



The Clarion

Christ Episcopal Church

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

October 2022

The Messenger of Good News

www.christepiscopalchurch.com

Introducing Ministry Council

It's an interesting term, isn't it? Ministry Council ... but, what is it? Well, it's not necessarily new, but it is something that is needed and will assist Christ Episcopal Church in its growth, ministry, and becoming more effective in pursuing its Christian mission.

Many church members will remember the formation of the Parish Council, an effort organized a few years ago to identify a variety of church functions supporting ministry and communication. Implemented with enthusiasm, it operated effectively for a period of time. But for reasons somewhat unknown, ceased and has continued not to function in recent years.

The creation of the Ministry Council is an effort to build upon the earlier Parish Council with a different design, emphasis, and leadership support, which will, hopefully, put into place an effective structure, strengthening our ministries and improving our communication.

The Council will consist of eight distinct functional areas of church operations. These functional areas include:

- Communication
- Finance
- Building & Grounds
- Outreach Ministries
- Hospitality / Parish Life
- Christian Education
- Worship / Liturgy
- Pastoral Care / Welcome

Each council or committee will have a chairperson and will recruit and accept parishioners to be a part of and contribute to the committee's work. It is anticipated that each committee will meet on a scheduled basis, document their work, and report it to its Vestry representative for overall coordination and church leadership information.

You are warmly invited to express your interest and encouraged to say "yes" when asked to serve on one of the Ministry Council's functional committees.

Submitted by

The Rev. Ronald D. Keel



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 I at 5:30 p.m. (with Healing Service the last Thursday of the month)

Office Hours

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



MORE THAN ENOUGH

You are invited to join us in the parish hall after the 8 and 10 a.m. services on Sunday, October 2, as we launch our Fall Giving Campaign. We will have a delicious brunch (with vegetarian options) ready for you and your family. There will be no program or presentation—just fellowship.

If you would like to attend please RSVP by using this link at rsvp.church/r/Zkst53kb, or contact the church office at 417-866-5133. We look forward to seeing you there!

Outreach Committee Shifting Focus



Mary Kay Ross, Kathy Sheppard, Kathy Alexander, and Mary Ellison ready for a busy evening at Pitts Chapel

The Outreach Committee is shifting focus on a couple of areas.

Christ Church has hosted a Thanksgiving meal for many years for the community, including those who are unsheltered. We have had as many as 350 meals served originally as a “sit down” meal in the parish hall. More recently, because of the pandemic, we have served the meal in to-go boxes. We began to expand these meals from once a year to once a quarter.

However, the Community Partnership of the Ozarks (CPO) has organized churches and other groups to host evening meals on a daily basis. Every weekday, downtown churches are hosting take-out meals for the unsheltered. On the weekend, meals are served on the north side of Springfield.

At this time the Outreach Committee decided to see if we could help with the weekday meals. Pitts Chapel (600 N. Benton) has the Friday night meal and could use some support. Christ Church took over the meal for September 16. Mary Kay Ross, Kathy Sheppard, Kathy Alexander, Mary Ellison, and I served personal pan pizzas, bananas, Little Debbie snack cakes, and water to 107 persons. It was so much fun that we are going back on October 21. Please join us if you can.

As the weather gets colder, CPO will decide how best to serve the evening meals. The Outreach Committee will be available to support this decision.

Our second shift in focus will be on the promotion of different ministries and how to give. Christ Church members and the Outreach Committee support a large number of community organizations locally and abroad. In a given month, many of these needs and requests sometimes overlap and can cause confusion and giving fatigue.

The Outreach Committee will focus on a specific ministry or community need each month in the announcements, eblasts, and here in *The Clarion*. You are, of course, welcome and encouraged to give and support any of the many community organizations and ministries we support at Christ Church. For November we will focus on Bissett Elementary and how you can help support our partner school.

If you would like to help support our mission “To Know Christ and to make Christ Known” please consider joining the Outreach Committee and supporting our neighbors and community near and far.

*Submitted by Julia Taylor
Outreach Chair*

Join the Choir!

Did you know that there is scientific evidence proving that the breath used for singing can lengthen your life, not to mention the joy that making music brings? Well, beginning with our Fall season, you still have the opportunity to join the ensembles that you have grown to love (your St. Gregory Choir and St. Cecilia Children’s Choir).

