



News from Christ Church

August 18, 2021

Dear all,

One of my favorite classes in seminary was entitled "Preaching the Pastoral Offices," taught by a kindly force of a preacher named Frank Wade. We focused on preaching baptisms, marriages, and funerals, those pastoral moments where the church intersects with folks' lives at some of the most holy, important moments we know as human beings.

This week, we'll traverse all three of those offices as a community. This Sunday saw the baptism of Charlie Maresca, a little boy who entered the Christian community with a patient and puzzled look only I could see as I let water onto his head. Friday, we'll witness the marriage of a young couple making promises that, we Christians say, somehow echo and illuminate the promises of love and intention made between ourselves and God. On Saturday at 11 a.m., we'll hold a burial rite where we'll commend the soul of Judy Fisher to that same loving presence through which she entered the waters of baptism, by which she made her own marriage vows, and in which she now rests.

The span of human life in a week, and naming God's love and mercy and grace at every turn: this is the sanctifying work of the church. It's so easy to get wrapped up in the smallness of our concerns of our momentary lives, isn't it? Conversely, it's easy to slip into a purposeless, nihilistic, shoulder-shrug existence where nothing seems to matter. But every week (and particularly this one) here at church, we're reminded of that which is Greater. Every week, we are reminded that something as small as ourselves has a place in that Greatness, too.

In this week of weeks, I'm giving thanks for this ministry we all share.

Faithfully,
Amber

Sunday service guidelines

Communion is served in one kind, bread only. As always, receiving communion is optional to the person. Masks are recommended for all. Distance is at one's own discretion but do continue to be mindful of your neighbor's needs. The 9:00 a.m. service is livestreamed to the parish hall for those who would like to remain masked and distanced; the priest will bring communion to those

present in the room.

Congregational singing resuming

We are gradually returning to congregational singing at both the 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. services. The choir will return the end of September. Please remember that the service is always live-streamed to the parish hall at 9:00 a.m. for those who would like more time or distance.

Book club

Our first gathering will be on Wednesday, August 25 at 6:30 p.m. in our parish hall. We'll chat about CS Lewis' *Mere Christianity*. Bring your own beverage and snack. Join us on the third Wednesdays of the month at 6:30 p.m.!

Parish picnic

The Christ Church annual parish picnic and potluck will be held Sunday, September 12 at 10:00am at Warwick County Park. Mark your calendars for our one combined Sunday service on this festive day.



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

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



Christ Church THRIFT SHOP

open Saturdays
9:30am to noon for
shopping & donations



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.

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:

