

CHRIST CHURCH

A Parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta

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



THE ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 9, 2026 | 10:30AM

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

WELCOME TO CHRIST CHURCH

Christ Church gladly welcomes all people. Our clergy, staff, and parishioners are delighted to assist you in learning more about our worship and our community. Restrooms are located in the Parish House to the left of the church. Ushers are available to assist you as needed. If this is your first time visiting with us today, please complete a visitor card (*located in the pew*) and place it in the offering plate. Clipboards containing materials for children are available in the Narthex.

Christ Church is an active and vibrant parish in the heart of Downtown Macon since its founding in 1825. We are a forward-looking parish that values our heritage, liturgy, and outreach to the greater community. To learn more please visit us online via our website at www.christchurchmacon.com. The Parish Office is open from 9a–4p Monday through Thursday. You can reach us by calling (478) 745-0427.

We Episcopalians believe in a loving, liberating, and life-giving God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Christ Church welcomes all people and no matter where you are on your faith journey, you have a place here. We hope to see you soon.

UPCOMING SERVICES

The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, August 16

8 am & 10:30 am in the Church

Holy Eucharist at Carlyle Place

Thursday, August 20

10:30 am in the Lower Level Activity Room

The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, August 23

8 am & 10:30 am in the Church

Compline

Sunday, August 23

6:30 pm in the Church

Holy Eucharist & Healing

Every Wednesday

Noon in the Church

Compline

Every Wednesday

8:45 pm on Facebook

THE ENTRANCE RITE

OPENING VOLUNTARY: *Cantabile*

César Franck (1822–1890)

The People stand.

HYMN IN PROCESSION: O God, our help in ages past

Hymnal, 680

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Book of Common Prayer, p. 355

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

BCP, p. 355

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE GLORIA

Hymnal, S 280

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

The People sit.

THE FIRST LESSON

1 Kings 19:9–18

A reading from the First Book of Kings.

At Horeb, the mount of God, Elijah came to a cave, and spent the night there. Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” He answered, “I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.”

He said, “Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass

by.” Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” He answered, “I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.” Then the LORD said to him, “Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill; and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE GRADUAL: (*Spoken responsively by half verse*)

Psalm 85:8–13

- 8 I will listen to what the LORD God is saying, *
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people
and to those who turn their hearts to him.
- 9 Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, *
that his glory may dwell in our land.
- 10 Mercy and truth have met together; *
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
- 11 Truth shall spring up from the earth, *
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
- 12 The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, *
and our land will yield its increase.
- 13 Righteousness shall go before him, *
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

THE EPISTLE

Romans 10:5–15

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that “the person who does these things will live by them.” But the righteousness that comes from faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down) “or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say?

“The word is near you,

on your lips and in your heart”

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The People stand.

HYMN AT THE SEQUENCE: In Christ there is no East or West

Hymnal, 529

The People remain standing.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 14:22–33

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, “It is a ghost!” And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, “Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.”

Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!” Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?” When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The People sit.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Harriette Simmons

The People kneel.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: Form IV

BCP, p. 388

Intercessor: Loving God, we thank and praise you for your steadfast love and for all the blessings you have bestowed upon us, and upon all people. Let us offer our prayers of praise and thanksgiving, silently or aloud.

Silence may be kept.

Lord, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer

Intercessor: Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer

Intercessor: Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. We pray for those serving in the military, especially Alivia, Austin, Cameron, Donald, Georgia, Joe, Lorraine, and Sam.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer

Intercessor: Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer

Intercessor: Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer

Intercessor: Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. We pray for those on our parish prayer list: Al, Angie, Bailey, Becca, Bob,

Brenda, Claire, Dan, Dave, Dennis, Ed, Eleanor, Elizabeth, Gary, George, Gibson, Gracie Marie, Griffin, Helen, Jaime, JB, John, Kara, Kay, Ken, Kristie, Lee, Leslie, Libby, Lillian, Lisa, Lowe, Margaret, Matthew, Nancy, Pat, Patricia, Pete, Peter, Phil, Pud, Rodney, Sammy, Tommy, Trisha, William, and Wright. Please add your own prayers, silently or aloud.

