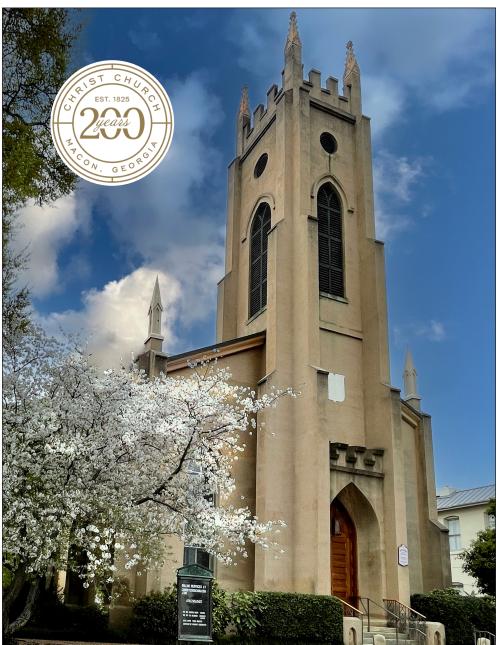
May 2025

Growing by God's Grace as a Family of Faith, Fellowship & Ministry

The Chimes



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7 We challenge ourselves and the world to love like Jesus as we worship joyfully, serve compassionately, and grow spiritually.

About Christ Church

Christ Church is a parish of the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Atlanta. We are a vibrant parish in the heart of downtown Macon, Georgia. Founded in 1825, Christ Church is the oldest church in Macon and in the Diocese of Atlanta. We are celebrating our Bicentennial year with a full calendar of events. We invite our entire parish community, our neighbors in Macon and Middle Georgia, and the other parishes of the Diocese of Atlanta to join us in this yearlong celebration, and we welcome anyone interested in becoming part of our family to build the next two hundred years at Christ Church.

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Christ Church

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The Rev. Cynthia Knapp *Rector*

RECTOR'S MESSAGE *The Journey to Easter*

A fter going through the COVID pandemic, we have all learned the hard way the importance of community. We are still suffering the consequences of that time of isolation even years later. It's seen in the escalated rates of depression and even suicide in this country. The impact of isolation has only been exacerbated by the influence of the internet and our electronic devices that isolate us from interacting in person with one another. The dangerous unforeseen consequences of those devices on our children and young people has been well documented in the book, *The Anxious Generation*, which was edited by Claire and Boone Smith's e. We were wired for living in community.

daughter, Ginny Smith Younce. We were wired for community. Those things that work to separate us are destructive to our well-being individually and as a society. As followers of Christ we are grafted into the body of Christ that is the Church. It is a community in which we are meant to be actively engaged. We were created to be connected.

Scripture repeatedly calls us to unity as the body of Christ. This doesn't mean we all agree but it does mean we are to learn to live together in a loving, supportive community in spite of and even in celebration of our differences as brothers and sisters in Christ. Psalm 133 says, "How good and pleasant it is when brothers and sisters live together in unity! (or as it says in *The Message* translation, when they get along!) It is like precious oil on the beard running down upon the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down the collar of his robes. It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the Mountains of Zion. For there the Lord ordained his blessing, life evermore."

The picture of oil running down over the head of Aaron and down his robes is an image of the anointing of the Holy Spirit on those called to serve the Lord-on all God's people who have been made a royal priesthood in Christ. Being actively engaged in the Christian community is as important to our lives as believers as the anointing of the Holy Spirit. The dew or waters on Mount Hermon in the northernmost part of Israel is the source of water for the whole of the Holy Land. This is the source of the headwaters of the Jordan that feed the Sea of Galilee, a fertile area teaming with life, and flows on down through the land as the source of life for what would otherwise be a dry and barren land. The Holy Spirit is synonymous with the life-giving breath of God; water is synonymous with life and is a symbol of the Holy Spirit, and it is all linked to the importance of Jesus said, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the first and great commandment, and the second is like it: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Jesus then says all the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments. We cannot separate loving God from loving others. If we love God, we are to love others with the same love of God we have experienced in Jesus Christ. This grace-filled, merciful, compassionate love is lived out in community. It is tested when we are called to love those who are harder to love and made stronger for the testing. Our love for God, our following in the footsteps of Jesus, are to inform our love for one another.

Eugene Peterson talks about living in the community of the Church as a part of the fabric of redemption. He says, "When we become Christians, we are among brothers and sisters in faith. No Christian is an only child." Learning to live with one another in community, for better or for worse, is part of maturing in our faith and having our character shaped into the character of Christ. It is also often the means through which we are blessed by God.

