



Christ Episcopal Church

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

January 2024

The Clarion

The Messenger of Good News

www.christepiscopalchurch.com

Music & Youth Ministry Highlights

Choirs: The St. Gregory and St. Cecilia Choirs continue to raise the bar week by week. Aside from incorporating general music fundamentals into rehearsals, singers are empowered through their musical excellence and leadership – frequently performing a diverse canon of music that is engaging, educational, and spiritually enriching. We continue our work of instilling a love of music and its role in the worship experience. Special opportunities have included celebrating Fr. Joe's Installation, a Fall Concert, World Communion Day, Students at the Symphony, Advent Lessons & Carols, caroling at The Fremont Senior Living and Mercy Chapel, two Christmas Eve services, and ending the year with Christmas Lessons & Carols. Several of our choristers including Choral Scholars and St. Cecilia members were featured soloists. Macioce Handbell Choir: Under the direction of Mary Christiano, the Handbell Choir (recently renamed the Macioce Handbell Choir in honor of the late Jean Macioce – former children's choir director) played three handbell preludes at the 10am service celebrating (1) Pentecost, (2) Thanksgiving, and (3) Advent!

Concert Series: We continue to architect a Concert Series to amplify our musical offerings and foster community with outside artists. In August, we hosted the Springfield Community Jazz Ensemble which featured a packed out Parish Hall, delicious BBQ, and several toe-tapping melodies. In December, we hosted the MSU Chorale, the flagship choral ensemble of the University. With a standing-room-only Nave, the Chorale performed works spanning centuries and truly helped ring in the holiday spirit. I was so appreciative of the many CEC folks that joined us for these events. I owe a special word of gratitude to our Hospitality Committee who always go above-and-beyond to help our guests feel welcomed, fed, and loved. I have lots of exciting plans for 2024 - stay tuned!

Youth: Our Youth Group STAYS active and engaged! We continue to nurture and challenge our teens by fostering an environment of inclusivity, togetherness, and love. Weekly lessons have covered a variety of topics including: The Book of Job, Mental Health Awareness, LGBTQ+ History Month, All Saints' Day, Homelessness Awareness Month, Advent 101, and more! Special events have included: Laser Tag in the church, Southern Deanery Youth Game Night, Parking Lot Fundraiser, Outreach at Council of Churches, Diocesan Convention in KC, Students at the Symphony, Shopping for Ambassadors for Kids, Caroling at The Fremont Senior Living and Mercy Chapel, our annual Christmas Party, and trip to Silver Dollar City! Seriously, a huge thanks goes to Tom Killingsworth and Hayley Cobb who help me to "keep the wheels turning" and so much more. We also truly appreciate the several volunteers who kept our teens fed this fall including: Kathy Sheppard, Julia Taylor, Sally Baird, Nancy Hopkins, Kate Baird, Edith Van Hoesen, Cyndy Cobb, Mary Chiles, Melissa Hall, Mary Kay Ross, Laura Killingsworth, Laine Scholz, and Deb Myrick. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

To close, it's been another life-giving season for our youth and music ministries. Thanks to all who contribute in making it happen. This next semester will be even greater!

*In love,
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
8a.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,
8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
(Closed for lunch 12 p.m.-1 p.m.)



To know Christ and to make Christ known.



Bissett News!



Thank you to everyone who donated money to provide new shoes, socks, hats and gloves to the children at Bissett School. Your donations have made a big difference for these children and especially to those who walk each day to school. And a special thank you to Sally Talbot who sewed over 50 hats and gloves for this project, keeping kids warm.

Good Dads is a before-school program intended to help fathers, grandfathers, and father-figures be more engaged with their children. Bissett began this program in 2023 and each month their participation has increased. They meet monthly at 7:00 a.m. in the cafeteria and enjoy donuts provided by Christ Church. A character building theme is presented, then parent and child work together to complete a short activity related to the theme. During the month of December there were 53 present. Congrats!



Christ Church is looking forward to stocking the Cents of Pride Store during the spring months! We want to build up positive attitudes and encourage children to be at school each day.

Submitted by Kathy Sheppard

Dinner for Eight, Spring 2024



Please join us this spring, as we gather in small groups in parish-ioners' homes to enjoy dinner, laughter, conversations, and deep-en connections. Eight people will be assigned to a group, with each group meeting twice this spring/summer at different homes. Dates will be chosen by the group/host. The dinners will be pot-luck, with the host providing the entrée. We realize not everyone can host – that's fine, we want you at our table. Singles, couples, all ages; that's you! No worries if you are only in town for one dinner, just let us know your schedule. If you are interested in participating in Dinner for Eight please sign up on the bulletin board outside the church office, or contact Melissa Hall @ 417-860-7680 or mhall5_kpf@sbcglobal.net. We hope you will join us and meet your neighbor across the aisle!

Epiphany Party!