Silence may be kept.

People: Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: We commend to your mercy all who have died, especially Roy and Marjorie Veal, Roy Ellis Veal, and Robert and Mary Gordon Hoskins, for whom the altar flowers are given today in loving memory, and to the glory of God. May your will for them be fulfilled, and, we pray, may we share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

People: Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer

The Celebrant will conclude with a suitable Collect

The People remain kneeling.

THE CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION OF SIN

BCP, p. 360

The Celebrant concludes with an absolution.

The People stand.

THE PEACE

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS, BIBLES, & BRIEFCASES

Celebrant: Almighty God, we bring before you these instruments of teaching and of learning. We pray that your Holy Spirit of wisdom go forth with all who carry them this year: that all bearers of briefcases and of backpacks will rest secure in the knowledge of your abiding strength, peace and love. May they, like the young Jesus, grow in wisdom, in stature, and in favor with God and with society.

People: Amen.

Celebrant: Eternal God, father of our Lord Jesus Christ, our great teacher and savior, bless these your servants as they begin the school-year. Your Son was once himself a child learning and teaching in the temple. Grant that all who enter into places of learning as students and educators this year be filled with your

grace and heavenly wisdom—that all their efforts be directed by your Holy Spirit, and work to your praise and glory.

People: Amen.

YOUTH BIBLE PRESENTATION

The People sit.

WELCOME & PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

We come together as the Body of Christ, we partake in the Body of Christ, to go out into the world to be the Body of Christ. All baptized Christians, regardless of denomination or age, are invited to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. If you do not wish to partake, you are invited to receive a blessing by crossing your arms at the altar rail. If you are unable to come to the altar, please notify an usher and the elements will be brought to you. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. If you would like to receive prayer for healing, please remain at the rail after receiving Communion with your hands in an attitude of prayer and our prayer ministers will pray with you and anoint you with oil for healing.

THE OFFERTORY

The People stand.

ANTHEM AT THE OFFERTORY: “Lift Thine Eyes” (from *Elijah*) Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847)

Lift thine eyes, O lift thine eyes to the mountains, whence cometh help. Thy help cometh from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth. He hath said, thy foot shall not be moved. Thy Keeper will never slumber. (Psalm 121:1-3)

HYMN AT THE PRESENTATION: Praise God from whom all blessing flow Hymnal, 380 v. 3

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Eucharistic Prayer A BCP, p. 361

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS: Holy, holy, holy Lord Hymnal, S 129

The People kneel.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION BCP, p. 362

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION BCP, p. 363

THE GREAT AMEN

THE LORD’S PRAYER BCP, p. 364

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

THE FRACTION BCP, p. 364

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

As people are going to and coming from Communion, it is reverent time during which many are offering their prayers. Please observe a holy and respectful silence during this period.

HYMN DURING COMMUNION: Let us break bread together on our knees Hymnal, 325

The People kneel.

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER BCP, p. 365

THE BLESSING

The People stand.

HYMN IN PROCESSION: Christ for the world we sing! Hymnal, 537

THE DISMISSAL

CLOSING VOLUNTARY: Chorale Prelude on a Melody by Melchior Vulpius Healey Willan
(1880–1968)

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

CELEBRANT & GOSPELER

The Rev. Cynthia Knapp

PREACHER

The Rev. Harriette Simmons

VERGER

Harry Groce

FLOWER GUILD

Mary Cay Morgan

ACOLYTES

William Martin, *crucifer*

James Horkan *clergy cross*

Virginia Horkan, *torch*

Eliza Leigh Horkan, *torch*

HEALING PRAYER MINISTER

Virgil Warren

USHERS & GREETERS

Bonnie & Hamp Dowling

Anna & George Greer

Claire & Rob Turk

Steve & Susan Welsh

LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Will Horkan

Nancy White

VESTRY WELCOMER

Steve Welsh

ALTAR GUILD

Nan Harper

Katherine Hudson

Sally Hatcher

AUDIO/VISUAL TECHNICIAN

David Cline

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Parish Office Hours | Monday—Thursday 9am–12pm & 1pm–4pm | Closed Friday

