatia Sunita Bhatia Mario Buchanan Theresa Edwards Eileen Gaston Calvin Harvey Ella Harvey

Marcie Harvey Ann Kirk Jim Lang Julie Micheletti Olivia Robinson Samantha Parker Noah Price Heather Swift

I also want to thank Jake Philips for helping me decorate and set up each morning as well as Bob Zuhl and Jane and Len Harrison who helped with Lower Level preparations and decorations.

I am expecting as many or more kids next year as word has already started to spread, so I will need even more helping hands. Mark your calendars now! <u>VBS 2024 is August 5-9th 9:00am-12:00pm.</u>

- Sarah Bhatia







Mario Buchanan Director of Music and Organist mario.buchanan@christchurchhudson.org

Photo credit: Andrew Le

Happy September!

I am so excited for the fall season to start! Christ Church is so blessed to have such a fruitful music program, where we have a number of offerings for various people in the parish. Ever since I arrived in 2018, we have grown the music program together into what is now a vibrant program we can be proud to share! This can be seen in our growing Young Chorister Program, Choral Scholars, growth in the Adult Choir, and offering of other services outside of Sunday morning, like Advent Lessons and Carols and Compline.

The Young Choristers will be singing Evensong at Trinity Cathedral <u>on October 18th, 6pm.</u> This is a honor for them so I hope you will come up the the Cathedral to support them in their ministry.

With many opportunities for music at Christ Church, congregational song is at the heart of worship. We are who we are because of the common worship, the common song. My Facebook friend, Gabriel Rhys Simerson, posted a few days ago about his congregational song in Virginia. With Gabe's permission granted, I want to share his post with all of you. Here is what he says.

"Almost weekly I hear churchpeople talk about how they 'can't carry a tune in a bucket' and therefore abstain during hymns. I tell them what I'll tell anyone:

You hear three distinct layers of sound in church singing:

Relatively trained voices, in parts when appointed, almost exactly on the beat (this is the choir)
Voices of all varieties, generally on the tune (in rare instances in parts), somewhat behind the beat due to the space and natural acoustics (these are the confident congregational singers)
A low, gravelly din that doesn't resemble the tune, but includes the words, humming under the first two groups

The third group is my favorite part of congregational singing; it's what reminds us that all the people of different stripes in the whole room are trying—are *trying*, are participating, are for that moment welded to the Body which they come to share. Without them, it would be a choral concert. But with that corporate hum, there's an electricity that doesn't happen in any other kind of singing.

This is my plea: if you've set down your bucket, consider grunting something out during the next hymn. Because if you do it, the other 5 or 50 or 100 people just like you will see, and will do it too. And then everyone in the room will be in the same boat - lost in wonder, love, and praise!"



We Welcome Lydia Nall to Our Choral Scholar Program!

Lydia Nall is a senior at the University of Akron majoring in vocal performance and minoring in biology. At the university she is involved with the opera program and the Concert and Chamber choirs. She is also the president of the student chapter of the American Choral Directors Association, the vice president for the Student National Association of Teachers of Singing, and musical director of Kanga Blue a cappella. After graduation Lydia plans on attending graduate school for vocal performance.

Introducing Christ Church "Merch"

We are excited to unveil our new Christ Church merchandise store! When you order from the Christ Church Merch Store, you can wear a conversation starter, show off your Christ Church pride, and support the mission of the church. We have no inventory on hand: items are made-to-order and shipped directly to you. You can check out the current products and place your order by scanning the code or going to https://tinyurl.com/christchurchmerch.





Calling all who like to cook!

There are many opportunities this fall to use your culinary skills for the good of the church and especially in support of our youth. We are looking for volunteers to make a meal for our Sunday Youth Group, Lego Church, and Choral Compline. For each meal, sign-ups will be requested by the Wednesday prior to the Sunday so the cooks will have a count, but we anticipate 35-40 people for each meal other than November 12 and 19 and December 17 which will be smaller. The church will reimburse you \$5 per person for the food. All you need to do is turn in your receipts to Kathy in the church office. The free will offering taken at each meal will help support the cost. Dinner is at 5:30 each evening except for December 10 when it follows Advent Lessons and Carols and will be closer to 6pm. If you would like to provide a meal, you can find a complete list of dates and sign up at https://tinyurl.com/callingallcooks or by scanning the code below.

September 17: Youth Group and Compline October 1: Youth Group and Lego Church October 15: Youth Group and Compline November 5: Youth Group and Lego Church





Thank you to...

everyone who has helped out around the building the last two months since Gary's stroke, especially Guy Wylie, Bob Zuhl, Doug Swift, and Malcolm Robbie

-Janet Daniels for leading the "Whom Shall I Fear" discussion group
-all who contributed to the calculators and backpacks for Hudson City Schools children in need and all who donated condiments for the Family Promise Food Pantry
-all who helped with the memorial service and reception for Virginia Sommers
-Malcolm Robbie for assembling our new table and chairs for the Memorial Garden and new bench outside the back door
-Bob Zuhl for designing and constructing a new outdoor banner display

MUSIC FROM THE WESTERN RESERVE

September 10th | 5pm Dave Banks Big Band at Christ Church Episcopal

This powerhouse 12 piece swinging big band is based out of Akron, Ohio and is led by Ohio native and 20 year Las Vegas veteran trumpet artist, Dave Banks and features local Hudson vocalist Sandra Montevideo. Tickets are \$30 and can be purchased online at www.musicfromthewestern.com or at the door the night of the concert. Student admission is free with a valid student ID.



OUTREACH MINISTRY

2023 Day of Service Sunday, September 10th!

First Serve is an interfaith initiative coordinated by First Congregational Church to make a difference in the North Hill area of Akron. One of the afternoon projects is a cultural immersion into the culinary life of North Hill and many Christ Church folk are signing up for that project. We will meet at North High at 1pm and carpool to four different ethnic restaurants in the area, sampling food at each. The cost is \$10. To sign up, go to www.joinfirstserve.org, click the project registration tab, then click "reserve a spot," then scroll down to "Cultural Immersion: Food Group A" and sign up. There are many other projects to choose from as well.

PB & J DAY: SEPTEMBER 16

PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY BRIGADE

Please join the Outreach Committee in the Parish Hall at 10 AM on September 16 as we come together to prepare 300 peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for the homeless ministry out of St. Bernard's Church in Akron.

We urge anyone and everyone to volunteer at some point, for every month we will put out the call. Get to know each other, get sticky, and do good! For more information, contact Judy Brookhart at judyots@gmail.com.

Blessing Cards for Open M



Please consider making "blessing cards" to be given out with meals at Open M. Your card can be a simple index card or piece of paper with a few words of encouragement, a bible verse, a picture, stickers, or whatever you imagine will share some love and support. You can drop your cards in the basket inside the coat room by the parking lot entrance. This will be an ongoing opportunity and cards will be taken to Open M monthly.

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 45 jugs, packs of pods, or detergent sheets by September 20 for this month's distribution. Detergent can be left on the bench inside the back door, or Outside the door if it is locked. Thank you helping support the Hudson Food Pantry!





Volunteers needed for Habitat for Humanity September 23

Help Build It

The pictures below are what will become a new safe, affordable home in Barberton for our partner family, Sabrina Weitensfelder and her three children. We had two great workdays this summer. The third workday opportunity for volunteers from Christ Church will be Saturday, September 23.

If you're thinking, "I'd like to help someone else out, but I'm not very handy", consider this: Habitat for Humanity has been helping unskilled (but thoughtful) volunteers (18 or older) to build homes for others for over 40 years. On a typical workday, an experienced supervisor instructs 8 volunteers on the tasks of that workday during the first hour and then observes their progress as they begin the work themselves. Inexperienced volunteers can pair up and work with those who are more experienced. By the end of the second hour, volunteers are chatting together as they share the task they've been assigned, be that putting down floor decking, raising walls, putting in new windows or doors, or hanging vinyl siding. Habitat will provide the tools needed for the day, but those who have tool belts are welcome to bring them. The workday is from 9 AM to 3:30 PM with lunch at noon and short breaks in the morning and afternoon. It's always a bit of a surprise to see how much has been accomplished by the end of the day. And it's fun to acquire a new skill along the way.