A favorite illustration of mine is one I first heard in the Alpha program: A young man who has moved away from home and has been struggling with his faith, is meeting with an elderly, wise and trusted friend. As they sit in front of the fire and the wise man listens to the young man talk about his struggles, the elderly man quietly takes a red hot coal out of the fire and places it on the stone hearth, where it gradually turns gray as the fire within it burns out. Then he picks up the cold, gray coal and puts it back in the fire where it quickly resumes its flame. The young man who has been watching attentively, gets the message. He cannot expect to be

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4 We challenge ourselves and the world to love like Jesus as we worship joyfully, serve compassionately, and grow spiritually.

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aflame with the love and Spirit of Christ on his own. He must be living within the Christian community.

As we reach the end of our program year and begin our summer schedules and travels, find ways to remain connected to one another (other than the internet). Come to worship in person whenever possible. Remember how powerful it is when the church is full and we are all worshipping together! Reach out to others by phone, to visit, or to get a group together for fellowship and to be a source of encouragement to one another. Participate in volunteering in one of our any outreach ministries. You would be amazed how blessed you will be when you seek to be a blessing to others. There is nothing like taking our focus off of ourselves and turning it toward being a blessing to others to heal us of our inner struggles. This is vital to the church community and especially to each one of us as individual members. Seek to love and serve the Lord this summer by loving and serving others in the name of Christ. As we interact with one another, worship and serve together, and live as a part of the community that is the body of Christ, we are blessed and we are instruments of blessing to others. It's all connected in what my grandfather once referred to as a golden net of prayer.

Blessings to you my brothers and sisters in Christ! The Lord is risen! Alleluia!

-the Rev. Cynthia Knapp



Registration Open for Fall Parish Retreat at Kanuga

This September we will be holding a parish retreat at Kanuga, a beautiful Episcopal camp and conference center in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Hendersonville, North Carolina. Throughout the weekend there will opportunities for worship, meditation, spiritual development, fellowship, and fun in the outdoors. There will be activities for all ages and activity levels.

We hope this will be a time of renewal and growth. A time to take a step back from the busy-ness of the world. A time to strengthen the bonds of fellowship with other parishioners and to enjoy the beauty of God's creation in nature.

The cost for the weekend includes lodging for two nights, all meals and activities throughout the weekend, and a t-shirt. We have reserved three 3-bedroom cottages, five 4-bedroom cottages, and several rooms in the Kanuga Inn. We will do out best to accommodate requests to share a cabin between specific families.

Cost by lodging type:

Adults (13+) Double Occupancy Cabin Room: \$305 Adults (13+) Single Occupancy Cabin Room: \$385 Adults (13+) Room in Kanuga Inn (Hotel Room): \$460 Kids (4-12): \$115 Kids (0-3): Free

To register, scan this QR code or go to find the Kanuga Parish Retreat event on Realm:



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

A lleluia! The Lord is risen indeed! Christ Church Children spent April learning about Jesus's last days with a focus on the Last Supper in the hopes that it would make Eucharist more meaningful to them. May is all about celebration! From learning the meaning behind Easter Eggs to dance parties celebrating the resurrection to lessons on Jesus' appearances after his resurrection, we're rejoicing

that Jesus is alive!

We invite all children (and their parents) to our 2nd annual Sundae Sunday memory verse celebration during the Sunday School hour on May 18. All year, our children have been working together to memorize Bible verses. Every time a child recites a verse, he or she gets to put a bead in the "memory verse jar." The jar is now full, so we'll celebrate with an ice cream party on the 18th! Congratulate these kiddos on their hard work!

Vacation Bible School is just around the corner, and you don't want to miss out on the fun! Email Rachel@ChristChurchMacon. com if you'd like to volunteer, or register your child using the QR link below. VBS will be at Christ Church June 2-5, 4:30-7. Snack, dinner, Jesus, and fellowship included!

MAY 18 during the 10:30 service

CELEBRATION

COMMUNION

ALTAR

Children are invited to process to the front to view the Celebration of Holy

Communion from around the altar.

Nursery-aged children are welcome

with parents. Meet at the baptismal

font after the passing of the peace.

Mark Your Calendars Sunday, May 18 at 9:30a Last day of Sunday School In the Parish House

Sunday, May 18 at 9:30a Sundae Sunday In the Great Hall ... Sunday, May 18 at 10:30a Communion around the Altar In the Church







Sunday, May 18 in the Great Hal During the Sunday School Hour





Rachel Horkan Director of Children's Ministry

YOUTH MINISTRY

What a glorious April our youth had from preparing for and volunteering at The Easter Egg Hunt, bi-weekly Chikfila breakfasts, acolyting at so many big services, and closing out the month with a top notch Youth Sunday! We had so much fun and are looking forward to closing out our year!

I wanted to give a big shout-out to all of our youth, who we were able to celebrate as they served on Youth Sunday. We have had a great year together and I can't wait for all of the fun memories ahead of us as we plan for the summer and next school year!

I also want to give a huge congratulations to our graduating seniors, Brice Whitley, Drew Sutherland, Robert Wilkin, and Mimi Culp. We could not be more proud of these graduates and can't wait to see all of the wonderful things God will do in their lives. I have included the prayer we prayed on Sunday for them, please continue to pray for these teens as they begin their transition to college! Lord, please be with Brice, Robert, Mimi, and Drew as they begin their next great journey.

May you remember that God is above you, watching over you as a good shepherd,

That God is below you, ready to lift you up in your weakest moments,

That God is behind you to give you encouragement when you want to give up and turn back.

That God is in front of you, calling you forward in faith, even when you can't see how it's going to work out.

That God is beside you holding your hand no matter what you are going through.

But most of all, God is within you, as close as every breath you take.

Amen.





Making bread on Palm Sunday



At the Easter egg hunt

Hope Westervelt Director of Youth Ministry Growing by God's Grace as a Family of Faith, Fellowship, and Ministry

YOUTH SUNDAY











Mimi Culp is graduating from Stratford Academy and will be attending The University of North Carolina, Wilmington in the fall.



Drew Sutherland is graduating from Stratford Academy and will be attending The University of North Georgia on a golf scholarship in the fall.

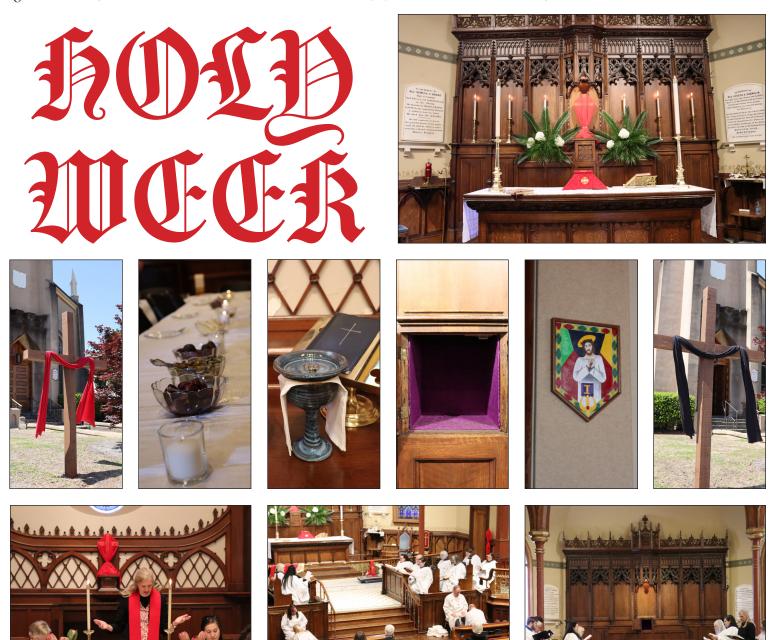


Brice Whitley is graduating from The Academy for Classical Education and will be attending Samford University on a full football scholarship in the fall.



Robert Wilkin is graduating from Stratford Academy and will be attending The University of Georgia in the fall.

8 We challenge ourselves and the world to love like Jesus as we worship joyfully, serve compassionately, and grow spiritually.







The CHIMES | May 2025



























MUSIC MINISTRY

Experience Live Jazz on Walnut Street with the Matt Miller Quintet!

Get ready for an exciting evening of music as the Matt Miller Quintet performs live on Walnut Street on Thursday, May 22nd at 7:30 PM. Led by acclaimed saxophonist Matt Miller, the group promises a fantastic night of jazz.

Miller, now based in Atlanta, brings a wealth of experience and a diverse musical background. He honed his skills in New York City, earning a BFA in Jazz from The New School, and later deepened his connection to Georgia by earning a Master of Music from Mercer University right here in Macon.

Matt's performance credits are impressive, having shared the stage with artists ranging from the Joe Gransden Big Band and the Macon Symphony Orchestra to legendary groups like The Temptations. Beyond his performance career, he is a dedicated music educator with experience at Mercer, Gordon State College, and the local Otis Redding Music Camp.

Don't miss this opportunity to hear this accomplished group! Join us for Jazz on Walnut Street featuring the Matt Miller Quintet on Thursday, May 22nd, starting at 7:30 PM.

Walnut Street Music Presents: Jazz on Walnut Street with The Matt Miller Quintet Thursday, May 22 at 7:30 PM In the Great Hall







Mr. Jonathan Alan Poe, M.Mus Director of Music & Liturgy <u>http://www.walnutstreetmusic.org</u> WALNUT STREET $- \mathcal{F}_{usic}^{-}$

WEEKEND LUNCH @

I magine the transformative power of a warm meal shared in a welcoming environment. For individuals experiencing homelessness, it can mean more than just satisfying their physical hunger. It can provide hope, restore dignity, and remind them that they are not forgotten. At Weekend Lunch @ Christ Church, we understand the profound impact that feeding the homeless and less fortunate can have on their lives.



A meal holds a profound significance beyond its role in sustaining our physical bodies. It represents care, compassion, and nourishment for the soul. When we offer a warm, nutritious meal to someone who is homeless, we are not just addressing their immediate hunger; we are also acknowledging their humanity and showing them that they matter.

Imagine the impact of a simple act of kindness—a hot meal shared with someone who has been surviving on the streets. It is an opportunity to make a connection, to break down the barriers that separate

> us, and to bridge the gap between privilege and hardship. Sharing a meal demonstrates that we see the person behind

CHRIST CHURCH

the circumstances, that we value their presence in our community, and that we are willing to extend a helping hand.

In the face of homelessness, providing a meal becomes a catalyst for change. It becomes a tangible expression of love and solidarity that can restore a person's faith in humanity. It is a gesture that affirms their worth, reminding them that they are not defined by their circumstances and that brighter days are possible.

You have the power to make a difference in the lives of those less fortunate and experiencing homelessness. Join Weekend Lunch in our mission to feed the homeless, restore dignity, and bring hope to our community. Whether through volunteering your time, making a donation, or spreading awareness, your support is invaluable. Together, we can create a more compassionate and inclusive society for everyone.

Feeding the homeless is not just about providing a meal; it is about transforming lives, restoring dignity, and fostering human connection. At Weekend Lunch. we believe that deeveryone serves to be seen. cared for, and supported.

We invite you to reach out and



get in touch with us at WeekendLunch.org or email Director@WeekendLunch.org to learn more about our programs, volunteer opportunities, or how you can support our mission. Together, let's be the change we wish to see in the world.

Weekend Lunch Dr. Hal Brickle, *Executive Director* director@weekendlunch.org (478) 200-1066 For the website, click: <u>www.weekendlunch.org</u>

WEEKLY CALENDAR of EVENTS May 2025

April 27 – May 3

Sunday, April 27th: The 2nd Sunday of Easter

₱8a | Holy Eucharist | Church
9:30a | Children's Sunday School | Parish House
9:30a | Youth Sunday School | Youth Suite
9:30a | Adult Sunday School | Cloister Room
9:30a | Choir Rehearsal | Church
₱10:30a | Holy Eucharist: Youth Sunday | Nave
After 10:30 Service | Lemonade on the Lawn
After 10:30 Service | Youth Brunch | Youth Suite
11a | Weekend Lunch | Jones Chapel

Wednesday, April 30th

9a | Women's Bible Study | Parlor
10:45a | Wise Women's Bible Study | Cloister Room

†12p | Holy Eucharist & Healing | Church

5:30p | St. Cecilia Choir & Choristers | Parish House

6:30p | Wednesday Evening Supper | Great Hall

6:30p | Alpha Class

8:45p | Compline | Online

Thursday, May 1st

7:10a | Men's Bible Study | Cloister Room 5:15p | Choir Rehearsal | Choir Room

Friday, May 2nd 7p | Bicentennial Gala | Parish House

Saturday, May 3rd 11a | Weekend Lunch | Jones Chapel

May 4 - 10

Sunday, May 4th: The 3rd Sunday of Easter

₱8a | Holy Eucharist | Church
9:30a | Children's Sunday School | Parish House
9:30a | Youth Sunday School | Youth Suite
9:30a | Adult Sunday School | Cloister Room
9:30a | Inquirer's Class | Parlor
9:30a | Choir Rehearsal | Church
₱10:30a | Holy Eucharist | Church
After 10:30 Service | Lemonade on the Lawn
11a | Weekend Lunch | Jones Chapel

4p | EYC | Youth Suite

Wednesday, May 7th

9a | Women's Bible Study | Parlor
10:45a | Wise Women's Bible Study | Cloister Room

[‡]12p | Holy Eucharist & Healing | Church
5:30p | St. Cecilia Choir & Choristers | Parish House
6p | Regional Confirmation Service | St. Paul's
6:30p | Wednesday Evening Supper | Great Hall
6:30p | Alpha Class
8:45p | Compline | Online

Thursday, May 8th

7:10a | Men's Bible Study | Cloister Room 5:15p | Choir Rehearsal | Choir Room

Friday, May 9th

7a | EYC Prayer Breakfast | Chik-fil-A

Saturday, May 10th

11a | Weekend Lunch | Jones Chapel

May 11 - 17

Sunday, May 11th: The 4th Sunday of Easter \$\Point\$8a | Holy Eucharist | Church 9:30a | Children's Sunday School | Parish House 9:30a | Youth Sunday School | Youth Suite 9:30a | Adult Sunday School | Cloister Room 9:30a | Choir Rehearsal | Church \$\Point\$10:30a | Holy Eucharist | church After 10:30 Service | Lemonade on the Lawn 11a | Weekend Lunch | Jones Chapel

Wednesday, May 14th

10a | Women's Bible Study Retreat | Knapps' House

†12p | Holy Eucharist & Healing | Church

5:30p | St. Cecilia Choir & Choristers | Parish House

6p | Sunday School Teacher Party | Knapps' House

6:30p | Wednesday Evening Supper | Great Hall

8:45p | Compline | Online

Thursday, May 15th

7:10a | Men's Bible Study | Cloister Room †10a | Holy Eucharist | Carlyle Place

WEEKLY CALENDAR of EVENTS May 2025

5:15p | Choir Rehearsal | Choir Room 6p | Seasoned Saints Dinner | Eleanor Bishop's House

Saturday, May 17th

11a | Weekend Lunch | Jones Chapel

11a | Haitian Hope Memorial Classic | River North

May 18 - 24

Sunday, May 18th: The 5th Sunday of Easter

₱8a | Holy Eucharist | Church
9:30a | Children's Sunday School | Parish House
9:30a | Youth Sunday School | Youth Suite
9:30a | Adult Sunday School | Cloister Room
9:30a | Choir Rehearsal | Church
₱10:30a | Holy Eucharist | Church
After 10:30 Service | Lemonade on the Lawn
11a | Weekend Lunch | Jones Chapel

Tuesday, May 20th 5:15p | Vestry Meeting | Cloister Room

Wednesday, May 21st [⊕]12p | Holy Eucharist & Healing | Church

Thursday, May 22nd 7:30p | WSM Presents: Jazz on Walnut St.| Great Hall

Friday, May 23rd 7a | EYC Prayer Breakfast | Chik-fil-A

Saturday, May 24th 11a | Weekend Lunch | Jones Chapel

May 25 - 31

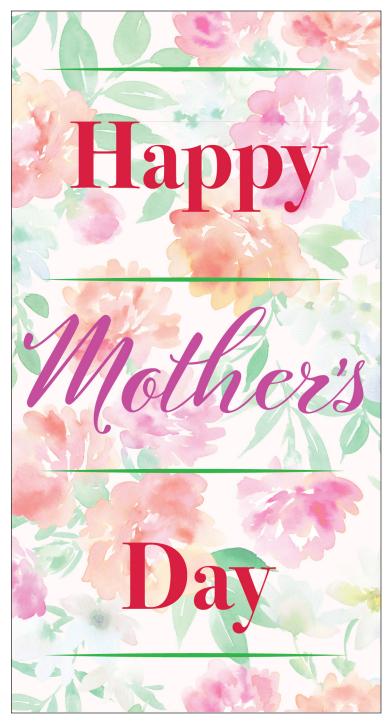
Sunday, May 25th: The 6th Sunday of Easter \$8a | Holy Eucharist | Church 9:30a | Choir Rehearsal | Church \$10:30a | Holy Eucharist | Church After 10:30 Service | Lemonade on the Lawn 11a | Weekend Lunch | Jones Chapel

Monday, May 26th: Memorial Day Parish Office Closed *Wednesday, May 28th* †12p | Holy Eucharist & Healing | Church 8:45p | Compline | Online

Thursday, May 29th: Ascension Day 7:10a | Men's Bible Study | Cloister Room 5:15p | Choir Rehearsal | Choir Room

Saturday, May 31st

11a | Weekend Lunch | Jones Chapel



PARISH NEWS

The Seasoned Saints will be gathering for dinner at the home of Eleanor Bishop on Thursday, May 15 at 6p. Eleanor will provide fried chicken and everyone else is asked to bring a salad, side dish, or beverage. Please RSVP by Sunday, May 11 by contacting Karen Maurizi.



Congratulations Derrill & Will McDavid on the birth of their son John!

Regional Confirmation Service

There will be a regional confirmation service at St. Paul's Episcopal Church (753 College St.) on Wednesday, May 7 at 6 p.m. From Christ Church, Madison Harrell and Corie and Dustin Weiche are being received and Lauren and Mac Marshall, Jalyn Massey and John Todd, Becky Rosson, and Natalie Barrett are being confirmed. Keep them in your prayers as they prepare and come show your support for our newest members.

Congratulations Ansley & Duncan Walker on the birth of their son Smith!

Haitian Hope **Memorial Classic**



The annual golf tournament to benefit Haitian Hope will be held at River North Country Club (293 River N Blvd.) on Saturday, May 17. Haitian Hope has supported St. Marc's School in Trouin, Haiti for the past 20 years. It provides school uniforms and classroom supplies, lunches for over 400 students and teachers and salaries for 27 teachers. The cost is \$110 per player and \$440 per team. Sponsorships range from \$200-\$600. You can also help by signing up to volunteer at the tournament or donate items for the silent auction. Contact Irene Marxsen, David Cline, Ranny Moulton, or Bill Housand if you are interested or visit www.haitian-hope.org to sign up.



Join the Altar Guild

Would you like to serve at the altar? The Christ Church Altar Guild is looking for new members. The Altar Guild sets up the altar before services and cleans up afterwards. Members will be placed on a team and serve about once a month. Volunteers are needed to serve on Fridays to set up for Sunday and on Sunday mornings to serve after the 8a and 10:30a services. Please contact Nan Harper if you are interested.

Nursery Care Will Continue Through Summer

The Nursery will remain open during the Sunday service throughout the summer months, and security will continue to be both inside and outside the church.

MINISTRY of the MONTH

Appleton Episcopal Ministries





program, Appleton Free to Read[®] Intensive, helps students with critical literacy deficits in Bibb County by directly addressing delays in language comprehension and word recognition. Twice a week at St. Francis Episcopal Church, these children receive a tailored lesson plan designed to work on specific literacy skills to help bolster their academic

success. The program uses the Orton-Gillingham method as a proven approach to helping

students of all reading levels achieve fluency and confidence in their reading. At the mid-

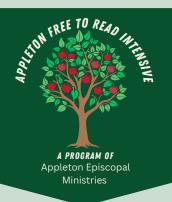
 Improving Literacy in Macon:

 Free to Read Intensive

 Beginning in February, Appleton expanded our literacy programming in Macon. Our new







<u>Literacy and Mental Health</u>

The National Literacy Trust has linked positive attitudes toward reading and writing with improved mental health, resilience, motivation, self-esteem, and confidence. (Clark & Teravainen-Goff, 2018)

Free to Read Summer

point testing, all students have shown improvement in reading and spelling.



Located at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, our free six-week program serves 36 rising second and third grade students in Bibb County. It prevents summer learning slide and enables students to maintain or even exceed their pre-program instructional reading levels. Our program also addresses food insecurity by offering breakfast and lunch for all students. Our full time therapist helps us to address student mental and emotional health. The 2025 program theme is **"My Place in the Community!"** Students will explore the importance of community, elements of government, and civic responsibility. Our books address self-esteem, respect for peers, managing emotions, and exploring cultures around the world.

<u>Service by the Numbers</u>

- Appleton and All Angels Backpack Buddies
 Serves 250 kids weekly
- Appleton and Episcopal Church Women of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
 Assembled 30 holiday care packages for children involved in the Free to
- Read® Program
- Appleton and Canterbury Fellowship

 50 exam care packages to students at Fort Valley State University

 Appleton "Books in a Bag"
- Delivered 150 "books in a bag" to children across the convocation
- Appleton supports food pantries in Warner Robins and Milledgeville

How can <u>YOU</u> help improve literacy in Macon?

- Time
 Volunteer as a read aloud guest
 Talent
 - Share your background in education or
 - children's programming by volunteering!
- Treasure
- Financial Donations
- Donate School Supplies
- Buy a set of books