Job Description: that you be willing to follow a Director (not off a cliff), attend practice one afternoon per week, attend church services as regularly as possible, and be relatively fearless when making a joyful noise unto the Lord.

Qualifications: that you find joy in singing with others and worshiping through music.

Our Choir is a welcoming and flexible ministry within Christ Church. Please consider our invitation to participate in the joy of sharing God’s word through music. To join, please contact a choir member, church staff, or me at kennykabak1@gmail.com,

In love,

*Kenny Kabak
Director of Music and Youth Ministries*



If you love to read we encourage you to join us for Book Club! Our first Book Club meeting was held on September 15 in the church library. The Book Club will meet on the third Thursday of the month, beginning at 9:45 a.m. Please come and join us for coffee, fellowship, and great reads. For more information, please contact Ann Von Geldern at annvong@gmail.com.

Youth Ministries

September was an exciting month for us and included church-wide laser tag, our Walnut Street Walk, Cider Days parking lot sale, and getting to enjoy our new youth room. I always say that it takes a village, so I must extend some serious gratitude to a few individuals including Kathy Sheppard, Sally Williams, Julia Taylor, and Sally Baird for sponsoring, preparing, and serving our weekly youth dinners this month.

I would also like to thank Mike Brothers, Susan Smith, Leah Donnelson, and Jo Ellen Feugate for leading our 9 a.m. Youth Sunday School, and Cindy Chiu for helping to keep the youth room stocked with delicious snacks and drinks.

And to Hayley Cobb, Thomas Yonke, and Tom Killingsworth, thank you for joining me on our Youth Group leadership journey. You are so fabulous at creating connections with the kiddos.

Our Cider Days Parking Lot Sale was extremely successful making \$2,054.72. The St. Cecilia yard sale fundraiser made \$1662.12. The grand total between both events raised \$3,716.84. Thank you to everyone who helped make these fundraising events possible! October will be



The youth enjoying the most intense match of Jenga ever

another busy month for our teens with a few upcoming events!

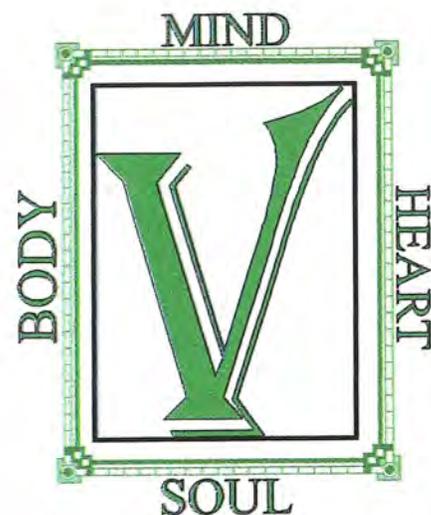
Sunday, October 16: Harvest Fest at Rutledge-Wilson Farm 12 to 3 p.m.; Pumpkin Painting, dinner, and games at Camp Shawio, 3:30 to 7 p.m.

Sunday, October 30: Church-wide Trunk-Or-Treat, 5:30 to 8 p.m.

Keep your eyes peeled on our social media for ways to get involved and participate!

*Submitted by Kenny Kabak
Director of Music and Youth Ministries*

Vinton Returns October 13



Vinton is returning, and the next Vinton program will be held on October 13 beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the parish hall.

For those who are new or may not know, The Vinton Program has been a part of Christ Church for many years. Vinton programs feature a catered meal with a presentation on music, art, history, etc. All adults are invited to attend.

We will have wine and a catered dinner for a \$10 entry at the door. Musical entertainment will be provided by Bob Johnson. All adults are invited to attend. RSVPs are a must, and you may sign up at rsvp.church/r/Zkst53kb, or contact John Steinberg at 417-864-9850.

Cultivating Our Life's Harvest

Jesus said, "I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly." - John 10:10

Fall harvest provides a wonderful analogy for how, as stewards of our lives, we are responsible for making the most of our time on earth.

Farmers plant, water, fertilize and harvest, but they do not actually create the life that produces crops. Life comes only from God. Farmers only manage and optimize the properties

and processes of life that God engineered into their plants.

Smart farmers know what soil is best, what fertilizer, and how much water to give each particular plant. By nurturing their plants with care and attention, farmers generate the best and most productive harvests.

So it is with us! God created and engineered us to thrive! Our task is to manage and optimize our lives so that we can experience the abundant life

Continued on pg. 4

Life's Harvest (continued from pg. 3)

that Jesus talks about in John 10:10. We have the rich soil of family, friends and church community relationships. We have the water of God's Word, love, forgiveness, salvation and grace. We have the fertilizer of wholesome, nourishing food.

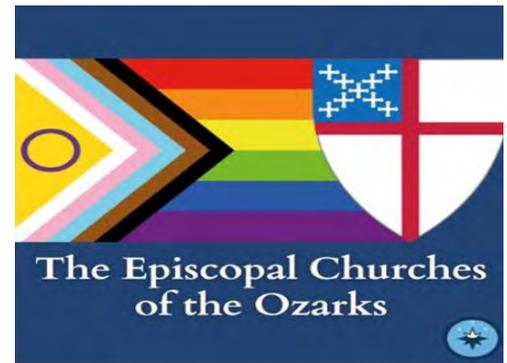
How can we cultivate our lives? We can:

- Water our faith through prayer, worship, scripture, generosity, love and service.
- Tend the soil of relationships by loving our families, neighbors and church community.
- Optimize our physical health by eating right, exercising and getting enough sleep.
- Nourish our intelligence and wisdom through education, reading, exploring and continually learning.



Farmers reap plentiful harvests by caring for plants in ways that God ordained would provide the best growth. By caring for ourselves in ways that God designed for us, we can enjoy the life abundant that Jesus promises.

*Shared from
The Stewardship of Life Institute*



The Episcopal Churches of the Ozarks have joined together and have a sponsored booth at Ozarks Pridefest on October 8. Members of Christ Church, St. James, St. John's, and Shepherd of the Hills will all be present throughout the day. We will have flyers and gifts to hand out—stop by and say hello!

Ozarks Pridefest starts off with an Equality Parade at 9 a.m. Line-up is at 8 a.m. at the corner of Chestnut Expressway and Benton (Springfield Municipal Court) and ends at the square in Downtown Springfield.



Christ Church will host a community-wide Trunk-or-Treat on Sunday, October 30, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. We will have games, food, and candy—lots of candy. We need between 8-15 cars to participate—there will also be a contest for the “Best Trunk Decoration” with prizes awarded. If you're entering your car into the competition, you must provide your own candy.

Please RSVP by October 24 so we can plan accordingly. You can do so at rsvp.church/r/Zkst53kb. We will need plenty of volunteers to help with coordination. If you are available and willing to volunteer or would like to enter the trunk decorating competition, please contact kennykabak1@gmail.com or at maryb@christepiscopalchurch.com.



Christ Church would like to invite you and your family to The Blessing of the Animals on October 9, at 2 p.m. on the church lawn. The Blessing of the Animals is a service attributed to St. Francis, the patron saint of animals. During this special service, we will pray for and bless your furry, feathery, and scaly companions. We will also be collecting donations of dog and cat food that will be distributed to neighboring animal shelters in Springfield. We look forward to seeing you and your pets!

Harvest Fest at Rutledge-Wilson Farm and Camp Shawio Outing

We invite you and your family to join us on October 16 for Harvest Fest at Rutledge-Wilson Farm from 12 to 3 p.m. Harvest Fest features hayrides, inflatables, a corn maze, as well as a pumpkin patch.

After our afternoon at Harvest Fest, we will meet at Camp Shawio (located at 227 Linden Dr., Lindon MO 65742) from 3:30 to 7 p.m. for an evening of pumpkin painting, dinner, and games.

Please RSVP by October 12 if you plan to go to Camp Shawio so we may plan accordingly for food, games, etc. You can RSVP at rsvp.church/r/Zkst53kb. For more information, please contact Kenny Kabak at kennykabak1@gmail.com or Mary Bohlen at maryb@christepiscopalchurch.com.

