



Christ Episcopal Church

601 East Walnut Street
Springfield, Missouri 65806
(417) 866-5133

June 2025

The Clarion

The Messenger of Good News

www.christepiscopalchurch.com

Meet the New Faces in the Music Ministry

We're delighted to welcome two new additions to the Christ Church Music Ministry!

First, join me in welcoming to our new Organist, **Dr. Perry Mears**. Dr. Mears brings with him a wealth of experience as a church musician, performer, and educator. His artistry at the console and deep love for sacred music will be a gift to our worship life. Dr. Mears will play a key role in accompanying the St. Gregory Choir, supporting congregational singing, and collaborating with the wider liturgical and musical life of our parish.

We're also thrilled to introduce a new position at Christ Church: **Organ Scholar**. This yearlong role is designed to mentor an emerging church musician, offering them real field experience in a thriving parish setting. Our inaugural Organ Scholar is **Brock Smith**, who will assist with accompanying services, work closely with the St. Cecilia Choir throughout the school year, and begin learning the ins and outs of the Anglican choral tradition.

Both Perry and Brock will be fixtures in our worship and musical life and I trust you'll take the time to say hello, and let them know how glad we are to have them at Christ Church.

Read more about these two gentlemen below:



Dr. Perry Mears performs regularly across the country as a collaborative accompanist, piano soloist, and chamber musician. Prior to moving to Springfield, he served as the music director at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Bettendorf, IA and as the artist director for the Music@St. Pete's concert series. He holds degrees in collaborative piano from the University of Maryland and the University of Memphis, as well as a graduate degree in church music. Perry is an assistant professor of collaborative piano at Missouri State University.

Brock Smith is a senior at Drury University, where he is pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in Organ Performance and currently serves as the student organist. Brock is honored to be Christ Episcopal Church's first Organ Scholar. A devoted member of the parish, Brock has a deep love for the Anglican musical tradition and is excited to share that passion through the church's music ministry. Beyond his musical work, Brock serves as Treasurer of Drury's NAFME-C chapter and is a member of the Organ Historical Society. He also works as an Apprentice Organ builder at Quimby Pipe Organs outside Kansas City and enjoys being an active member of the Ozarks Steam Engine Association. When he's not at the organ bench or in the workshop, Brock loves spending time in nature and unwinding with a classic murder mystery.



Submitted by Kenny Kabak

Online Worship Schedule

Sunday Morning live at 10 a.m.
on our Facebook and YouTube Channel
(search Christ Church Springfield, MO)

In-Person Worship

Sunday Morning Holy Eucharist Rite I at
8 a.m. and Rite II at 10 a.m.

Thursday Evening Holy Eucharist Rite II
at 5:30 p.m. (with Healing Service the last
Thursday of the month)

Office Hours

Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
(Closed for lunch 12 p.m.-1 p.m.)



JUNETEENTH
- FREEDOM DAY -

To know Christ and to make Christ known.

June Outreach: Sewing Guild and Newborns in Need

Newborns in Need is a non denominational, fully volunteer driven, not-for-profit organization. Their primary focus is to provide the tiniest victims of poverty with a safe, warm start in life. They believe that every infant deserves to begin life feeling safe and loved—which begins with essential clothing and blankets for swaddling. Their dedicated volunteers give their time, talent, and love to ensure needy babies and toddlers have adequate clothing, blankets, and quilts, as well as other essential items. Each Newborn in Need receives a 45-piece essential baby layette. Our Sewing Guild constructs gowns, sleepers, burps, bibs, caps, and blankets. We also provide fabrics for quilts.



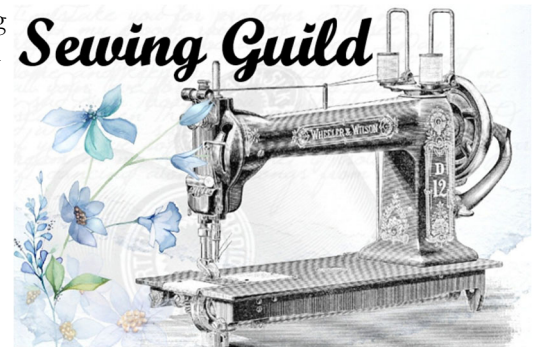
The Sewing Guild constructed almost 2000 items in 2024. We are currently accepting donations. Items that the Sewing Guild can use include:

- towels (any size in fair to good condition, new or used)
- yarn (any kind or color)
- ribbon
- thread (any color, polyester or cotton)
- fabrics (flannel, cotton baby prints or solids, and T-shirt knit)
- cash donations to Christ Episcopal Church with “Sewing Guild” on the memo line

Newborns in Need has a Wish List as well: www.newbornsinneedspringfield.org. The Red Bag Box is located in the hallway outside the office doors or at the back of the church. Thank you for your generous support.