Sunday, August 9: The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

- 8 am Holy Eucharist (Spoken) — *Church*
10:30 am Holy Eucharist (With music) — *Church*
Blessing of the Backpacks, Briefcases, & Bibles — *Church*
Lemonade on the Lawn — *Cloister Garden*
11:30 am Weekend Lunch (St. Peter Claver Catholic Church) — *Jones Chapel*

Wednesday, August 12

- 12 pm Holy Eucharist & Healing — *Church*
8:45 pm Compline — *Facebook*

Thursday, August 13

- 5:30 pm Christ Church Choir — *Choir Room*

Friday, August 14

Parish office is closed

Saturday, August 15

- 11 am Weekend Lunch — *Jones Chapel*

Sunday, August 16: The Twelve Sunday after Pentecost

- 8 am Holy Eucharist (Spoken) — *Church*
9 am Parish Breakfast & Ministry Fair — *Great Hall*
10:30 am Holy Eucharist (With music) — *Church*
Lemonade on the Lawn — *Cloister Garden*
11:30 am Weekend Lunch — *Jones Chapel*

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please send announcements to communications@christchurchmacon.com)

Fall Kick-Off Breakfast & Ministry Fair

Sunday, August 16 at 9 am

We will kick off our 2026–2027 Program Year on August 16 with a parish-wide breakfast in the Great Hall. Drop by any time between 9 am and 10:15 am. This will be a time of fellowship and reunion as everyone returns from their summer travels. We will also be holding a ministry fair so that everyone has a chance to learn about everything that is going on at Christ Church. There will be representatives from each ministry in the Great Hall to answer any questions and give you information about how to get involved.

Acolyte Training

Sunday, August 16 after the 10:30 am service

The acolytes will be meeting for a training/refresher class after the 10:30 am service on Sunday, August 16th. We will meet in The Cloister Room for lunch and then will head into the church for training. Parents are welcome to stay for lunch!

Robert Hubbard Appreciation

Sunday, August 23 after the 10:30 am service

Our beloved sexton Robert Hubbard recently celebrated 30 years at Christ Church. Once everyone is back from their summer travels, we will be showing our appreciation of him in the Cloister Garden following the 10:30 am service on August 23. Be sure to stop by and tell Robert how much we love him! There will be a basket for cards and letters. We are grateful that Robert will be continuing to carry out his ministry among us!

Sunday Evenings at Christ Church

Sundays at 5 pm, beginning August 23

This fall, we are remaking Sunday evenings into a community night with food, faith formation, and worship for all ages. The evening will start at 5:00 pm in the Great Hall for a parish supper. After dinner (5:20–5:30), people will split up to go to their respective programs. For children, the Choir School of Macon will have its rehearsals. Youth will have EYC in the Youth Suite. Adults will have a choice between the Alpha Course, a study/discussion group facilitated by Evey and Jonathan Wetherbee, each week covering a different topics related to living out our faith, and a knitting class hosted by the DOK. At 6:30, you are invited to join us for Choral Evensong on the first Sunday of every month or a brief Compline service on other Sundays.



*Sunday
Evenings*

— AT —

CHRIST
CHURCH

Food, Fellowship, & Faith...
For the *Whole Church Family*.

Knitting Class with the Daughters of the King

Sundays at 5:20 pm, beginning August 23

Grab your yarn and needles! Join our knitting group in the Parlor right after the parish dinner, as part of Sunday Evenings at Christ Church. We welcome all skill levels, including absolute beginners. Whether you knit or crochet, come enjoy an evening of crafting and fellowship! (supplies provided).

