THE COMMUNICANT

Christ Church Episcopal

A ministry of the Diocese of Ohio

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

January



2024

Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 28th

Following a shortened 10:30 service, we will gather as a parish to elect new vestry members, hear a few brief reports, thank out-going vestry members, and adopt the 2024 Christ Church budget. Fifty members in good standing are required for a quorum, so please plan to join us. Your presence matters!

The Vestry Candidates are:

Sallie Bear, Theresa Edwards, Malcolm Robbie

The Diocesan Convention Delegates are:

James Boazzo, Judy Brookhart, Greg Daniels

Information about the vestry and diocesan convention delegate candidates can be found inside this issue of The Communicant.

The congregation will be asked to vote on the following amendment to the Christ Church bylaws which will allow for, but not require, a one year youth member of vestry with seat, voice, and vote.

Article IV, section 2e

In addition to the 9 regularly elected adult members of the vestry, the congregation may also elect a youth member of vestry to serve a one-year term with seat, voice, and vote. The youth member must be 16 years of age or older by the time of the Annual Meeting at which he or she is elected and be able to serve the entire year.

Diocese Canon: Title II, Canon 1, Section 3(a): In every Parish of the Diocese, there shall be held an Annual Meeting, for the election of members of the Vestry and for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before such meeting.

Diocese Canon: Title II, Canon 1, Section 5(a): All members of the Parish who are communicants in good standing as defined by the Canons of the Episcopal Church and not being under sixteen years of age shall be qualified to vote in its meetings.

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THE RECTOR'S REFLECTIONS



Dear Friends,

If you read the December Vestry Highlights in this issue of the Communicant, you will see that we have exceeded our stewardship goal for 2024! We have a total of 124 pledges, 19 of which are new, for a pledged amount of \$519,385. Our goal was \$514,725. Never, in all my years in parish ministry, has a church exceeded a stewardship goal like this and ours was an audacious goal.

But even more important than the dollars pledged is the number of people who participated. To have 19 new pledges in one year is staggering. To have 124 pledges is mindboggling. To have 62 people raise their pledge is incredible. There is a story here about the resilience and generosity of Christ Church as we continue to emerge from the challenge of the pandemic.

Christ Church grew in ways other than stewardship in 2023. The energy in our worship services is joyful. On Sunday evenings when we have Lego Church and Youth Group or Youth Group and Compline, we may serve as many as 40 people for supper. We can make 300 peanut butter and jelly sandwiches in an hour because so many people show up to be part of this ministry. The music from the choir is going to blow the roof off the church one of these days. The Christmas pageant had 39 children and youth involved. Between Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, over 350 people worshipped at one of our services, numbers we have not seen since 2019, and we don't have a count on the number of people who came through for Restrooms for Runners on Christmas Eve morning, but it was substantial.

There are so many ways to be involved in ministries at Christ Church and every single ministry could use your participation to keep this momentum going. From all of the Sunday morning ministries whether ushers or coffee hour hosts and everything in between, to Christian formation whether helping with Sunday School or making meals for Youth Group and Lego Church, to outreach and making peanut butter and jelly sandwiches or building houses for Habitat, to helping in the office with projects like making welcome bags and "stuffing" bulletins, there is a place for you in the ministries of Christ Church and you are needed.

Everything we do at Christ Church bears witness to God's love. May our joy, our energy, our generosity, and our commitment continue to be that love in the world.

Blessings,

Charlotte

Rector's Contact Information:

Contact Charlotte by email at charlotte.reed@christchurchhudson.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).



2024 Budget Forum Meeting: January 21 at 9am

In preparation for the Annual Meeting on January 28, the 2024 Christ Church budget will be presented to the parish on Sunday, January 21 at 9:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall. This is a chance to see what our financial resources are for the coming year, where they come from, and how they are allocated. Please bring your questions and join the Rector and Wardens for this important conversation.



January 18th 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.



January Adult Forum: 9:00 am in the Parish Hall

January 7

Bring your favorite Bible story or passage and we will weave them together to hear what they say.