Search Committee Formed

We at Christ Episcopal Church are a people of prayer. We continue to ask for your prayers as we embark upon the next step of our journey together: the calling of a permanent Rector. The choice of our next Rector is one of the most important tasks facing our faith community. While we are grateful that we are currently being served capably by Interim Rector, Fr. Ron Keel, we are optimistic that our church will attract outstanding candidates for the permanent position.

The recent completion of the Congregational Assessment Tool (CAT) has laid the foundation for the important task of finding our next Priest/Rector. By assessing the congregation, we are better able to tell the story of Christ Church as we begin the process of calling the person who will lead us into the next decade. The next step in that process was to form a Search Committee, a step recently completed. Vestry representatives **Susan Smith and Julia Taylor** will be joined by **Mike Brothers, Jim Ferguson, Marsha Patterson, Richard Reynolds, Kathy Sheppard, John Steinberg, and Eloise Thomas**. As a group, these parishioners bring an understanding of our church's culture and values to the search process. They have demon-

strated substantial service to our parish, bringing knowledge and experience across a broad array of activities both within and outside of the Christ Church community.

The Search Committee is charged with establishing a formal search process, communicating a timeline, and seeking input from church members and other leaders. The Committee will communicate regularly with the entire Christ Church community, starting in October

We at Christ Church are blessed to have an engaged, active, and supportive membership. We are humbled and grateful for the many blessings that are evident here at Christ Church. We expect to draw upon this strength throughout the search process as we work to integrate the views and values of the entire community. Together, with God's leadership and direction, we will trust the search process as we find a proven priest and leader with a clear vision for our future and an appreciation for Christ Episcopal Church. Thank you for your continued prayers.

*Faithfully submitted by Mary Chiles,
Senior Warden*

Second Sunday Brunch Returns



In September, Christ Church kicked off the return to Sunday School and the church fall schedule with a delicious brunch and waffle Sunday. The parish hall was full and the congregation and visitors enjoyed fellowship together.

Thank you to Mary Bohlen and the Welcome and Growth committee for providing the brunch. This month's cooks were Sally Baird, Mary Chiles, Mary Ellison, Alex Sheppard, Kathy Sheppard, and Julia Taylor.

If you're interested in joining the Welcome and Growth committee, please contact me at kathysheppard1950@gmail.com or call 417-861-9971.

*Submitted by Kathy Sheppard
Welcome and Growth Committee*

Charlotte's Web

Charlotte's Web is a card ministry group named after Charlotte Collier, a long-time member of Christ Church and a dear lady who was a friend to all and cared for many at Christ Church. In her memory, we send notes to our congregation for various reasons, or just a note to say "hi" and "glad to see you!"

If you would like to welcome and visit with people and share the good news at church, please contact me at Kathy sheppard1950@gmail.com or call 417-861-9971.

*Submitted by Kathy Sheppard
Welcome and Growth Committee*



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|--------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Dr. Dan Cardwell | 12 Robert Jordan | 23 Alice Lewis |
| 1 Mary Macioce | 12 Austin Boyland | 24 Anna Ferguson |
| 4 Paula Stufflebam | 13 Ed Bousman | 24 Beatrice Ross |
| 5 Rob Baird | 13 Tracy Hall | 26 Landon Boaz |
| 6 Susan Cardwell | 16 Sealey Bailey | 26 Jakob Johnson |
| 7 Catherine Peck | 17 Nicholas Casertano | 26 Brooke Mitchals |
| 8 Jeff Paulette | 17 Emmy Smith | 26 Jennifer Ruff |
| 8 Larry Paulette | 17 Amy Chenoweth | 26 June Chumbley |
| 8 Lydia Tracy | 17 Hayley Cobb | 28 John Long |
| 10 Angie Larsen | 17 Molly Zinecker | 28 Jessica Milne |
| 10 Robert Sigmon | 18 Ben Killingsworth | 29 Skip Barnes |
| 11 Keith Chaffin | 20 Sue Reenan | |
| 12 Bob Fields | 22 Ben Schultz | |
| 12 Joanna Jordan | 23 Michaela Johnson | |