Submitted by Nancy Hopkins

Thank you to Christ Episcopal Church members for your support of the sewing Guild and its many projects. In 2024 we continued our support of Newborns in Need, Springfield Chapter, by constructing 1,857 items, including burp cloths, bibs, infant gowns, sleepers, blankets, and caps. In addition to the items that were constructed, the Christmas Infant Tree was gifted 57 items that were donated to Newborns in Need. We provided 25 dresses and 450 Kotex sets to an orphanage in Kenya sponsored by Gaylon Vinson of Vinson Ministries. We hemmed table cloths for the Hospitality Committee, altered a choir robe for a St. Cecilia member, and donated items to the Ozark Piecekeepers Quilting group and Holy Trinity Lutheran Church for their dress ministry. Thank you to all of you who assisted in our efforts. We are accepting donated fabric, new or gently used terry cloth towels, flannel, and sewing supplies, as well as willing hands to cut and sew.



*Submitted by Nancy Hopkins
Sewing Guild Coordinator*



I have been chairman of the Hospitality Committee for the past several years. We have provided many wonderful events in our Parish Hall; some for only the members of our church, several for guests from the community, and probably a half dozen Diocesan-wide or Southern Deanery events. We have also planned or hosted funeral receptions, men's and women's fellowships, Dinner for 8, and Second Sunday Brunches. I often feel like I get all of the accolades for these events, so I want to take this space to let you all know the amazing women and men who work tirelessly to provide these lovely gatherings. Please be sure to thank them for their ongoing hospitality. These workers include Catherine Brandt, Susan Cardwell, Mary Chiles, Mary Christiano, Bobbie Donnell, Mary Ellison, Melissa Hall, Tracy Hall, Molly Higdon, Nancy Hopkins, Vicki Keel, Susan Kirby, Sara Krutsinger, Randy LaFerrier, Mary Luke, Jane Mellers, Carol Nasby, Sally Scheid, Kathy Sheppard, Julia Taylor, and Sally Williams. I would be remiss if I didn't mention that we could not do what we do without the support of Franz, Raisa, Mtr. Katherine, Fr. Joe, Kenny Kabak, and Will Rohrer. Will especially is a rock star, not only for all of the physical set-ups and lifting, but because he puts up with all of the these women—and does so with a smile on his face. Best team ever!

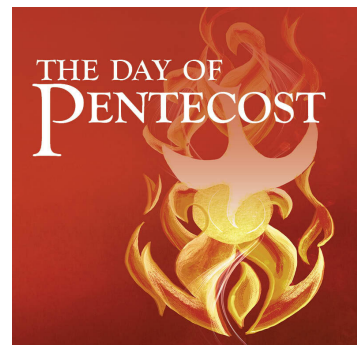
Submitted by Mary Kay Ross

Vestry 2025

Kris Wolford, *Sr. Warden*
Kenny Ross, *Jr. Warden*
Julia Taylor, *Secretary*
Kathy Alexander
Austin Boyland
Jenny Edwards
Ben Fisher
Nancy Hopkins
Mary Luke
Evelyn Mangan
Frank Miller
Kathy Sheppard

Staff

The Rev. Joe Behen, *Rector*
The Rev. Katherine Mansfield,
Associate Rector
Mary Christiano, *Handbell Choir Director*
Franz Ginsberg, *Director of Operations*
Jennifer Hendrickson, *Director of Finance*
Raisa Hurtado-Netzer,
Office and Communications Coordinator
Kenny Kabak,
Director of Music and Youth Ministries
Tom Killingsworth, *Treasurer*
Val Paulette, *Children's Ministry Coordinator*
Dr. Perry Mears, *Organist*
Brock Smith, *Organ Scholar*
Will Rohrer, *Sexton*
Stephanie Stolle, *Nursery*
Mary Ellen Chiles, *Nursery*
Saskia Stevens, *Nursery*



Sally Baird has graciously invited the women of the church to a light supper at her home (located 2928 S Natural Bridge Dr, Springfield) on Wednesday, June 4 from 5-7 p.m. Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board across from the office. We're excited to fellowship together!