Volunteers from Christ Church and other churches in Hudson have joined together to help fund build a new home for and with a partner family in Summit County every year for the past 25 years. If you'd like to be a part of that tradition, email Len Harrison at <u>harrison13n@gmail.com</u> for more information.



Photos from the first Habitat Workday on July 15. Christ Church volunteers hard at work and taking a well-deserved break!



Getting to Know You

Each month we 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 The Agnors. We look forward to getting to know you better, too!

Get to Know Cathy and Ross Agnor

What do the Cleveland Clinic and volleyball have in common? Medical care and sports are important to Cathy and Ross Agnor and are, in fact, how they met.

Cathy lived in Ontario, Canada as a child, but the family moved to Hudson for her dad's work when she was 17. Ross grew up in Lakewood. In 1993, she was an RN at the Cleveland Clinic (oncology). Ross was a resident in anesthesiology. They met playing volleyball in a sports/social club at the Clinic.

Cathy's religious background is Catholic and Ross's is Disciples of Christ. Like so many in our congregation, they found the Episcopal Church to be a good compromise. They were married (in her parents' yard overlooking Lake Erie) in 1994 and began attending St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Lakewood.



In 1997, Dr. Ross became a Pediatric Anesthesiologist at Akron Children's Hospital. Nurse Cathy was at the Cleveland Clinic main campus. They moved to Hudson and joined Christ Church. Ross specializes in anesthesiology for children with congenital heart disease. He has led his department's Cardiac Anesthesia group since 2001, when the first open heart surgery at Akron Children's Hospital was performed. Cathy, after working in oncology at Cleveland Clinic, became an educator of other nurses. Then she was a research nurse with a focus on liver failure/ transplant patients. She is now a volunteer nurse for the Hospice of Western Reserve - three days a week!

You may remember that the Agnor daughters (with long brown hair) were faithful acolytes for many years. If not serving at the altar, they sat near the front on the pulpit side. (Yes, we all seem to have our 'assigned seats.') Elise (28) is a social worker in Princeton, NJ. Renee (24) works in Columbus. Celine (23) and Corinne (22) are both in the medical field. Celine is working on a Doctor of Physical Therapy degree. Corinne is an RN (like her mom) in the Pediatric ICU at Akron Children's Hospital (like her dad).

Ross's daughter Jessica is married to Seth Pringle. We pray for him every week because he is in the Army National Guard, stationed in Syria.

The Agnors had quite an adventure this summer. Ross is an avid cyclist and he and a friend, with Cathy driving along behind them, rode their bikes for ten days. They did 455 miles on the Skyline Drive and Blue Ridge Parkway, through rain, shine, and fog. No injuries or bike mishaps, thank goodness.

Cathy is a frequent usher at Christ Church. She and Ross like the community of friends here and the comfort of a 'spiritual home.' As we all do, they'd like to see more people join us. Ross said that his experience at the hospital shows the advantage of welcoming new people and learning from their new ideas and experiences. Thanks, Dr. Ross and Nurse Cathy!