October Events

For a full list of recurring events visit ChristEpiscopalChurch.com/calendar

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| <p>Oct 2 Stewardship Brunch, after the 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Services.</p> | <p>Oct 13 The Vinton Program returns, 6:30 p.m. in the parish hall, \$10 entry fee.</p> |
| <p>Oct 6 Men's Fellowship Evening at Mother's Brewing Co., 4 to 8 p.m.</p> | <p>Oct 16 Harvest Fest from 12 to 3 p.m. at Rutledge-Wilson Farm, Camp Shawio outing from 3:30 to 7 p.m.</p> |
| <p>Oct 8 Episcopal Churches of the Ozarks booth at Pridefest, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.</p> | <p>Oct 30 Community Trunk-or-Treat at Christ Church, 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.</p> |
| <p>Oct 9 The Blessing of the Animals, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.</p> | |

Vestry Members:

The Rev. Ron D. Keel, Interim Rector/
Chair
Mary Chiles, Sr. Warden
Nancy Hopkins, Jr. Warden
Susan Smith, Secretary
Austin Boyland
Kristie Campbell
Mary Christiano

Jenny Fillmer Edwards

Ben Fisher

Evelyn Mangan

Frank Miller

Sarah Smith

Julia Taylor

Parish Treasurers:

Tom Mangan (*voluntary*)

Tom Killingsworth (*voluntary*)

Church Staff:

The Rev. John W. Biggs, *Priest Associate*
Mary Bohlen, *Director of Christian Formation for Children and Families*

Mary Christiano, *Handbell Choir Director*

Franz Ginsberg, *Office/Communications Manager, Multimedia Specialist*

Adonna Irby, *Nursery*

Kenny Kabak, *Director of Music and Youth Ministries*

Sheila McGinn, *Parish Administrator*

Will Rohrer, *Sexton*

The Rev. John Steinberg, *Vinton Director (voluntary)*

Catherine Wong, *Organist*

September at Christ Church



Youth Laser Tag Event



Newlyweds Jane & Joshua Brooks



Brunch & Waffle Welcome



Preparing for Cider Days

September was a joyous month at Christ Church. On September 17, the Youth Group held a game of laser tag at Christ Church. We had a full youth group with a total of 26 in attendance.

On September 10, we celebrated the marriage of two new members this year at Christ Church; Jane Heslin and Joshua Brooks. We're so happy to have you as a part of our church family. Please extend your congratulations to Jane and Josh on this new and exciting chapter in their lives.

On September 11, we held a Wonderful Brunch and Waffle Welcome as we celebrated the end of summer vacation and welcomed everyone back to Christ Church. A big thank you to Kathy Sheppard, Mary Bohlen, and the many volunteers who helped

coordinate and celebrate a wonderful brunch event.

On September 17 and 18, the youth and St. Cecilia choir held their annual parking lot fundraiser and yard sale during the weekend of Cider Days. Thank you, Kenny Kabak, for organizing the events, and a huge thank you to all the parents and volunteers involved. As previously reported, the youth and choir raised \$3,716.84 in total. Great job, everyone!

We look forward to sharing more events and photos with you in the November edition of *The Clarion*.

*Submitted by Franz Ginsberg
Office and Communications Manager*

Thank You Christ Church



To the Members of Christ Church,
The wonderful celebration and warm wishes made my last Sunday with you one I will never forget. Leaving a community is always difficult, and this was particularly hard because of your constant love, friendship, and support over the years. Thank you for a wonderful fifteen years of music and worship. I will always cherish my time with you and pray for you as you continue to make Christ known in the world.

With love and God's blessings,

Allin Sorenson

All Hallows Eve



October 31

To know Christ and to make Christ known.

Christ Episcopal Church

601 East Walnut Street
Springfield, Missouri 65806

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The Rev. Deacon Krista Heuett's Ordination Ceremony

On October 13, beginning at 7 p.m. (EST) The Rev. Deacon Krista Heuett will be ordained to the priesthood at All Saints Episcopal Church in East Lansing, Michigan. Krista previously served as the Director of Youth Ministry here at Christ Church. She also served as the Regional Youth Network Coordinator—South for the Diocese of West Missouri and also served on the Diocesan Council, Youth Ministry Commission, and as a delegate at a diocesan level.

Mtr. Krista's service of Ordination will be livestreamed from All Saints and we encourage you to join her virtually as she embarks on this exciting new chapter in her life. A link will be shared in the coming weeks, and will also be shared on our Facebook page.

