

*July 2025*

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

# The Chimes



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## 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.

### HOW TO CONTACT US

The Reverend Cynthia C. Knapp  
*Rector*

cynthia@christchurchmacon.com

The Reverend Harriette Simmons  
*Associate Priest*

harriette@christchurchmacon.com

Hope Westervelt  
*Director of Youth Ministry*

hope@christchurchmacon.com

Rachel Horkan  
*Director of Children's Ministry*

rachel@christchurchmacon.com

Jonathan A. Poe  
*Director of Music & Liturgy*

jonathan@christchurchmacon.com

Laurel Eady  
*Parish Bookkeeper*

finance@christchurchmacon.com

Nidia Svare  
*Parish Administrator*

office@christchurchmacon.com

Timothy Hoskins  
*Director of Communications*

communications@christchurchmacon.com

Hal Brickle  
*Director of Weekend Lunch Ministry*

hal@weekendlunch.org

Robert Hubbard  
*Sexton*

hubbard@christchurchmacon.com

Markisha Carter  
*Assistant Sexton*

markisha@christchurchmacon.com

### Christ Church

582 Walnut Street  
Macon, GA 31201

(478) 745-0427  
www.christchurchmacon.com

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Subscribe to our YouTube channel at [www.youtube.com/@christchurchmacon](http://www.youtube.com/@christchurchmacon)

Watch services live and view past services at [www.youtube.com/@christchurchmacon/streams](http://www.youtube.com/@christchurchmacon/streams)





## RECTOR'S MESSAGE

*Putting Together the Pieces*

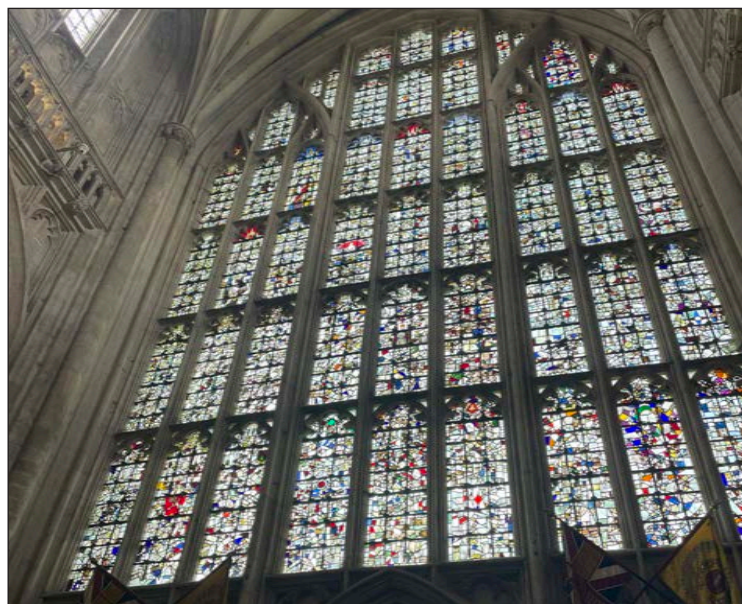
**The Rev. Cynthia Knapp**

*Rector*

I have just returned from the youth pilgrimage to England where we learned so much about the ancient roots of our faith and some of the challenges the church in England faced along the way. The tumultuous path of the church during the period of the Reformation in England (1527-1603) and the ensuing English Civil War (1642-1651) between the Royalists and the Parliamentarians, were times of great upheaval, change and even destruction within the church in England. In many of the great cathedrals we visited, we saw the results of the puritan vandalism during the civil war when stained glass windows were destroyed, statues removed and

the colors that originally adorned the ceilings and walls of the cathedrals were stripped away. While this was a painful and violent time in the history of the church, it led to the development of the Act of Toleration (1689) that protected religious dissenters from persecution and allowed for greater religious freedom, promoting individual rights and tolerance. While originally very limited in its scope, that Act of Toleration paved the way for religious freedom and diversity in England and in other nations throughout the world. The hardships and strife of that period have resulted in the freedoms we enjoy and the eventual development of the Episcopal Church of which we are a part.

The huge West window in the front wall of Winchester Cathedral is a wonderful illustration of God taking our brokenness and failings, and through His divine grace, making them into something beautiful. On arriving at the Cathedral, the first of many stops on our pilgrimage, we were struck by the incongruence of what looked to be a very contemporary window, in an 11th century cathedral. One of the docents at the cathedral told us the story. During the English Civil war in 1642, Winchester's location on two major roadways put it right at the heart of the conflict. The puritans (Parliamentarians) took out their anger on the cathedral, prying open the caskets of the early kings and bishops in search of treasure, and finding none, throwing the bones at the beautiful stained glass windows and using them for target practice. When the vandals had left, the townspeople went about collecting the broken shards of glass and bones of the dead to save them until things had settled down and the work of restoration could begin. Eventually bones were restored to the caskets, if not necessarily the ones they had come from, and the great West window was reconstructed of the broken pieces of glass, a testimony to the violence that had taken place there and the hands



of the faithful that had taken such pains to put the pieces back together to make a beautiful window for their beloved cathedral. It was a work of art before its time telling the story of the brokenness and the redemption that had taken place within those walls.

If I had it to do again, I think I may have just sat in that Cathedral for a time. I would spend time in prayer and thanksgiving for the way the Lord takes our brokenness, our failings, and our woundedness, and pieces them together through his divine love, grace, and mercy to make something beautiful that bears witness to His love and grace in our lives. The story of His redeeming love is so much more powerful and a much greater gift to those we encounter than any individual beauty we might hope for. Sometimes the light shines brighter through those broken shards than it ever would have through a perfectly constructed window. After all it's not about us, it's about the way we bear witness to God's story of love and redemption. That is the greatest of all stories of which it is a privilege to be a part.

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Christ Church's Vacation Bible School, True North: Trusting Jesus in a Wild World, was full of energy and fun with 74 participants, youth helpers, and adult volunteers. Throughout the week we explored how we can trust Jesus when we wonder, feel alone, feel powerless, and need help. Each day, kids enjoyed a snack, sang and danced to songs, completed a craft, experienced a Bible lesson, performed science experiments, and played games to help them learn more about trusting Jesus. Each evening ended with fellowship and a meal in the Great Hall. The children also worked together to "build a glacier" in the Great Hall, collecting bottled water for Christ Church's new bus pass ministry- what a wonderful way to share God's love and friend-

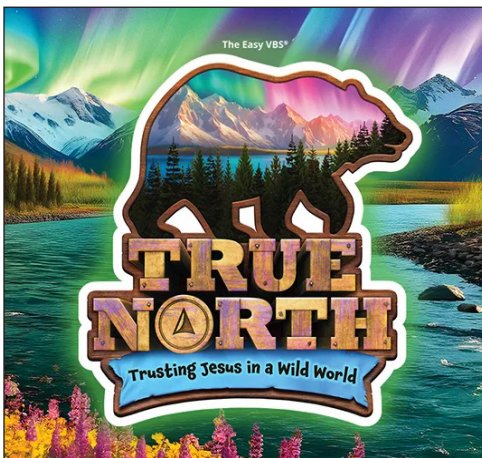


ship with others! Thank you, thank you to everyone who came together to make VBS possible, through donations, prayer, and in-person!

We invite you to continue the summer fellowship and by joining us for "Popsicles on the Playground" Wednesday, July 16, at Amerson River Park. Pop in anytime between



4:30-6 for a popsicle and play time with your buddies! Also, mark your calendars for our first Young Family Supper Club of the year August 24 @5:30, hosted by Bobby and Elizabeth Schorr. Like last year, this will be a time for both children and adults to enjoy, with bounce-house and dinner provided.



## 2025 Christ Church VBS



Rachel Horkan  
Director of Children's Ministry



# Vacation Bible School





## YOUTH MINISTRY

# 🇬🇧 2025 Youth Pilgrimage 🇬🇧

***For I am...a traveler passing through, as my ancestors were before me" — Psalm 39:12***

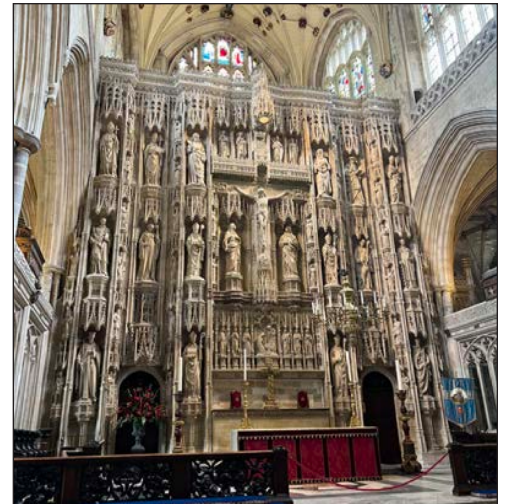
What an incredible journey our pilgrims took through England this summer learning and discovering the history of our church and building lifelong friendships and memories throughout our 8 days. We laughed until we had tears in our eyes and we endured moments of struggle but we went through all of these highs and lows together as a group and I don't think any of us would change a thing!

We started our pilgrimage by landing in London at around 7:00am and immediately hitting the road to Winchester (we really fought through jet lag!) where we explored Winchester Cathedral and the town before heading to our lodging for the next two nights, a monastery where we were hosted by a group of five Franciscan nuns. The next day we took a day trip to Salisbury where we explored the wonders of Stonehenge and got to see the magnificent Salisbury Cathedral. The next day, we headed out for 3 days in Canterbury, but were able to spend a day in Dover on

the way where we stood in awe of the Cliffs of Dover and explored the history of Dover Castle. The next three nights in Canterbury included visiting St. Martin's Church (the oldest English speaking church in the world!) touring and attending multiple services at Canterbury Cathedral, going on a punting boat tour, and cooking for each other each night at our hostel! After Canterbury, we made our way to London for two days of exploring the sights, attending services at Holy Trinity Brompton and Westminster Abbey and even sitting in a Cantonese service at St. Martin in The Field.

We were able to see so much during our 8-day pilgrimage through England! Ray Ross said, "It was really fun to go see how other people worship and all the beginnings of what would become the Episcopal Church" which I think perfectly encapsulates our journey!

I hope you will head to [www.christchurchmacon.com/pilgrimage2025](http://www.christchurchmacon.com/pilgrimage2025) to read our in-depth blog posts written by the youth each day of our trip! Thank you to everyone who helped us fundraise, prayed, and supported us during this once in a lifetime journey!



