



## News from Christ Church

### July 21, 2021

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I long considered the driest portion of our liturgy to be the creed (and beg forgiveness of those thrilled by its recitation) until one Sunday many years ago, when I ventured into a church in NYC and, for the first time, experienced the Nicene Creed set to music. I was transported. The rise and fall of the melody matched the cadence of words, imbuing them with feeling. For the first time, *I believe* came from somewhere in my heart rather than mostly in my head. It makes sense, doesn't it? Stating "Everybody hurts sometimes" seems like a detached observation of fact, whereas belting out that line of Michael Stipe's wailing grief brings you into the ground of emotional communion.

To put it another way, St. Augustine said, "Those who sing pray twice." We've been praying once for a long time now, speaking words that were meant to arise from someplace other than just our heads. The re-introduction of congregational singing is that next step in our return from the pandemic.

Music Director Debbie Schofield and Choir Director David Crone came up with a plan to start easing our way back into the practice of singing. We've already begun having a limited number of folks singing in the front of the church. But starting in August, we'll start re-introducing places for congregational singing as well: first with the reintroduction of the processional/recessional hymns, then adding gradual and communion hymns, and finally returning in full with service music and choir by mid-September.

Of course, we know what it's like to pivot when we need to, depending on the circumstances around us. But I'm glad we're being guided by the wise voices of Debbie, David, and our vestry, as we begin to remember how to lift up our hearts along with our minds.

Faithfully,  
Amber

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#### **The Institution and Induction of The Rev. Amber Carswell**

Monday, August 2 at 7:00pm

Dessert reception to follow in the Great Hall.

All are welcome, come celebrate new beginnings with us!

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**Book club**

We're starting a once-a-month book club in August. We'll begin with *Mere Christianity* by CS Lewis and turn to *Unapologetic* by Francis Spufford in September.

We'll meet at an unspecified local tavern on an unspecified weekday at the very specified time of 6:30. If you'd like to be a part of this discussion group, email Amber at [rector@christchurch.org](mailto:rector@christchurch.org).

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## 2021 Diocesan Summer Youth Conference

*"That's What He Said!"*

**In person, Sunday-Saturday, August 15-21  
Incarnation Center, Ivoryton, Connecticut**  
Scholarship funding available from Christ Church.

[Click here for more information.](#)

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Wednesdays from 7-7:30 pm  
Please join us this evening  
[Click here for link](#)

If you are interested in leading the service, or reading the lessons, please email Charlotte Trott at [ctrott50@gmail.com](mailto:ctrott50@gmail.com)

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### **Saturday Breakfast**

Christ Church continues to serve breakfast to anyone who wants or needs it every Saturday from 9:00 to 10:30. If you are interested in learning more about the breakfast, or helping to prepare or serve, call or email Liz Houlton: 845-325-1276 or [eahoulton@gmail.com](mailto:eahoulton@gmail.com)

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The Christ Church Thrift Shop is open Saturday mornings for shopping and donations from 9:30am to noon.



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### Feed your family and support your church

You can purchase ShopRite or Price Chopper gift cards every Sunday immediately following worship, or stop by the parish office during business hours Monday through Friday. At no cost to you, Christ Church earns a percentage that goes to supporting church programs.

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**Vestry:** Matthew Mumford, Senior Warden - Bill O'Keefe, Junior Warden

Elena Chavez Carey, Billie Gallo, Linda Garcia, Judy Girod, Sharon Kelly, Steve Laico, Chris Loftus, Louise Schultz  
(Treasurer), Charlotte Trott, Diana Van Fossen

[Website](#)

[About](#)

[Worship  
Schedule](#)

#### *Sundays at Christ Church*

**9:00 a.m.** - Holy Eucharist, in-person and  
livestreamed to Vimeo and the Parish Hall  
**10:00 a.m.** - Coffee hour in the Parish Hall  
and on the lawn  
**11:00 a.m.** - Holy Eucharist, in-person  
**5:00 p.m.** - Holy Eucharist on the lawn

Find us on social media:

