

# THE CHIMES

“Growing by God’s Grace into a Family of Faith and Ministry”



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Over the course of the next month, we will be celebrating the ministries of John Mark and Joseph as they leave their positions on staff at Christ Church to move on to their next call. John Mark has had a wonderful ministry with our youth at Christ Church for many years, taking them on trips, going to Camp Mikell, New Beginnings, Happenings, and any number of diocesan youth events. He has led youth groups, Confirmation classes, been there for our youth before school in prayer breakfasts, walked beside them in times of crisis, and worked to help them become godly young men and women with a strong sense of who they are in Christ. We owe John Mark a debt of gratitude for the loving care he has poured into our young people. On Sunday May 21st he will be preaching at the services and we will have a reception following the 11:00 service in the Great Hall to honor his ministry among us. John Mark has been studying to obtain a degree in counseling to grow into a different season of ministry and his gifts in this area are already being recognized. None of this comes as a surprise to us. We have all benefitted from his gifts.

Joseph graciously extended his stay at Christ Church, to maintain stability through the transition, having served faithfully for many years. He has been a patient and faithful pastor, teacher, and priest. In addition to his work here, he manifests the love of Christ to inmates on death row. We have been blessed by his beautiful singing voice in the Choral Eucharist, and his strength as a liturgist in leading worship. Suzanne has been a Sunday School teacher leading Godly Play for many years, and helping minister to children. The Shippens have been a great blessing to us, and they will be sorely missed. We hope they will continue to think of us as family, and know they are always more than welcome. We will be celebrating Joseph’s ministry on June 4th with a reception in the Great Hall following the 10:30 service.

The Rev. Cynthia C. Knapp, Rector

*from The Rev. Joseph J. Shippen II*

Dear Parish Family,

It is with a heavy yet grateful heart that I write to let you know that June 4 will be my last Sunday at Christ Church. Thank you for five wonderful years of growth in ministry, beautiful worship, and joyful community.

Getting to serve with you as your Associate Rector has been one of the greatest blessings of my life. You graciously welcomed our family into your lives, and Suzanne and I will so miss being a part of this community. Benjamin and Michael have loved going to Christ Church for any activity or event. In my work as a pastor, it has been such a privilege to accompany you through good times and bad and to help to lead our parish in worship and in ministry.

I will never forget the trust you put in me when you allowed me to lead the parish during the interim period after Harriette retired. I believe that God did amazing things over that year-and-a-half. I am so proud of the work we did together to continue our mission in downtown Macon and prepare the parish for a new rector.

The parish is poised for exiting new opportunities for growth and mission. You have called a gifted leader in Cynthia to lead you into that new chapter in your life. I am so glad that it has worked out for me to remain at Christ Church to assist her as she has transitioned into the parish.

Now, though, it is time for me to move on so that the parish can call a full-time Associate Rector. As you probably know, like St. Paul, who along with his work as a pastor did secular work as a tentmaker, I am a “tent-maker priest,” working as both an electrical engineer and a pastor. Christ Church and Cynthia, though, need an Associate who can be full-time.

While I do not know exactly what my ministry will look like next in this season of my life, I am excited about the possibilities. One thing I do know is that we will be in Macon, and we are so happy that we will see you around town even if we don't see you on Sunday mornings.

Thank you again for the precious gift of these five years together.

Love,

Joseph+



## Looking Ahead

- **May 7 | 3-5pm | Path to Shine**  
Year-end Celebration & 5th Grade Graduation. *Great Hall*
- **May 9/16 | 6:30-9pm | EfM Open House**  
Held at St. Francis, Macon. For more information contact Barbara Windom at [barbara.windom@gmail.com](mailto:barbara.windom@gmail.com).
- **May 20 | Newsletter Deadline**  
Please send information to Jonathan at [office@christchurchmacon.com](mailto:office@christchurchmacon.com) by 5pm.
- **May 21 | Reception for John Mark**  
After the 11am service in the Great Hall.
- **May 24 | Last day of weekly Bible Studies**
- **May 28 | Summer Schedule begins**  
Services held at 8 & 10:30 in the Nave.
- **June 4 | Reception for Joseph**  
After the 10:30am service in the Great Hall.
- **June 11 | 5pm | A Service of Healing**  
In the Nave.
- please see the Children's Ministry page for a complete list of dates and events pertaining to Children & Families.

*from John Mark Parker*

Dear Friends,

My heart is filled with bittersweet emotions as I write this letter to officially inform you that I will be resigning my position as Youth Minister at Christ Church on Sunday, May 21, 2017. I have been blessed to be associated with this parish and your lives for almost a decade, so I leave the position with many happy memories - as well as some sad ones - and with my cup overflowing with love for you all. Thank you for allowing me to be part of the good work you all are doing in Macon and beyond.

As many of you know, I have returned to school and am pursuing a Master of Science in Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling at Mercer University and look forward to being able to serve God and the greater community in different ways. While I am saddened to step down from the staff position, I am very excited that Christ Church is seeking a person to serve our youth in a full time position at Christ Church. From before her arrival, Cynthia and I have agreed that a parish the size of ours deserves a full time youth minister, and I am happy to know that time has come.

Thank you for your support of me personally and professionally throughout the years of my association with Christ Church. You have taught me many important lessons about grace, generosity, forgiveness, healing, family, and love, for which I remain forever grateful. I am also comforted to know that wherever our journeys of faith may lead us, we are never alone. Those who have become part of our hearts remain with us always.

Thank you for the honor of serving beside you. May God continue to bless us as we welcome new expressions of God's presence in our lives.

Love and peace to you, now and always,

John Mark Parker

## Ministry of the Month

Book 'Em is a local non-profit corporation which partners with the Macon-Bibb Sheriff's Office to deliver books to at-risk children of all ages in our community. It was created by Christ Church parishioner, Katie Powers, who also serves as executive director. Fellow parishioner, Rebecca Grist, serves on the Board of Directors. To date, Book 'Em has delivered close to 10,000 books, mainly brand-new, to children in Macon-Bibb County. All five of the Sheriff's patrol districts have received books for deputies to distribute to children they encounter on patrol. Book 'Em also participates in various community outreach events hosted by the Sheriff's Office, such as Santa in the Park, CHAMPS camps, and neighborhood watch community events. On May 11th, Book 'Em will be giving away five brand-new books to every student who attends Brookdale Elementary School for the second year in a row. Requested donations:

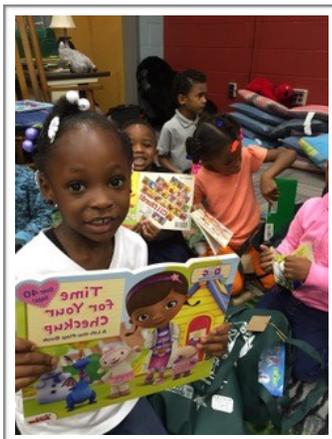


- ✦ Cash, for every dollar donated, Book 'Em can purchase one brand-new book to give to a child in our community through partnerships with First Book and Scholastic Literacy Partners. Book 'Em is a registered 501(c)(3) corporation.
- ✦ New or like-new titles of popular books which cost more for us to purchase, such as: Richard Scarry, Dr. Seuss, Sandra Boynton, and Moe Willems- authored books.
- ✦ Series/Chapter books: The Magic Treehouse, Diary of a Wimpy Kid, Dork Diaries, Junie B. Jones, Judy Moody, I Survived, Harry Potter, Percy Jackson, etc. For older readers: any of the "classics"

Why is this so important? 43% of all children in Macon-Bibb are growing up in poverty. Most of these children have very few, if any, books in their homes. Consider this statistic, in low-income areas there is approximately one book for every 300 children. In middle to upper income areas there are approximately 13 books per child. Access to books is key to reading skills. Studies confirm that the number of books in the home directly affects reading achievement. Price is the #1 barrier to book ownership. Public school library funds have been cut drastically in the last 15 years. Perhaps the most disturbing fact of all is that many municipalities plan the number of jail cells needed in the future by the percentage of students in their schools who cannot read fluently by the end of their 3rd grade year.

"A world without books is like a room without windows." - Horace Mann

For more information about Book 'Em or to make an online donation, visit: [maconbookem.org](http://maconbookem.org)



### Ministry of the Month: (donations)

February:  
Path to Shine \$400.00

March:  
Weekend Lunch \$150.00

# Episcopal Youth Community

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## Sunday, May 7 "Senior Recognition Day"

Join us in the 11:00 am service as we recognize and celebrate our high school seniors at Christ Church. Congratulations to them all on their academic successes and service to the church.

- ✦ Crawford Edwards, *Stratford Academy*
- ✦ Maggie Greer, *Stratford Academy*
- ✦ Jack Grist, *Mount De Sales Academy*
- ✦ Janie Hatcher, *Stratford Academy*

## Sunday, May 7 "Graduation Celebration"

Join us for this special diocesan Graduation Celebration with Bishop Rob Wright at Holy Innocents' from 3:30-5:30 pm. Any high school seniors in the Diocese of Atlanta will be recognized. For more information, visit [eycdioat.org](http://eycdioat.org). Graduating seniors are asked to register by May 1. For travel arrangements, contact JM at 478-718-0041.

## Summer Camp & Mission Opportunities

Be sure to check out the many exciting opportunities for service and fun throughout the summer with Camp Mikell and the Diocese of Atlanta. In addition to various weeks for camp experiences, there are special opportunities for mission work, and a diocesan tubing trip in August! Visit [eycdioat.org](http://eycdioat.org) and [campmikell.com](http://campmikell.com) for more information.



## Appleton Episcopal Ministries: Freedom School™

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### What is Freedom School™?

The mission of the Children's Defense Fund Freedom School™ program is to build strong, literate, and empowered children prepared to make a difference in themselves, their families, their communities, their nation, and the world as a whole today. Since 1995, CDF Freedom Schools™ have served more than 137,500 pk-12 children who face poverty and lack access to educational resources they need to succeed at no charge to the attending scholars. CDF has trained more than 16,000 college students and young adults to deliver a six-week reading enrichment program that improves literacy, encourages positive attitudes toward learning, increases self esteem and responsible interaction with peers, instills cultural awareness, and promotes civic engagement. The Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta has already produced two successful CDF Freedom Schools™ at Emmaus House in Atlanta and, in summer 2017, the Diocese and Appleton Episcopal Ministries are bringing that same program to Macon.

### Why in Macon?

In Georgia, only 1/3 of all 3rd graders can read proficiently. Of the four elementary schools targeted for this program in Macon, at least two of the schools are ranked in the bottom 10 in State of Georgia for 3rd grade achievement. Each of these four schools has end-of-year 3rd grade scores documenting that more than 66% of students read with only a Beginning Reading Level. CDF Freedom School™ presents an integrated reading curriculum in a 1:10 teacher-student ratio and emphasizes the development of improved reading skills to make the critical transition from learning to read to reading to learn than must be achieved by the end of 3rd grade to best predict school success and high school graduation.

### What Does the Freedom School™ Program include?

Daily programs include focused reading activities throughout the morning with afternoon exposure to art, dance, music, science, architecture, astronomy, horticulture, and other cultural activities to help create life-long learners. CDF Freedom School™ increases positive parental involvement in their children's education at weekly parent workshops by presenting high-energy teaching methods and imparting greater understanding of children's learning styles and development. CDF trains college students and young adults in the Freedom School™ model to provide positive role models, convey a sense of community responsibility and involvement, and explore issues of social justice in both their small group learning circles and in the group as a whole.

### Who may attend Freedom School™ Macon 2017?

Parents with children who have completed grades K, 1 or 2 and are enrolled at Brookdale, Ingram-Pye, Riley, and Southfield Elementary Schools in Bibb County may apply for placement in a total of 50 slots available. There is no charge to the students. The cost of \$ 1,463.00 per student is being privately funded by the Diocese of Atlanta and by tax-deductible contributions to Appleton Episcopal Ministries.

**When:** June 12th – July 21st (Monday through Friday, no program on July 4th)

**Where:** St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Macon, GA, headquarters of Appleton Episcopal Ministries

How can I get more information to give financial support, volunteer to help, or enroll my child?

Contact Appleton Missioner Julie Groce

Phone: (478) 731-5901 or Email: [missioner@appletonepiscopal.org](mailto:missioner@appletonepiscopal.org).

## Children's Ministries

Helen Stewart has graciously volunteered to lead our Children's Ministry program at Christ Church. We are thrilled to have this ministry in her capable hands and already we have some wonderful things in store for you.

**May 14th:** is the last day of regular Sunday School in the classrooms.

**May 21st:** 10:00 in the church is a children's' Communion class. Parents are invited to participate with their younger children. Instruction will be given on the Liturgy of celebrating Holy Communion, and how each of the elements is used. A book, designed for children, will be available for each family to take home.

**May 28th:** First day of summer schedule with services at 8:00 and 10:30 only. There will be no Sunday School due to the holiday weekend.

**June 4th Day of Pentecost:** A Godly play lesson during the 9:30 Sunday School hour.

**June 11th Trinity Sunday, 18th, and 25th:** *Lego My Bible* during the 9:30 Sunday School hour.

**July 2nd and 9th:** No children's Sunday School.

**July 16th through the end of August:** *Lego My Bible* during the 9:30 Sunday School hour.



### Ways To Serve

Are you looking for ways to get more involved on Sunday mornings? Would you like to help serve during Eucharist? We are looking for additional Lectors/Chalice Bearers to serve at any of our three Sunday services. If you are interested in this ministry, please contact Bonnie Collins, Eucharistic Minister by phone (478) 475-9388. Other opportunities to serve are Ushers/Greeters, Altar Guild, Flower Guild. Feel free to fill out a Time & Talent card and place in the offering plate or call the church office for more information.



### Lego My Bible

Do you have Legos lying around? We would love to have them for our storytelling for Lego My Bible beginning soon. We especially would love Star Wars, Harry Potter and knight figures, and any animals and plants. Any Lego items you are no longer using would be greatly appreciated.

Please contact Helen Stewart  
[helenstewartgigi.com](http://helenstewartgigi.com) or drop them by the Church office anytime during office hours.

## Outreach News & Updates

### *Crisis Line & Safe House*

On April 18th Crisis Line & Safe House annual Sexual Awareness "Take Back the Night" was held at Washington Square Park.

Our Phoenix Rising 5-K run held in Gray raised approximately \$23,000.

### *7th Annual Haitian Hope Golf Tournament*

May 9, 2017 | Healy Point Country Club

Buffet Deli Lunch: Noon

Shotgun Start: 1 PM

\$75/player (In advance) \$80/player (Day of play)

\$300/team \$175 Hole Sponsor \$300 Elite Sponsor\*

For more information about Haitian Hope, or this event, contact Irene Marxsen (478) 319-4220.



## Adult Christian Formation

Sundays @ 10am | Cloister Room

Join us on Sundays at 10am in the Cloister Room as we continue the series on the process (and challenges!) of forgiveness. Using the book *Total Forgiveness* by R.T. Kendall interwoven with quotes and true stories from *The Forgiveness Project Stories for a Vengeful Age* by Marina Cantacuzino, we will be looking at topics such as What is forgiveness? Freedom in Forgiveness, Forgiving God, What about Vengeance? and Forgiving Ourselves.

The course is designed to be done as a whole but people are welcome to come to any part they are able to attend.

Copies of the books are available for you to purchase from the church office and both books are readily available online.

## Brotherhood of Saint Andrew

UPDATE: Thank you to Christ Church for your support of this year's **A Night on Bourbon Street!** Through your continued support, we are blessed in being able to support this wonderful ministry to children with diabetes. The Brotherhood of Saint Andrew presented a check of \$5,000 to Tom and Elizabeth Jones for Camp Little Shot.

Our next meeting of the Brotherhood is on Wednesday, May 10th at 5:30 in the Cloister Room. This is a Potluck Dinner, so please bring your favorite dish to share. Contact Hal Brickle by phone (478) 207-4455 email him at [halbrickle@icloud.com](mailto:halbrickle@icloud.com)

## Healing Ministry

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### *Inner Healing Prayer with Celtic Harp:*

Saturday, May 20th 10:00-11:30am

Emotional or Inner Healing prayer is simply this: Jesus, who is the same, yesterday today and forever, can come into the memories of hurtful past experiences that continue to impact us in the present (sometimes in ways we are not even fully aware of) and bring inner healing. This process of healing is designed to help us be filled with his love and to drain the poison of those past hurts, resentments, and un-forgiveness, so they no longer have a hold on us. We can ask Jesus to go back to the time we were hurt and free us from the effects of the wound in the present. This process involves two things: (1) bringing into the light of Christ, the things that have hurt us, and (2) praying to the Lord to heal the binding effects of the hurtful incidents of the past. Rhett and Katy's harp led prayer movements are designed to gently walk you through that process in a respectful and confidential environment. There is no need to speak out loud about specifics- it is work that is done in your own thoughts and prayers with the Lord as you are guided through the process.

Rhett Barnwell, Atlanta, Ga. and Katy Tosh, Macon, Ga. both grew up in Christ Church. Their desires to minister to those in need of healing have inspired them to create this healing experience for all those seeking a fresh touch from the Lord. Katy leads inner healing or emotional healing movements while Rhett performs the Celtic harp.

Rhett is the Founder of Seraphim Music, a source for sacred, healing, and meditative music. He is a writer, composer, arranger and concert harpist. Seraphim Music specializes in the publication and recording of music for the harp, cello, voice and other instruments; Rhett provides live music for liturgical services, concerts and other events. He has published two CD's, "The Lord Is My Shepherd" and "Serenade for the Soul."

Katy is the founder of Christ the Healer Ministries, an Interdenominational ministry dedicated to praying for the sick, encouraging and teaching others how to pray for physical, spiritual and emotional or inner healing, as well as, praying for those who seek freedom from any kind of torment. Christ the Healer Ministries practice is to model the love of Jesus, his power and his prayer.

## Music Ministry

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*Jonathan A. Poe, Organist & Choirmaster*

I want to thank everyone in the Christ Church Choir & Choristers for their hard work this year! We are so blessed to have such a great musical heritage. I am honored and humbled to be a part of this wonderful Parish.

Having looked back all the music we have offered since September, I am amazed at the overall amount, and level of difficulty, of those pieces. Some of them of course were old favorites, but the majority of them were new to us. Nevertheless, with the transition of a new Rector, and the addition of Parish Administrator to my work load, our Music Ministry maintained its level of professionalism and determination. For that I am grateful.

We have had three new additions to our Choral Scholars this year. Mickey Brooks, soprano; James Foreman, tenor; and Nathan Holmes, bass. These three individuals are students at Mercer University and we have enjoyed having them as part of our choir family. In addition, we have also welcomed others as well as lost a few. This is normal of any group. I have always been one to value **Quality** over **Quantity**. If you know me at all, you know that I spend an inordinate amount of rehearsal time on proper vocal production. Perhaps this is the perfectionist in me. Although this may annoy some people I have always believed that we should bring our best before God. This is so important to me and to the music education in our ever-changing world. Even more so since more and more public and private schools don't offer substantial graded music programs.