Ben Bixby ~ 9/1 Sue King $\sim 9/1$ Griffin Vaughn ~ 9/1 Titch Foster $\sim 9/5$ Judy Brookhart $\sim 9/6$ Susan Arnold ~ 9/7Doug Harvey ~ 9/8 Susie Spearman ~ 9/8 Courtney Bixby $\sim 9/9$ Nicholas Haake ~ 9/9 Guy Wylie ~ 9/9 Travis Anglewicz $\sim 9/10$ Matt Girvin ~ 9/10Dave McCallops $\sim 9/10$ Charles Haake $\sim 9/11$ Anna Klespies ~ 9/12 Barbara Pomeroy $\sim 9/12$ Michael Calkins ~ 9/12 Phoebe Hilson $\sim 9/16$ Don Reed $\sim 9/17$ Eloise Kosanovich $\sim 9/19$ Julie Micheletti ~ 9/19 Debbie Currin $\sim 9/20$ Pam Zuhl ~ 9/20 Colin Repko ~ 9/21 Jim Lang $\sim 9/23$ Olivia Andrews $\sim 9/24$ Gwen Bowen $\sim 9/27$ Will Bixby $\sim 9/28$ Susan Girvin ~ 9/28 Jim Sullivan ~ 9/28Richard Antholine $\sim 9/29$ Tom Dukes $\sim 9/29$ John Ong $\sim 9/29$

FOR THE RECORD ...

<u>Baptism</u> Jordan Repko ~ August 13

<u>Marriage</u> Martie Hall & Dave Weida ~ July 29

Deaths Jack Houlette ~ July 31



A MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR Ralph Weary

Saturday, September 9th 3:00 p.m. Reception to follow

August Vestry Meeting Highlights



- •The vestry meeting opened with prayer and the question "Where have you seen God this week?"
- Ann Kirk gave the treasurer's report. Pledge income is about where it should be at this point in the year. She also went over the audit.
- Judy Brookhart talked about the possibility of offering valet parking for those who need the service due to age or physical limitations. She is working on a list of people willing to serve as well as guidelines for the use of the service.
- Charlotte reported on the work of the Legacy Committee. A kick off event for the Christ Church Legacy Circle is scheduled for September 27 at 5:30. More information on that will be coming out soon.
- Greg Daniels reported on the work of the hospitality committee to create a culture of hospitality at Christ Church.
- Courtney Bixby reported on a very successful Vacation Bible School.
- There was much discussion about plans for a pancake breakfast on October 8.
- Kathy and Charlotte showed the vestry the online Christ Church "Merch" shop.
- The next vestry meeting is Tuesday, September 26 at 6pm



Conor & Lindsay O'Sullivan ~ 9/4 Richard Shirey & James Helmuth ~9/5 Lou & Marti Young ~ 9/6 Kevin & Tracey Vaughn ~ 9/18 Damon & Carrie Cronkey ~ 9/20 Steve & Katie Barger ~ 9/22 Mike & Linda Pitz ~ 9/27 Malcolm & Rhonda Robbie ~ 9/27 Peter & Shirley Eells ~ 9/29 Guy & Ruth Wylie ~ 9/30



The Church office will be closed on Friday, September 1 and Monday, September 4 in observance of Labor Day.



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On the Web: Find us on Facebook!

www.christchurchhudson.com

Clergy

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

Affiliated Clergy The Rev. Allan Belton, Priest The Rev. Daniel Grossoehme, Priest The Rev. Gretchen Green, Deacon

Staff

Kathy Garber, Parish Administrator Kathy.garber@christchurchhudson.org Mario Buchanan, Director of Music/Organist

Mario.buchanan@christchurchhudson.org Sarah Bhatia, Director of Christian Education and Youth Ministry, Sbhatia@christchurchhudson.org

Susie Vanaman, Parish Accountant Svanaman@christchurchhudson.org

Norma Harbison, Housekeeping Marcena Brown, Housekeeping Bill Tscherne, Facility Maintenance Matt Baker, A/V Technician Phoebe Hilson, Nursery Attendant Lillian Ivey, Nursery Attendant

Vestry

James Boazzo, Sr. Warden: jamesboazzo@yahoo.com

Judy Brookhart, Jr. Warden: judyots@gmail.com

Kathie Balcerzak Courtney Bixby Greg Daniels Andrew Le Mark Metoki Tina Monreal

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



Save the Date!

Come support the Young Choristers as they sing a service of Choral Evensong at Trinity Cathedral on Wednesday, October 18th at 6pm. This is a great honor for them so please come and support them with your presence!