Growing in Your Faith through the Alpha Course

Sundays at 5 pm, beginning August 23

An active parishioner who was a man in his late sixties at the time who had just completed the Alpha course stood up in church and said, “I have been going to church all my life (in the Episcopal Church) and I learned more in that course about my faith than in all the years combined.” A group of people who had been friends all their lives and did the Alpha course together found their friendship had moved to a much deeper level through sharing this faith journey together. The course covers topics like “Who is Jesus?”, “Why did he have to die?”, “Why and how do I pray?”, “How does God guide us?”, and “Does God heal today?” among others. Each evening begins with a shared meal, we watch the talk on video that lasts about 25 minutes, and then discuss. It’s a class where there are no stupid questions and people are free to explore and wrestle with what they believe. Each evening will begin at 5:00 with the expectation of finishing around 6:30. The course begins on Sunday August 23rd. To sign up or learn more email Cynthia@christchurchmacon.com.

Alpha Marriage Course Beginning This Fall

Wednesdays at 6 pm, September 9 – October 21

We are offering the Alpha Marriage Course for anyone who would like to strengthen their relationship. Facilitated by Jamie and Ben Walden, this course is an opportunity for a “date night” while you work together on your marriage. Each couple will have their own table for two where they will be served dinner while they watch the talk. Throughout the talk there are periods for each couple to have private conversations between themselves using their course workbook as a guide.

This course will be on Wednesday evenings beginning on September 9th and going through October 21st. The evening will take 2 hours and we are planning to begin at 6:00 if that works well for the group. To learn more or to sign up please email Cynthia@christchurchmacon.com.

New Adult Sunday School Option

Sundays at 9:30 am, beginning August 23

Beginning August 23, there will be two options for Adult Sunday School. The Lectionary Discussion Class will continue to meet in the Cloister Room to discuss and study the Scripture readings for the day. In the Parlor, there will be new group meeting to listen to and discuss Bishop Wright's weekly podcast For People. Scan to QR code to the right to listen to or subscribe to the podcast.



MINISTRY OF THE MONTH: AUGUST

Granito de Mostaza Dairy Farm, Los Arabos, Cuba



The Christ Church Outreach Committee has designated the Granito de Mostaza Dairy Farm in Los Arabos, Cuba as the Ministry of the Month for August. Owned by the Episcopal Diocese of Cuba since 2008, Granito de Mostaza (which means “Mustard Seed” in Spanish) is an extremely important ministry of the Episcopal Church there. For the past eight years I have had the pleasure of working with Rev. Juan Carlos Diez Moreira of the Diocese of Cuba, the farm’s administrator. The only entity owned by the Diocese of Cuba that has the legal right to contract with the government to sell agricultural products, Granito de Mostaza is one of the few ways the Diocese has to earn income from commercial activity. Its revenue pays for almost all of the community programming in which the Los Arabos churches engage and for the salaries of the churches’ parish administrators.

Granito de Mostaza played a key role in assisting the local community throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and continues to adapt to the subsequent economic crises which have wracked the island. Widespread food shortages have caused the farm to sell off most of its cattle in order to prevent hungry thieves from butchering them, and the farm’s operation has shifted more towards agriculture - crops of sesame, squash, and pineapple now form the majority of production. Pineapple in particular is viewed as the path towards self-sufficiency, as Los Arabos is now one of the leading producers of pineapple in the country. At the same time, Rev. Juan Carlos has invested heavily in cottage industry, creating a system for preserving fruit and producing cooking oil, vine-gar, jams, and jellies. Through its efforts and innovations, Granito de Mostaza has saved lives and helped to ease the stress of food shortages among the local population.