- led by the Rev. Charlotte Reed

January 14
The Nicene Creed and E.T.
- led by the Rev. Dr. Daniel Grossoehme

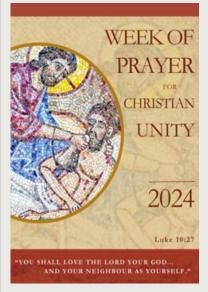
WORDS AND WISDOM BOOK DISCUSSION

January 16 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. We will meet on the third Tuesday of each month, via zoom, and discuss a book we have spent the month reading.

For the month of January, we will join together for discussion of The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie by Muriel Spark. At the staid Marcia Blaine School for Girls, in Edinburgh, Scotland, teacher extraordinaire Miss Jean Brodie is unmistakably, and outspokenly, in her prime. Determined to instill in them independence, passion, and ambition, Miss Brodie advises her girls, "Safety does not come first. Goodness, Truth, and Beauty come first. Follow me." And they do. But one of them will betray her. Email Sarah to sign up.





CHRISTIAN UNITY PRAYER SERVICE & LUNCHEON JANUARY 18TH AT 10:00 A.M.

"You shall love the Lord your God... and your neighbor as yourself." Luke 10:27

All members and friends of Hudson churches are invited to attend the Hudson unity celebration, which will be hosted by First Congregational Church of Hudson. This event, uniting the Hudson church communities for prayer and fellowship, has been held each year for the last 56 years during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. It will begin with an ecumenical prayer service at 10:00 a.m. The Rev. Lynn Anderson, Chaplain at Laurel Lake will give the homily. A boxed luncheon will follow the prayer service. The featured speaker after the luncheon is Sue Talarcek, a Hudson Community Service Association volunteer who manages the Hudson Food Pantry. For more information or to attend the service, please contact the Rev. Gretchen Green at 330-603-1411 by 1/14.

children's Corner





Faith Explorers Sunday School meets at 10:15 on the Lower Level. We have two age groups: PreK-2nd and 3rd-5th. This year, we will be using Illustrated Ministry's *Mini Revolutions* curriculum. This lectionary-based curriculum uses scripture, activities, micropractices, and prayer to help each person embrace their own mini revolutions each week.



Children's Chapel

For children 3-years old through 2nd grade THE FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH DURING THE 10:30 SERVICE.

Children 3-year-olds through 2nd Grade join a leader during the Gloria at the 10:30 service for Godly Play, a Montessori-based Program that explores Bible stories. Children return to their families at the Peace.



Youth Group & Supper January 7th & 21st at 4:30 p.m.

Youth Group 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.



EYC ON INSTAGRAM

Follow Christ Church EYC's Instagram @cceh_eyc for inspiration, reflections, & fun photo challenges!



BUILDING FAITH

Family worship

LEGO CHURCH & SUPPER Sunday, January 7 at 4:30 p.m.



Calling parishioners of all ages, young and young at heart! Join us in the Parish Hall for a fun, interactive worship experience. Using LEGOS, we will explore a Biblical themes and stories in a short, imaginative service that allows for people of all ages to engage with our faith in new and creative ways. Following worship, we will enjoy a homecooked meal together. Please sign up to attend at so we know how many to expect for dinner at tinyurl.com/LegoChurch2324.



Christ Church Christmas Pageant

Thank you to all of the parents who helped make the pageant happen! Thank you for bringing your children to rehearsals, practicing songs and lines with them, and helping keep the order! A special thank you to Milan Kosanovich and Doug Swift for setting up the backdrop. And to Courtney Bixby, a huge thanks for being an amazing co-director. I could not have pulled off such a fun and successful pageant without you!





Photo credit: Andrew Le



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

Greetings!

I want to take a moment to wholeheartedly thank everyone involved in the music program at Christ Church. The Young Choristers have continued to reach higher and higher in their musicianship, maturity, and singing. They have tackled some difficult pieces, including some pieces in Latin! Their presence is a great joy to see week after week. I have continued to be proud of the work these kids accomplish from when we started the program five years ago.

The Adult Choir is hard at work preparing for every Sunday and special services. Every Sunday they come prepared, ready to enliven our worship. This isn't just magic, it takes many hours of individual practice and rehearsals on Thursday nights. This was seen at our splendid Advent Lessons and Carols Service. The choir did a spectacular job with what was a very demanding but very rewarding service. We had some visitors who expressed how blown away they were with the service. For that one hour service, there were countless hours of practicing. I am so proud of their hard work and dedication. As your Director of Music, being at Christ Church is a blessing every day. Christ Church can be proud of their music program. If you are looking for a New Years resolution, thank a choir member. Their hard work enlivens our worship every week and that is something we can beam with pride!