**Hope Westervelt**  
Director of Youth Ministry







# Christ Church July–De

## *July*

Wednesday, July 16

4:30p–Popsicles on the Playground

Thursday, July 17

10a–Holy Eucharist at Carlyle Place

## *August*

Wednesday, August 6

12p–Holy Eucharist & Healing Resumes

Wednesday, August 13

9a–Women's Bible Study Resumes

10:30a –Wise Women's Bible Study  
Resumes

Thursday, August 14

5:30p–Choir Rehearsal Resumes

Sunday, August 17

9:30–Sunday School Resumes

10:30a–Blessing of the Backpacks

4p–EYC Resumes

Tuesday, August 19

5:15p–Vestry Meeting

Wednesday, August 20

5:30p–Choir School of Macon Resumes

Thursday, August 21

10a–Holy Eucharist at Carlyle Place

Friday, August 22

7a–EYC Breakfast Resumes

Sunday, August 31

9:30–All in the Family Sunday School

## *September*

Monday, September 1

Parish Office Closed for Labor Day

Sunday, September 7

Stewardship Campaign Begins

9:30a–Fall Parish Brunch

5p–ECW Fall Party

Tuesday, September 9

6p–Rooted

Sunday, September 14

5p–Newcomers Party

Tuesday, September 16

5:15p–Vestry Meeting

Thursday, September 18

10a–Holy Eucharist at Carlyle Place

September 19–21

Fall Parish Retreat at Kanuga

## *October*

Saturday, October 4

10:30a–Blessing of the Animals

2:30p–Mercer Tailgate Party

Sunday, October 5

5:30p–Choral Evensong

Monday, October 13

Parish Office Closed for Columbus Day

Thursday, October 16

10a–Holy Eucharist at Carlyle Place

Sunday, October 19

4p–Parish Picnic

Monday, October 20

6p–Talk by Allen Levi, Author of *Theo of Golden*

Tuesday, October 21

5:15p–Vestry Meeting

Wednesday, October 29

6p–All Hallows' Eve Service & Carnival

## *November*

Sunday, November 2

**Daylight Savings Time Ends**

8a & 10:30a–All Saints' Sunday

12p–Stewardship Luncheon

Tuesday, November 4

6p–Rooted



# cember 2025 Calendar

November 6 & 7

Diocesan Council

November 10–17

Parish Retreat to St. Barts

Sunday, November 16

4p–EYC Friendsgiving

Tuesday, November 18

5:15p–Vestry Meeting

Thursday, November 20

10a–Holy Eucharist at Carlyle Place

Sunday, November 23

8a & 10:30a–Christ the King

9:30a–All in the Family Sunday School

November 27 & 28

Parish Office Closed for Thanksgiving

Sunday, November 30

9:30a–All in the Family Sunday School

## *December*

Wednesday, December 3

6p–St. Nicholas Service & Celebration

Sunday, December 7

5:30p–Advent Lesson & Carols

Wednesday, December 17

9a–Women's Bible Study Christmas Retreat

Thursday, December 18

10a–Holy Eucharist at Carlyle Place

6p–Vestry Christmas Party

December 20 & 21

EYC Diocesan Lock-In

Sunday, December 21

9:30a–All in the Family Sunday School

Wednesday, December 24

4:30p–Christmas Pageant

9:45p–Christmas on the Fisk

10p–Christmas Eve Service

Thursday, December 25

10:30a–Christmas Day Service

## Normal Weekly Schedule

### Sunday

8a–Holy Eucharist (Spoken)

9:30a–Sunday School

10:30a–Holy Eucharist (With Choir)

11a–Weekend Lunch

11:45a–Lemonade on the Lawn

4p–EYC

### Wednesday

9a–Women's Bible Study

10:45a–Wise Women's Bible Study

12p–Holy Eucharist & Healing

5:30p–Choir School of Macon

6:30p–Wednesday Evening Supper

8:45p–Compline on Facebook

### Thursday

7:15a–Men's Bible Study

5:30p–Choir Rehearsal

### Saturday

11a–Weekend Lunch



### Intergenerational Sunday School

Join us for *All in the Family*, a new series of intergenerational Sunday Schools in the Great Hall on special weekends throughout the year.

## MUSIC MINISTRY

# 2026 Choral Residency at Lichfield Cathedral



### **For Singers:**

Experience the thrill of singing in the magnificent Lichfield Cathedral during a week-long Choral Residency in July 2026. This unique opportunity, tailored for Episcopal musicians, offers a chance to immerse yourself in the rich tradition of our Anglican heritage. Singers will participate in daily services, work with renowned conductors and organists, and explore the beauty and history of this iconic English cathedral. Join fellow choristers for an unforgettable musical pilgrimage in the heart of England.

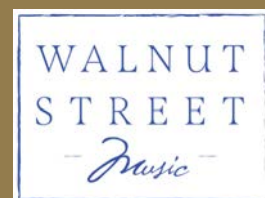
### **For the Non-Singer:**

Even if you don't sing, you're invited to join us for this enriching journey to Lichfield Cathedral in July 2026! We have space for 20 additional folks. While the choir is in residency, you can enjoy planned excursions to explore the historic and cultural treasures of the region, including the city of Lichfield, the medieval grandeur of Kenilworth Castle and Gardens, the birthplace of William Shakespeare in Stratford-upon-Avon, the charming Anne Hathaway's Cottage, and the majestic Worcester Cathedral. Experience the beauty of the English countryside and these remarkable landmarks alongside the choral residency participants.

More details coming soon!



Mr. Jonathan Alan Poe, M.Mus  
Director of Music & Liturgy  
<http://www.walnutstreetmusic.org>





## WEEKEND LUNCH @



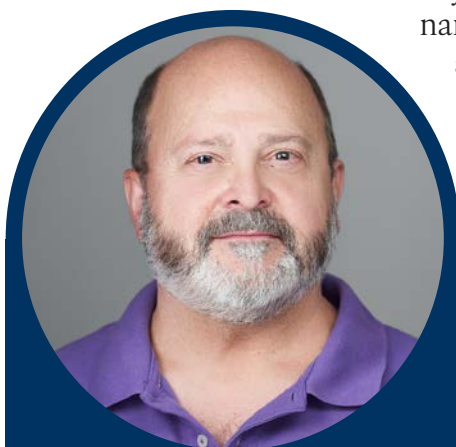
## CHRIST CHURCH

In a world where the divide between abundance and scarcity often feels insurmountable, there are beacons of hope shining brightly in our communities. One such beacon is Weekend Lunch, a compassionate ministry born out of a desire to serve those who find themselves in difficult circumstances. Established in 1994, this non-profit organization has dedicated itself to the noble cause of providing nutritious meals to the most vulnerable members of society: the elderly, the unemployed, the underprivileged, and the homeless.

At the heart of Weekend Lunch lies a simple yet profound mission: to feed people in need without judgment or distinction. This ethos resonates deeply in a society where many are marginalized and overlooked. The commitment to ensuring that no one goes hungry is a testament to the power of community involvement and the impact of shared humanity. Volunteers, driven by compassion and empathy, come together to prepare and serve healthy meals. Their unwavering dedication is the backbone of this initiative, proving that love and generosity can bridge even the widest gaps.

Furthermore, Weekend Lunch operates independently from governmental funding, relying instead on the goodwill of donors and the tireless efforts of volunteers. This independence not only empowers the organization to act swiftly in response to community needs but also highlights the importance of grassroots support in addressing hunger and poverty. Every meal provided is a reminder that the power to effect change lies within the hands of the community itself.

The vision of Weekend Lunch extends beyond merely providing sustenance; it encompasses a broader aspiration to eliminate hunger and food waste in the community.



ty. By valuing every individual and recognizing their potential, Weekend Lunch fosters an environment where hope can flourish. The goal is not just to feed the hungry, but to help them regain their dignity and inspire a path toward self-sufficiency. Each meal served is an opportunity to restore faith and nurture the belief that everyone deserves a chance at a better life.

As we reflect on the essential work of Weekend Lunch, let us be inspired to contribute in our own ways—whether through volunteering, donating, or simply advocating for those who need our support. Together, we can uphold the values of compassion and community, ensuring that no one has to face hunger alone. In lifting each other up, we create a tapestry of care that enriches our society and uplifts the human spirit.

In a world that can sometimes feel disconnected, Weekend Lunch reminds us of our shared responsibility to one another. It shows us that when we come together with love and purpose, we can create lasting change, one meal at a time. Let us stand united in this mission, fostering nourishment, dignity, and a sense of belonging for all.



## Weekend Lunch

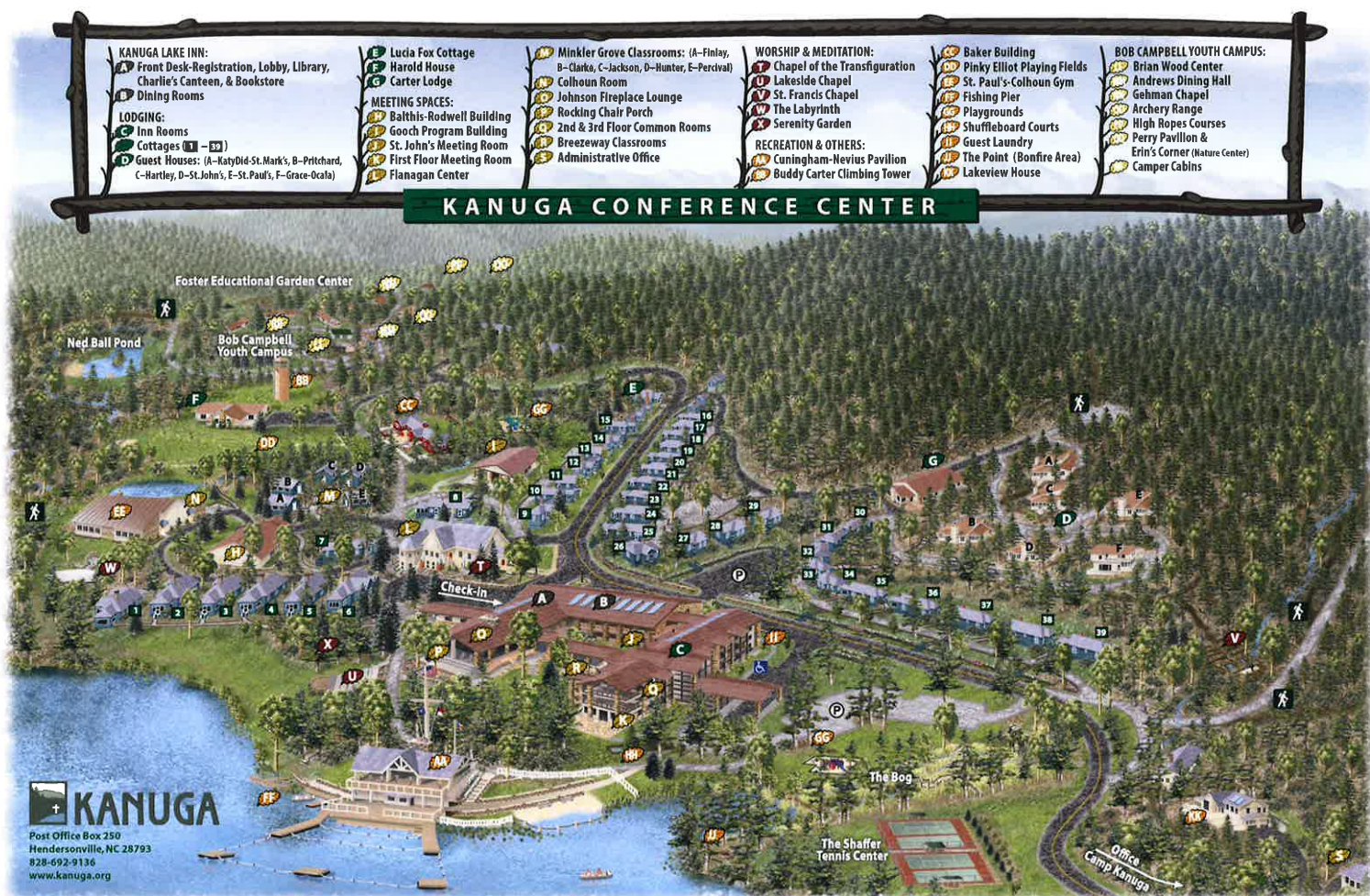
Dr. Hal Brickle, *Executive Director*

[director@weekendlunch.org](mailto:director@weekendlunch.org) (478) 200-1066

For the website, click: [www.weekendlunch.org](http://www.weekendlunch.org)



# Fall Parish Retreat at Kanuga



## September 19–21, 2025

We are excited for our upcoming fall parish retreat at Kanuga, a beautiful Episcopal camp and conference center in the Blue Ridge Mountains of western North Carolina. We hope this will be a time of rest, spiritual development, and fellowship. We arrive on the afternoon of Friday, September 19. After checking in and settling into our cabins, we will have dinner followed by Compline and s'mores around the campfire. Saturday morning we will have an interactive, multi-generational program of spiritual formation activities, as well as time for everyone to get to know one another better. In the afternoon, there will be a variety of activities, such as hiking, swimming, pickleball, and yard games. After dinner there will be another fellowship time. Sunday morning we will celebrate Holy Eucharist at the lakeside chapel and depart after lunch.

If you are interested in attending, please register as soon as possible so we know how many cabins we need. You can register on Realm by following the link in the QR code on the right. If you need help registering, you can call or visit the parish office between 9–12 and 1–4 Monday through Thursday.

If you would like to share a cabin with a specific group, please note that in your registration and we will try to accommodate those requests.

**Cost by lodging type (includes room, meals, and T-shirt):**

Adults (13+) Double Occupancy Cabin Room: \$305

Adults (13+) Single Occupancy (Private) Cabin Room: \$385

Kids (0-12): Free (Use code CHILD at registration)