This work has only become more important since the oust-

ing of Venezuelan dictator Nicolas Maduro by the United States earlier this year. The loss of Venezuelan oil, needed to keep the island’s electrical grid running, had been compounded by the imposition of an almost total blockade of the island by the United States and further sanctions against its government. A recent report by The Friends of the Episcopal Church in Cuba reveals the dire reality faced by Cubans today. The current government salary (paid to ~80% of the population) is \$16 USD/month, with pensions for retirees \$6/month. Hyper-inflation continues to run rampant, and most goods are un-affordable. The current price of gasoline is \$25 USD/gal, and \$18/gal for diesel. Traffic on the island has become virtually non-existent, though electric vehicles have seen a surge in usage. In some parts of the countryside, hunger has become so bad that horses and even cats are being slaughtered for food. The government has ceased providing the monthly guaranteed rations of food, leaving hundreds of thousands without any guaranteed source of food. Through it all, electricity has become almost non-existent. Blackouts in Havana now last 22-23 hours/day, and some places in the country have no power at all. This means no fans, no AC, and no internet. Tourism, the main source of income for the island, has become almost non-existent due to shortages of jet fuel and the afore-mentioned shortages that affect tourist resorts too.

The current situation has made travel to the island and the transmission of material aid extremely difficult. As such, we ask for your prayers for the people of Cuba in lieu of material or financial support from Christ Church as Ministry of the Month. For those interested in learning more about Cuba, the Diocese of Atlanta’s involvement there, and more ways of getting involved, please feel free to contact me.

— Harry Groce



Cans of preserved pineapple produced by Granito de Mostaza, 2024. Photo courtesy of Rev. Juan Carlos Diez Moreira

VESTRY

Jed Hill, *Senior Warden*
Rob Wilkin, *Junior Warden*
Steve Welsh, *Treasurer*
Chris Hair, *Clerk*

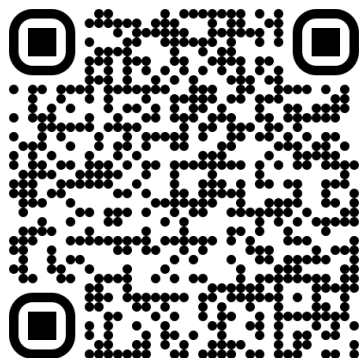
William Baxley
Jan Beeland
Margaret Boltja
Christine Hoskins

Keri Jones
Molly Muse
Jeff Powers
Nancy Wilkerson

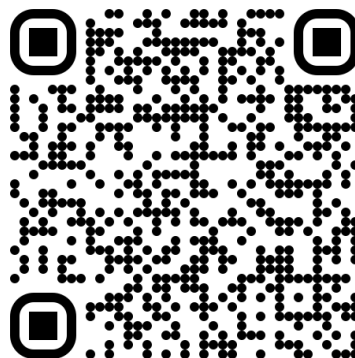
CLERGY & STAFF

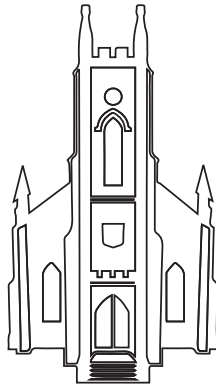
The Most Rev. Sean W. Rowe, *Presiding Bishop*
The Right Rev. Robert C. Wright, *Bishop of Atlanta*
The Rev. Cynthia C. Knapp, *Rector*
The Rev. Harriette J. Simmons, *Assisting Priest*
The Rev. Dr. John F. McCard, *Priest Associate*
Hope Westervelt, *Director of Youth Ministries*
Rachel Horkan, *Director of Children's Ministries*
Jonathan A. Poe, *Director of Music & Liturgy*
Lacey Chaney, *Associate for Children's Music*
Nidia Svare *Parish Administrator*
Timothy Hoskins, *Director of Communications*
Laurel Eady, *Parish Bookkeeper*
Hal Brickle, *Director of Weekend Lunch Ministry*
Robert Hubbard, *Sexton*
Markisha Carter, *Assistant Sexton*

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EPISCOPAL