At Christ Church I try to instill in our children and adults that everything we do in life should be to Glorify God. Yes, he will continue to love us regardless of our actions, but it is often times those "things which we have left undone" that haunt us. I continue to push each choir's abilities because I know that they have more in them to give. This is my job, but more importantly it is my passion. This is what I have been called to do with my life. It is what I have done since I was 6 years old. I remember sitting at the piano at home practicing for hours. Not always wanting to do so, but with my parents encouragement, and of course the fear of disappointing my piano teacher, I persevered through the tough passages until I gave it my best.

This is what we are called to do as Christians. Life is not easy; change is not easy; putting faith in God is not easy; but when we do, we will see that he only puts before us that which we are capable of handling. Not just on our own, but with the help of others.

I would like to invite you to be a part of our "Choir Family" starting June 11th. This will begin our Summer Choir Schedule. No weekly commitment, just Sunday mornings in the Loft at 9:30.

*Peace & Love, Jonathan*



**HAY HOUSE**  
presents

*Spring Stroll*  
of Macon Houses & Gardens  
May 5-7, 2017

*Friday, May 5 — Sunday, May 7*

The 24th Annual Spring Stroll of Macon Houses and Gardens commences Friday May 5 and continues through Sunday afternoon May 7. This annual benefit for Hay House's operating fund is chaired by Julie Groce and James Caldwell and features 8 Gardens in North Macon on the daily Secret Gardens Tour (including one belonging to Christ Church members) and 5 historic houses in the Vine-Ingle area on the evening Historic Interiors Tour. The annual Florabriliance exhibit inside the house, the Garden Market on the lawn, and two outstanding speakers on gardening round out the offerings of the weekend. For information and advance tickets go to the website at [hayhousemacon.org](http://hayhousemacon.org) or call (478) 742-8155. Tickets can also be purchased on the front lawn of Hay House starting Friday morning.

## Christ Church Staff

### *Contact Information & Hours*

(478) 745-0427 | M–Th: 9am–4pm; F: 9am–12pm

Cynthia Clark Knapp, Rector (*off Monday; Fridays @ Rectory*)

[cynthia@christchurchmacon.com](mailto:cynthia@christchurchmacon.com) Extension: 121

Joseph J. Shippen II, Associate Rector

[joseph@christchurchmacon.com](mailto:joseph@christchurchmacon.com) Extension: 126

Mr. John Mark Parker, Coordinator of Youth Ministry

[johnmark@christchurchmacon.com](mailto:johnmark@christchurchmacon.com) Extension: 122

Mr. Jonathan A. Poe, Organist/Choirmaster/Parish Administrator (*M–Th 9am–2pm; Fridays off*)

[office@christchurchmacon.com](mailto:office@christchurchmacon.com) Music: [music@christchurchmacon.com](mailto:music@christchurchmacon.com) Extensions: 123 & 137

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### **SUMMER CAMP SCHEDULE 2017**

**Mini Camp:** May 19-21, Rising 1st and 2nd Grader- For camper and parent/guardian

**Youth Camp:** May 28-June 3, Rising 10th-Just Graduated

**Performing Arts Camp:** June 4-June 10, Rising 4th-9th Graders

**Intermediate Camp:** June 18-June 24, Rising 8th and 9th Graders

**Junior Camp:** June 25-July 1, Rising 6th and 7th Graders

**Kid Camp:** July 2-July 8, Rising 3rd-5th Graders

**Work Camp:** July 17-July 22, Rising 10th Graders-Just Graduated

**Emmaus House:** July 24-July 28, Emmaus House Summer Program

**Guest Camp:** September 1- September 4, Children, Adults, and Families of all Ages

*(Contact Amanda, (706) 886-7515 or [amanda@campmikell.com](mailto:amanda@campmikell.com) for more information)*