**To help allow larger families to attend, we have made children 0–12 free.**





## WEEKLY CALENDAR of EVENTS July 2025

### June 29 – July 5

*Sunday, June 29: The 3rd Sunday after Pentecost*

✠8a | Holy Eucharist | Church

✠10:30a | Holy Eucharist | Church

After 10:30 Service | Lemonade on the Lawn

11a | Weekend Lunch | Jones Chapel

*Wednesday, July 2*

8:45p | Compline | Facebook

*Saturday, July 5*

11a | Weekend Lunch | Jones Chapel

### July 20 – 26

*Sunday, July 20: The 6th Sunday after Pentecost*

✠8a | Holy Eucharist | Church

✠10:30a | Holy Eucharist | Church

After 10:30 Service | Lemonade on the Lawn

11a | Weekend Lunch | Jones Chapel

*Wednesday, July 23*

8:45p | Compline | Facebook

*Saturday, July 26*

11a | Weekend Lunch | Jones Chapel

### July 6 – 12

*Sunday, July 6: The 4th Sunday after Pentecost*

✠8a | Holy Eucharist | Church

✠10:30a | Holy Eucharist | Church

After 10:30 Service | Lemonade on the Lawn

11a | Weekend Lunch | Jones Chapel

*Wednesday, July 9*

8:45p | Compline | Facebook

*Saturday, July 12*

11a | Weekend Lunch | Jones Chapel

### July 27 – August 2

*Sunday, July 27: The 7th Sunday after Pentecost*

✠8a | Holy Eucharist | Church

✠10:30a | Holy Eucharist | Church

After 10:30 Service | Lemonade on the Lawn

11a | Weekend Lunch | Jones Chapel

*Wednesday, July 30*

8:45p | Compline | Facebook

*Saturday, August 2*

11a | Weekend Lunch | Jones Chapel

### July 13 – 19

*Sunday, July 13: The 5th Sunday after Pentecost*

✠8a | Holy Eucharist | Church

✠10:30a | Holy Eucharist | Church

After 10:30 Service | Lemonade on the Lawn

11a | Weekend Lunch | Jones Chapel

*Wednesday, July 16*

4:30p | Popsicles on the Playground | Amerson River Park

8:45p | Compline | Facebook

*Thursday, July 17*

✠10a | Holy Eucharist | Carlyle Place

*Saturday, July 19*

11a | Weekend Lunch | Jones Chapel



## PARISH NEWS

# 2025 Advent Devotional Book

This Advent we will be putting together another book of daily Advent devotions written by members of Christ Church. This year we have selected one of the Daily Office readings for each day. At the sign up list you can see what days are available, which scripture was chosen for each day, and an example verse from each

day's passage. We are looking for short devotions on the scripture of the day of between 300-500 words. Scan the QR code to be taken to the sign up list.



## Memorial Garden Visitations

If you have a loved one whose remains are interred in the Cinerarium of our Memorial Garden and would like to arrange a time to visit, call or visit the Parish Office Monday through Thursday 9-12 and 1-4. If you would like to visit outside of normal hours, call Robert, our Sexton or Cynthia, our Rector.

## New Alpha Course On Wednesday Evenings This Fall Beginning on August 6

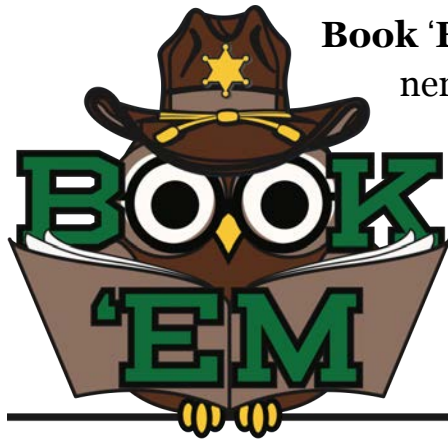
Do you want to learn more about the Christian faith? The Alpha course covers topics like: Why did Jesus have to die? Does God heal today? What about the question of evil? This evening includes a dinner, video, and discussion.

To sign up, call the parish office at (478) 745-0427 or email [cynthia@christchurchmacon.com](mailto:cynthia@christchurchmacon.com). We will begin on Wednesday, August 20 at 6:00 PM. The course is 14 sessions, but we will work out the schedule for the course after meeting the first week in order to navigate everyone's calendars.





## MINISTRY *of the* MONTH



[www.maconbookem.org](http://www.maconbookem.org)

**Book 'Em** is a local 501(c)(3) corporation which partners with the Bibb County Sheriff's Office to deliver books to children/youth in our community who might otherwise have none. Christ Church parishioner Katie Powers serves as its executive director.

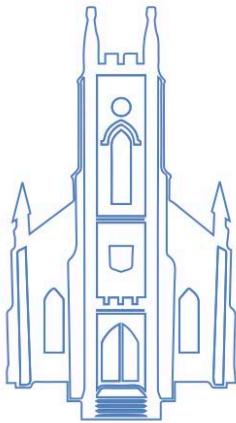
To date, Book 'Em has delivered over 60,000 brand-new books to children/youth in Macon-Bibb County. This partnership with the BCSO helps to foster a positive relationship between our local law enforcement officers and the community. Book 'Em also provides books to several local organizations including our own Weekend Lunch Program, the Booker T. Washington Community Center, the Bibb Solicitor's Office, and partners with other local non-profits such as MVP grant recipient Lead with Literacy.

Every dollar donated goes toward the purchase of new books. Donations can be made via [maconbookem.org](http://maconbookem.org) or by sending a check to **Book 'Em** at 3557 Vineville Avenue, Macon, 31204.

**Why is this so important? More than** 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 neighborhoods there is approximately **one book for every 300 children**. In middle income neighborhoods there are approximately **13 books per child in each household**. Access to books is fundamental to developing reading skills. Studies confirm that the number of books in the home directly affects reading achievement levels. 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.

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





CHRIST  
CHURCH  
EPISCOPAL