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Genevieve Haydon | 16 Ashleigh Milne |
| 2 Paige Riedy | 16 Sally Talbot |
| 2 Charlotte Paulette | 16 Thomas Patterson |
| 3 Robb Endicott-Powers | 16 Kim Priest |
| 4 Stephen Owens | 18 Steve Smith |
| 4 John Baker | 19 Kevin Asberry |
| 5 Octavia Tracy | 20 Alex Talbot |
| 5 Lindsay Long | 22 Mary Bare |
| 6 Melissa Hall | 22 Trisha Stacks |
| 6 Cj Wiggins | 22 Isaac Donnelson |
| 7 Joyce Munden | 23 Edward Munsey |
| 8 Mary Pilant | 23 Leslie Dunaway |
| 8 Jack Barnes | 24 Anabelle Chaffin |
| 8 Jessica Ollis | 24 Matthew Barnes |
| 10 Kelly Bridges | 24 Brianna Warner |
| 10 Cora Gilbert | 25 Jesse Evener |
| 10 Jonah Hammock | 28 Missy Roberts |
| 11 Jake Reinbold | 28 Brian Stovall |
| 13 John Carnahan | 29 Lori Bloess |
| 15 Jude Gintz | 30 Susie Stovall |



Cardinals Night

Join us for Christ Church night at Hammons Field for a Springfield Cardinals game on June 22nd at 6:05 pm. We will host a pregame BBQ at 4:30 in the parish hall and then walk or drive to the game. Tickets, including dinner, will be \$15 per person and payment by cash or check is due no later than June 8. Scan the QR Code to register now!

Dementia Caregivers Support Group June Date Change

The support group for dementia caregivers will meet on the **SECOND** Sunday of June, rather than the third, at 2 p.m. via Zoom. The support group is open to all who are caring for a loved one suffering from dementia. Once again, this group will meet on **June 8th** this month. Please reach out to Dr. Eloise Thomas at thomase@otc.edu with questions.

Cursillo Weekend will take place Aug. 8-10 at the Heartland Retreat Center. Cursillo is a ministry of the Episcopal Church with a goal to bring Christ to the world and the world to Christ by empowering and equipping Christians with the knowledge and encouragement to live out their Baptismal Covenant to serve Christ. The weekend brings together a group of Episcopalians who are already well grounded in their faith to share in the Cursillo journey. Scan the QR Code for more information. Please reach out to Fr. Joe or Mtr. Katherine with any questions.



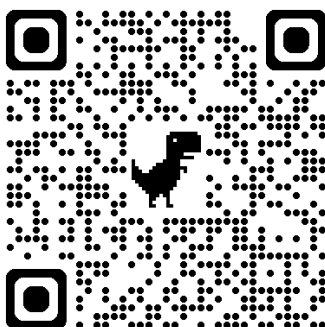
Cursillo Weekend



Save the Date for VBS 2025!

Christ Church will host Waves of Gratitude—a 2 day Vacation Bible School Program created by United Thank Offering. This will take place on Thursday, July 10 and Friday, July 11 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Children ages 4-5th grade are invited to join us for an ocean-themed program focused on gratitude through a biblical lens. We will have water activities, crafts, music, movement, STEAM projects, and we hope to wrap up Friday with a field trip! More details and registration info to come soon, Please email Val at val@christepiscopalchurch.com with questions.

Ozark Pridefest



Pride Table Host Sign-Up

The Episcopal Churches of Springfield are participating in Ozark Pridefest again this year on June 14th – and we want to invite you to be part of this joyful celebration! You can get involved by being a Table Host and/or by walking in the Pride Parade! The table hosts will greet people, be friendly, handout giveaway items, and invite people to offer prayers on ribbons. We're also walking the Pride Parade as a visible witness to God's love for all people – especially our LGBTQ+ siblings. To sign up for either of these, please scan the corresponding QR Code to the right. Lastly, don't forget to join us for Pride Mass at Christ Episcopal Church that morning at 10:00am. Let's show up together in love!



Pride Parade Sign-Up