All my best,

Mario

P.S.

There is no Compline service in January since I will be in Sicily!



It's time again for the Christ Church Lenten Devotion Booklet with reflections created by you, Christ Church parishioners and friends. People of all ages are invited to write or create art to go with the Scripture readings for each day in Lent. Sign-ups to write reflections for this year's booklet begin on Sunday, January 7. Please see the display in the Parish Hall on January 7 to choose your reflections and pick up the instruction sheet. Most importantly, please sign out your

reflection so we know who has which one. Please submit your reflections by January 31. The Devotion Booklets will be available on February 11, the Sunday before Ash Wednesday. Click the following to see previous years' books for inspiration. https://online.pubhtml5.com/zfvn/efll/. You can preview the readings at https://www.lectionarypage.net/. Written: Formatting doesn't come through in the form so don't worry about the font or size. Please type your 250 or less word reflection in your own word processing program adding an extra space between paragraphs. Next, copy and paste it into the form at https://tinyurl.com/ccelentendevotion. Artwork: If you are creating an artistic reflection, fill out the form and put the words "art" in the reflection box. Email photos or artwork (square preferred) in jpeg, png, or tiff format to Heather Swift at christchurchepiscopalhudson@gmail.com. Submission Page link: https://tinyurl.com/ccelentendevotion

PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY BRIGADE

PB & J DAY: JANUARY 20TH

Please join the Outreach Committee in the Parish Hall at 10 AM on January 20 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.

Sign Up Now for 2024 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 cost of altar flowers each week is \$40 for the 8:00 Chapel service, \$75 for the 10:30 Church service, or \$115 for both.

The sign-up sheet for flowers is located on the wall in the coat room, or you can call the office to sign up if you have a specific date in mind.





Once again Christ Church will carry on the tradition of sending Valentine's care packages with love to our family members in the military and college or boarding school. Go to tinyurl.com/CCEcarepackages to add your loved ones to our recipient list. Volunteer sign-ups will come out in February!

Hudson Food Pantry Laundry Detergent Collection

The Christ Church monthly offering to the Hudson Food Pantry is 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 January 24 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 for helping support the Hudson Food Pantry!



CCEH Ladies Night Out

Tuesday, January 16th 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 Farmer's Rail in Hudson. 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 https://tinyurl.com/CCEHLadiesnight by January 14. Contact Ann Kirk at kirkanpa@roadrunner.com with any questions.

Christ Church 2024 Vestry Candidates

This year's Vestry Candidates are:

Sallie Bear, Theresa Edwards, Malcom Robbie

Each candidate was asked to answer the following questions. Their responses are below.

- * What excites you about our life together at Christ Church?
- * What are your current ministries at Christ Church?
- * What gifts do you bring to the leadership of Christ Church?
- * What do you believe are the challenges Christ Church faces and how can you help us meet those challenges?

What excites you about our life together at Christ Church?

During the seven years we lived in Wisconsin before our move to Hudson last fall, we lived two hours away from an Episcopal church. We worshipped at Lutheran and Presbyterian churches, but we sorely missed the Episcopal church. I am thrilled that we can attend an Episcopal church in our hometown, and our son can attend Sunday school. I am impressed and encouraged by the amount of outreach our church does, and I am in love with the music! I am also excited about the children's educational opportunities at Christ Church. Walter attends Sunday school, and we attend monthly Lego Church. We also had fun at VBS over the summer.



Theresa Edwards

What are your current ministries or involvements?

We started attending Christ Church in the fall of 2022. I have spent the past year getting to know our church and exploring different activities. I helped with VBS over the summer, and I sat in with the choir for a bit this fall. Now that we are more settled in our home and two of our three children are off to college, I find that I am ready to become more involved in the church.

What gifts do you bring to the leadership of Christ Church?

Before staying home to raise our three children I enjoyed a career in human resources. Over the years I have helped organize several cross-country relocations, volunteered in classrooms, taught Sunday school, and sung in a church choir. These experiences have taught me how to navigate new communities and help acclimate our children too. I am a people person and enjoy collaborating with others. I enjoy helping others and I am not afraid to ask questions and learn new things.

What do you believe are the challenges Christ Church faces and how can you help meet those challenges?

As church attendance in the country continues to decline, especially after the pandemic, I feel this will be an ongoing challenge for Christ Church. It is important to continue our mission of being a welcoming community of faith. I have attended churches that have had no formal Christian education and it was a great detriment in welcoming and retaining families. I hope that through my service on the Vestry we can continue to offer programming for our youth, provide outreach for our community and meet the needs of the parish as they evolve.

What excites you about our life together at Christ Church?

The rhythm of the liturgy; The fabulous music; Our shared faith; Our support for Charlotte; The kids; My friends; The great work we do for our own and for others

What are your current ministries?

Worship assistant; Leader of the service at Laurel Lake Several outreach projects and on the outreach committee Vacation Bible School volunteer; office volunteer

What gifts do you bring to the leadership of Christ Church?

- -Life long commitment to the Episcopal Church
- -Interest in the development of church resources
- -Promotion of the ongoing interpersonal relationships that are vital to the success of the church community

What do you believe are the challenges Christ Church faces and how can you help meet those challenges?

- -Long term financial health of the church...keep the focus on estate planning efforts
- -Continued activities and projects of interest that are supported by the congregation...check in with participants for their input
- -Keep the light on the children which can lead to an expanded youth group....plan off site events



Sallie Bear

What excites you about our life together at Christ Church?

"Life" is a good word choice for Christ Church. The life of our ministries, fellowship, and communities. The opportunity to work with Sarah and Courtney in our children's youth education, the artistic flower arranging and so much more.

What are your current ministries or involvements?

Presently I have been supporting the children's Christian education, Eucharistic ministry at 8:00, and the Flower guild. I also have deep skills with moving heavy objects and dealing with stinky things (A standing joke I tell Charlotte and Kathy).



Malcolm Robbie

What gifts do you bring to the leadership of Christ Church?

I have spent years on vestry at my previous church and have had to deal with some very difficult situations. They have been handled with sincere love, discipline, and compassion. I think I'm a good person to know in tough times. I'm like our church-loving and hard to kill. As for the nuts and bolts of supporting the leadership and operations of a church I have had the privilege of...

- Leading Building and grounds
- Successfully Chaired the endowments investment committee at my previous church.
- Teaching Sunday school
- Supported church audits for the Diocese, Flower guild, Usher. Host of other activities as needed.

What do you believe are the challenges Christ Church faces and how can you help meet those challenges? Growth- being the place young and old my find a space for spiritual growth. We must go to where the pain is in our communities and help heal. Work with our ministries, retire the ones that we have outgrown, mend the one still viable, and start new one where needed.

Christ Church 2024 Convention Delegate Candidates

This year's Convention Delegate Candidates are: *James Boazzo, Judy Brookhart, Greg Daniels*

Why would you like to serve as a delegate to Diocesan Convention from Christ Church?

I am eager and honored to serve as a delegate from Christ Church to actively participate in the Diocesan Convention, representing the views and values of our congregation. This is an opportunity that will allow me to engage in the democratic process of decision-making within the Episcopal community, contributing to the overall well-being and growth of our church.

What do you believe is the importance of this ministry?

This ministry holds immense importance as it serves as a platform for collaborative decision-making within the broader Episcopal community. By bringing together representatives from various congregations, the Diocesan Convention fosters unity, encourages open dialogue, and allows for the exchange of diverse perspectives. This plays a crucial role in shaping the future of our Episcopal Church, ensuring it remains relevant, inclusive, and responsive to the needs of its members.



James Boazzo

Why would you like to serve as a delegate to Diocesan Convention from Christ Church?

I thought little about diocesan matters, except for the occasional wonderful visit to Trinity Cathedral, until I attended the installation of our new bishop. It was a very moving experience, and caused me to think about

our diocese, and specifically Christ Church Episcopal's relationship to it. That thinking was enhanced by being on the Vestry, and seeing the connectedness. It is living out the Bible verse that truly "We are the body of Christ."

What do you believe is the importance of this ministry?

Continuing to think about what it means to be part of the "body of Christ"... Just as a body has many parts, big and small, all significant, Christ Church is an essential part of the body of the diocese. We give, and we receive. We have a new bishop whom we support, and she supports us. We would be diminished as a church if we did not have this shared relationship. And I love to think that in a very small way, by being a delegate to the Convention, I have a role representing all of your voices.



Judy Brookhart

Why would you like to serve as a delegate to Diocesan Convention from Christ Church?

I have served on the Diocesan Standing Committee and the Bishop Search Committee and would like to continue to be active in the Diocese as a representative of Christ Church Hudson. I believe my understanding of both the Diocese and Christ Church Hudson will allow me to represent our parish effectively.

What do you believe is the importance of this ministry?

It is important for our parish to provide the Diocese with a lay person's perspective and continue our history of being active and connected with the Diocese.



Greg Daniels



Lindsay O'Sullivan ∼ 1/2 Galianna Jackson ~ 1/3 Mae Kosanovich ~ 1/3 Liz Guglielmi ~1/7 Ashton Petro $\sim 1/9$ Damon Cronkey ~ 1/10 Jill Phipps $\sim 1/10$ Katherine Zuhl $\sim 1/12$ Nan Ryerson~ 1/15 Walter Edwards ∼ 1/17 Milan Kosanovich ~ 1/19 Ted Mailey ~ 1/19 Jenny Walvoord ~ 1/19 Ed Gibson ~ 1/23 Ashton Klespies $\sim 1/23$ Allan Belton $\sim 1/24$ Jan Hill $\sim 1/26$ Jack Dodson ~ 1/26 Kevin McKinny ~ 1/26 Nicholas Petro ~ 1/27 Ken Lowe $\sim 1/27$ Christopher Haake ~ 1/28 George Van Buren ~ 1/30

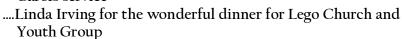


Don & Charlotte Reed ~ 1/2



Thank you to...

- ...Midge Karam and her WRA choir students for providing the beautiful music at our Christmas luncheon
-Ellen Turner and Dick Peller for the delicious dinner after Advent Lessons and Carols
-Mario Buchanan and the Adult Choir for the beautiful Advent Lessons and Carols service



-Sarah Bhatia, Courtney Bixby, Doug Swift, Milan Kosanovich, and all who helped with the Christmas pageant
-All who helped with the memorial service for Mary Ann Balbach
-Bob Zuhl for putting up our Christmas banner outside
-The Flower Guild for the gorgeous Christmas flowers
-The Altar Guild for their care of the altar during all of the Christmas Eve services
-All who helped with Restrooms for Runners
-Guy and Ruth Wylie for lighting the tree in front of the church for Christmas

December Vestry Meeting Highlights



Thank you!

- The vestry meet on December 19 at 5:30pm.
- The treasurer, Ann Kirk, reported that we are still significantly behind in 2023 pledge payments.
- Courtney Bixby reported on the wonderful Children's pageant that had 39 children and youth participating.
- Kathy Garber reported a total of 124 pledges for 2024, 19 of which are new, for a pledged amount of \$519,385. The increase is more than 5% & exceeds our goal by several thousand dollars.
- The Nominating Committee reported that we have three nominees for the three open vestry positions. Sallie Bear, Theresa Edwards, & Malcolm Robbie will stand for election to the vestry.
- There was discussion about adding a provision to the Christ Church bylaws for a one year youth member of the vestry with seat, voice, and vote. The vestry agreed that this would be of benefit to both Christ Church and the youth. Charlotte will draft language for that addition and circulate it to the vestry. (For more information on this, see the front page.)
- The Rector's housing allowance resolution was passed.
- Charlotte reported that Bishop Anne is adamant that everyone who is required to take Safe Church training do so promptly.
 Charlotte will register everyone who still needs the training for the online course after the New Year.
- The meeting ended in executive session to discuss staff compensation and finalize the 2024 budget.
- The next meeting is Tuesday, January 23 at 6pm.



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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 Amber Lambing, 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 Jacob Phillips

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