Please join us as we celebrate the Epiphany of Our Lord on Saturday, January 6, 2023 with an adults-only Wine and Cheese event from 5:00-7:00 pm in the Parish Hall. Beverages will be provided by the Hospitality Committee and all guests are asked to bring an appetizer to share. It will be an evening of warm fellowship with delightful Crèche collections decorating the room. Our own, Julia Taylor, will share these nativity scenes she has collected throughout her world travels. It's an evening you won't want to miss. Please let us know you will be attending by signing up on the bulletin board by the office. We look forward to a lovely evening. Questions? Text Mary Kay Ross at 417-860-6148.



January Outreach

Every winter, the Community Partnership of the Ozarks opens overnight Crisis Cold Weather Shelters (CCWS) in Springfield to provide additional emergency shelter beds. CCWS are open November 1st through March 31st on nights when temperatures reach 32 degrees or lower. During the 2022-2023 winter, Crisis Cold Weather Shelter sites were open 60 nights and provided 10,657+ bed nights. These shelters save lives and would not be possible without the dedication of the host sites themselves, countless community volunteers who compassionately give of their time.

A meal is provided each evening at Grace Methodist Church and, if shelters are open that night, bus transportation is available to take persons to the shelters.

Volunteers are greatly needed. There are many opportunities to serve. You could spend the night at the shelter, provide transportation, wash bedding and more. The website (www.cpozarks.org/ccws) provides more information.

And, as always, money is needed to support these activities. If donating by check through the church, please note: Cold Weather Support in the memo line.

Current Shelters Include:

Shelter	Population
East Sunshine Church of Christ – 3721 E. Sunshine	Men
Grace UMC – 600 S. Jefferson	Women
Unity of Springfield – 2214 E. Seminole	Anyone
Sacred Heart Catholic Church – 3 days/week 1609 N. Summit	Men
Revive 66 – 3839 W. Chestnut	Anyone & pets
YouthConnect Center – 425 W McDaniel St	Ages 13-18
The GLO Center – 2 days/week – 518 E. Commercial St	Ages 19-24
Fairbanks/Drew Lewis Foundation – 1126 N. Broadway	Anyone & pets
Venues 425 – Overflow – 425 W. Walnut	Anyone
Eden Village 1 – Overflow – 2801 E. Division	Anyone
Harbor House – Overflow – 636 N. Boonville	Men with ID



Church has several members who volunteer at Crosslines. Crosslines is an emergency food pantry located in Springfield. Volunteers help with loading and sorting groceries on the first Wednesday of the month between noon and 2 p.m. A Crosslines donation basket can also be found towards the back of Christ Church (near the baptism font). For more information please contact Pam Tynes at gardenar@ix.netcom.com.

The Outreach committee is looking for help from the congregation for upcoming meals at Safe to Sleep. We provide dinner twice monthly on Mondays for 30-40 women. We need help for meals & other upcoming meals in the following ways: Shop for needed food (turn in receipts in for reimbursement), prepare the food using easy recipes provided (team of two), deliver the food to Safe to Sleep (drop off only), and finance meals. If you are able to help with one or more of these tasks, call or text Edith Van Hoesen at (417) 496-2974 or email at edithvanhoesen@gmail.com and she will get you on the schedule.



The Red Bag Brigade focus for January will be to gather personal hygiene items to share with the ladies at Safe to Sleep, guests at the Well of Life, the kids at Rare Breed, as with our unsheltered neighbors. Please pick up an item or two and return in a Red Bag to the bin in the Gathering Room. Thank you for your continued support.



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1 Dr. Robin Luke
1 Natalie Ross
2 Elly Zinecker
4 Sam Kucera
4 Mary Ellison
6 Hannah Casertano
6 Jon Leamy
6 Carol Chalfant
7 Ronald Stith
11 Franz Ginsberg

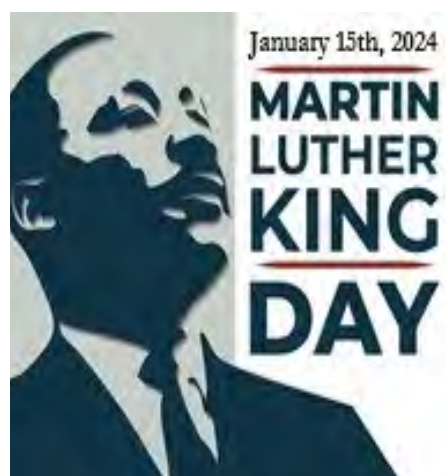
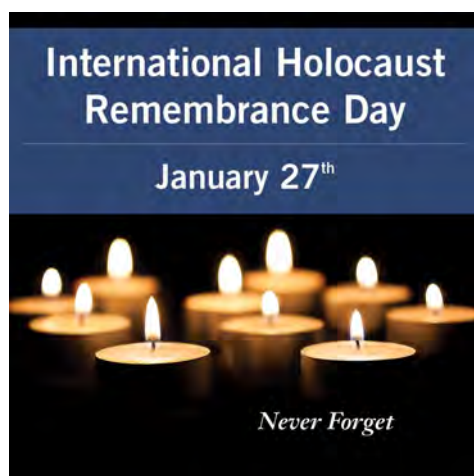
11 Holly Ryan
12 Kathryn Baldi
12 Desi Scholz
12 Tom Killingsworth
13 Sally Netzer
13 Amy Amason
14 Diane Leamy
14 Dr. Keri Franklin
15 Amelia Reecamper
20 Marcia Johnson

20 Molly Carnahan
23 Rock Albaugh
23 William Summers
23 Fletcher Ollis
24 Deborah Cox-Hulgus
26 Jeremy Ellison
26 Stephen Glintz Jr.
27 Benjamin Donnelson
27 Ken Powers
28 Nancy Hopkins

29 Barbara Hays
29 David Stovall
30 The Rev. Bob Hood
30 Raisa Hurtado
30 Damian Tice
30 Ann White
31 Glenda Barnard



There will be no additional Women's Fellowship in January. See you again soon!



The next Men's Fellowship evening will be held on January 19 at the home of Tracy & Melissa Hall (located at 1351 S Black Locust Pl, Springfield, 65809) from 5 to 8 p.m.

December at Christ Church

This December, the youth group at Christ Church got to help shop for the Ambassadors for Children's (AFC) kids and youth. AFC's purpose is to restore dignity to all local youth in foster care. AFC is an outreach service of the Council of Churches of the Ozarks and is supported by the Christ Church Outreach Committee. Over 1,000 children are in foster care in the Ozarks. Thanks to AFC, kids in foster care never have to worry if Santa will find them at their new home. AFC coordinates the collection and delivery of Christmas gifts for all children and youth in Greene County foster care.

Thank you to everyone who donated or otherwise supported our youth group for this event!



Vestry Nominations for 2024

Christ Church is accepting names for the 2024 Vestry openings. There will be five positions open at the end of January 2024. ***Vestry terms are three years.*** According to church canon, nominees must be: at least 16 years-old and confirmed communicants in good standing; and loyal to the doctrine, discipline, and worship of the Episcopal Church. In addition, in this parish, nominees must be: financial contributors of record for at least one year, in church, and committed to tithing as the minimum standard of Christian giving or working faithfully toward the giving a tithe; regular in church attendance and committed to monthly vestry attendance; active in the work of at least one committee or ministry of the church, in addition to Vestry; committed to functioning according to the norms established by the Vestry; prepared to attend a Vestry orientation by the Rector, as well as an annual vestry Training Day with the Bishop.

An ideal Vestry is one that features people of diverse backgrounds who fully represent our church community. We'd like to make sure that we have representation from each Sunday service and a good mix of people. Members of the same family may not serve on Vestry at the same time. All Vestry members should be united by their commitment to Christ and service to him. If you believe God is calling you to this ministry, or if you know of someone who would be a faithful Vestry member, please get that person's permission to nominate them, and then complete the form on the back page and submit it to the church office as soon as possible, or email the information requested below to frontoffice@christepiscopalchurch.com. All qualified nominees will appear on the slate at the church's Annual Election and Meeting on Sunday, February 4.

2024 VESTRY NOMINEE FORM • *Deadline: January 15*

Name of Nominee: _____ Phone: Home/Cell: _____ Work: _____

Member of Christ Church since: _____ Previous Vestry Service: (when and where) _____

Activities (past and present) at Christ Church: _____

Occupation: _____

Your Name (who is making the nomination): _____

Annual Meeting Up-

This year, Christ Church will hold the Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 4, after the 10 a.m. service in the Nave. Please note that this is a change from what was reported in the December Clarion. We will have a few brief reports, and will ask for your votes to confirm the 2024 Foundation Board and new Vestry members. Please keep an eye on the announcements and email blasts for more details in the coming weeks.



Sprucing up your guest room for holiday visitors? Next to New is still welcoming fall, winter, and holiday clothing for ladies and gentlemen. Make closet space for your guests by donating your lonesome, gently-loved clothing!

Next to New is open:
Tuesday through Friday
11 a.m. to 5p.m., and Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

We are grateful to our church family for your unwavering support these 70 years!



Youth Volunteers Needed

In an effort to keep our spending to a minimum, our weekly youth dinners are often sponsored by volunteers. These dinners can be in any format and usually feed about 20 people. If you would be willing to sponsor a youth dinner this Spring, contact Kenny Kabak at kennykabak1@gmail.com. Additionally, if you are interested in learning more about Acolytes, their role in worship, and potentially being one yourself, please Kenny know!



from the staff at Christ Church



Seeking Nursery Help

The Nursery at Christ Church is looking for help to fill in for Kinlee and Hailey when they are away for holidays and school events. If you or someone you know is interested in this paid opportunity, church member or not, please contact Kathy Sheppard at kathysheppard1950@gmail.com or contact the church office at frontoffice@christepiscopalchurch.com.



The Welcome and Growth Committee will have a meeting on Thursday, January 11 at 1:00 in room 102. Everyone is welcome. Contact Kathy at kathysheppard1950@gmail.com for more info.



The next Second Sunday Brunch will be January 14th. We encourage you to join in the parish hall after the 10 a.m. service for food and fellowship. If you would like to bring a fruit, casserole, or other brunch dish to share please contact Kathy Sheppard at kathysheppard1950@gmail.com or call 417-861-9971.