

October 2026

*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 the Mother Church of the Diocese of Atlanta. Last year, we observed the Bicentennial of our founding in a yearlong celebration. We are grateful for all those from around Macon and Middle Georgia and the Diocese of Atlanta we joined us during our celebration. We are a loving place where all are welcome and we invite anyone interested in becoming part of our family to join us in building the next two hundred years at Christ Church.

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Watch services live and view past services at www.youtube.com/@christchurchmacon/streams



The Rev. Cynthia Knapp
Rector

RECTOR'S MESSAGE

The Reason for Our Hope

Last night in our Alpha class, the theme for the talk and ensuing discussion was, “How can I have faith?” In a world of uncertainty, those things that were once a relatively standard expectation for those with a steady job, food on the table, housing, health insurance and life insurance, the “basics” of life, seem to be increasingly difficult to achieve or maintain. With our national debt and tenuous government programs of support (such as social security), the potential for anxiety and stress seems to be skyrocketing. When the ground beneath our feet seems to be shifting sand, how can we have hope for the future and a faith that our lives are in God's hands? How can we be assured that we have a future and a hope? How can we have

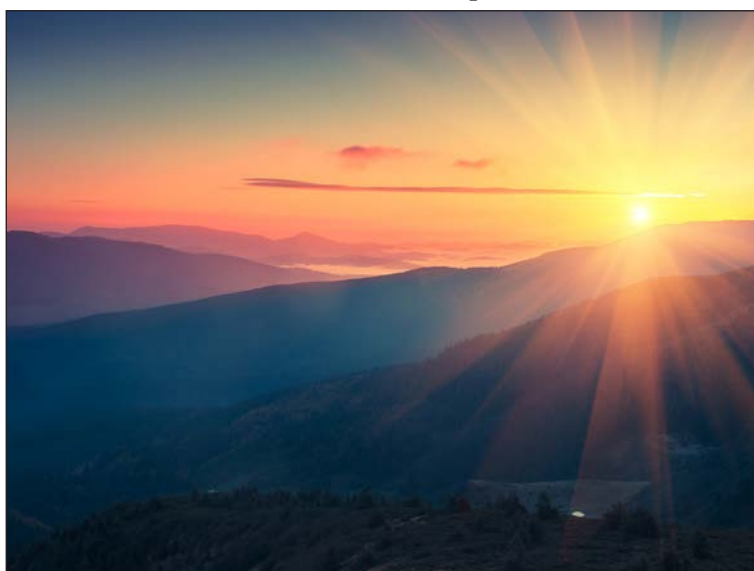
that inner peace we all long for?

Living with faith is not about living in stable times where life is easy. On the contrary, scripture was written to people whose lives were anything but stable and constantly under the threat of danger. Faith is about putting our hope and trust in the Lord who is faithful even when everything in this world seems to be uncertain. Matthew 7:24-25 reminds us to build our life on the bedrock that is Jesus Christ:

“Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house upon the rock; and the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat upon that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock.”

A grim medical diagnosis or frightening economic forecast for the future tempt us to picture a future that does not include the power of God at work in our lives. The future of our imagining is a future without God. Yet God IS in the future. When we trust in the Lord and put our lives in the Lord's hands, laying all our concerns at the feet of Jesus, God will be there with us in the future even as He is with us in the present. The presence of God changes things in a way that defies predictions and blesses us beyond our imagining. This doesn't mean we don't do what we can to take care of our health or plan for the future, but we let go of the fear and the anxiety that can plague us when they go unchecked, and trust the Lord with whatever might lie ahead. The Lord brings healing, provision, blessings in the way we most need to be blessed, all in unimagined ways. We need to trust Him, anchoring deep in our faith when we encounter life's storms. For God is indeed faithful, and when we trust Him through it all, we will find our faith strengthened and our hearts full.

One of the ways we build one another's faith (and



hope for the future) is to tell the stories of how God has blessed us and has answered prayers in ways that exceeded our imagining. The Lord is full of surprises. Sometimes we just need to open our eyes to see them and give thanks.

1 Peter 3:15 says, “In your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that is within you.”

One of the greatest gifts you can give someone is the gift of encouraging them in their faith. Take note of those times in your life where God has made his presence known to you (even in simple ways) and share them with one another when they happen or when someone you know is struggling. Who knows? You might be giving them the anchor they need to ride out the storm.

May God Bless You!

The Rev. Cynthia Knapp

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Christ Church's Young Family and Children's Ministries are thriving as we head into the busy fall season! Our children have continued our programming year-long theme of We Believe, memorizing the Nicene Creed through song and diving into its meaning this fall through the lens of Old Testament Stories. We've also been going to the sanctuary for "symbol hunts," giving children an appreciation and understanding for our beautiful worship spaces and various symbols related to the Nicene Creed. If your kiddo hasn't yet participated in Sunday School, it's not too late! Our classes

are a wonderful time of faith, fellowship, and fun! Don't hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions.

We have lots of special events on the horizon! Of special note is our first Young Family Supper Club of the programming year, hosted by Sam and Sarah Adams. These are casual, kid-friendly events where parents, children, caregivers, and young adults alike can connect in fellowship. No need to bring anything but yourselves, but please RSVP by emailing me at Rachel@ChristChurchMacon.com or scanning the QR code in the graphic below.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

October 3

- Blessing of the Animals (10:30am) | Memorial Garden

October 4

- St. Francis Service Project (9:30am) | Great Hall
- Communion around the Altar (10:30 am) | Church

October 28

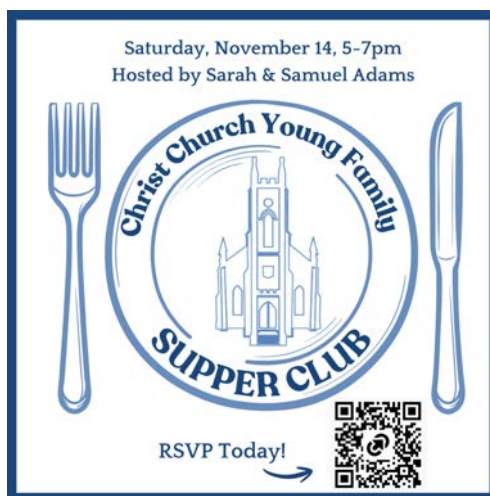
- All Hallows' Eve (5:30 pm) | Jones Chapel & Great Hall

November 14

- Young Family Supper Club (5 pm) | Home of Sarah & Samuel Adams.

December 2

- St. Nicholas Service (5:30 pm) | Jones Chapel & Great Hall



Rachel Horkan
Director of Children's Ministry

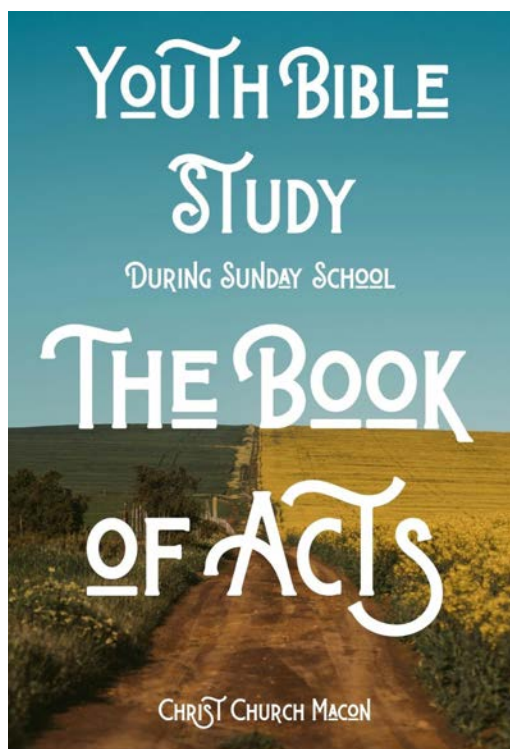
YOUTH MINISTRY

We are off to a great start with our 6th-12th graders this year! During Sunday School, we are doing a semester-long Bible study on The Book of Acts! We hope you will join us for these fruitful discussions. Sunday night EYC has been really wonderful so far! We are focusing on Creation Care this year and how we can be better stewards of the earth. We are, of course, also having lots and lots of fun along the way! Our Friday morning breakfasts have also been off to a great start. This is always a fun time to get together at the end of the week and catch up with each other and pray over each other before the weekend begins.

Additionally, I have officially booked our EYC Mountain Retreat! The youth have been asking when we will go again, so I'm really excited we get to offer this trip

again. We had so much fun and built so many bonds last year and I can't wait to continue to build those relationships again this year! We moved it to Presidents Day Weekend this year (February 12-15) and will be staying in the same cabin from last year in Gatlinburg, TN. Registration is open and we are also looking for chaperones!

Happening is also coming up October 16th-18th! Happening is a high school retreat, led by high schoolers for high schoolers. It's an incredible weekend up at Camp Mikell for youth from all over our diocese and our very own, William Martin, is the Lay Rector for the weekend! We hope all of our high school youth will consider attending this fun and meaningful weekend! For more questions, please reach out to Hope.



Hope Westervelt
Director of Youth Ministry

ADULT CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Sunday Evenings at Christ Church Continue in October

Sunday Evenings at Christ Church continues to be a huge success, creating a time for fellowship and formation for all ages. From Alpha to knitting to children's choir, there is something on Sunday evenings for everyone. We still need volunteers to help with dinner, so contact the office if you are available.

While the evening normally ends with a brief Compline service at 6:30 in the Church, on the first Sunday of October, the 4th, the choir will present a Choral Evensong instead. There will be another Evensong on November 1 and Advent Lessons and Carols on December 6.



*Sunday
Evenings*

— AT —

CHRIST
CHURCH

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

5:00pm—Sunday Evening Supper

5:30pm—Alpha

5:30pm—Adult Bible Study

5:30pm—Knitting Group

5:30pm—EYC

5:30pm—Choir School of Macon

6:30pm—Compline (Evensong on 1st Sundays)

Sunday Evenings at Christ Church will not be meeting on Sunday, October 11, due to the Columbus Day holiday weekend

The Marriage Course Begins October 6 at 6:00 PM

While opposites may attract, sharing a life together can be a challenge! Don't miss this opportunity to strengthen your marriage for a happier, healthier relationship that lasts a lifetime. This course covers topics like: The Art of Communication, Resolving Conflict, The Power of Forgiveness. We have been using the premarriage version of this course for several years and couples have loved it! Set up like a date night with tables for two, you enjoy dinner together as you watch the talk and discuss the questions in your workbook during the breaks in the talk. We meet the following Tuesday nights: Oct. 6th, Oct. 27th, Nov. 3rd, Nov. 17th, Nov. 24th, Dec. 1. This course begins each night at 6:00 in the Great Hall with the exception of Nov. 3rd which begins at 5:30. It is possible to make up a class on your own if you have to miss one. To learn more or to sign up please email Cynthia@christchurchmacon.com.

Adult Sunday School Groups

Discussion of Sunday's Scriptures
Sundays at 9:30 am in the Cloister Room

Bishop's Podcast Discussion
Sundays at 9:30 am in the Parlor

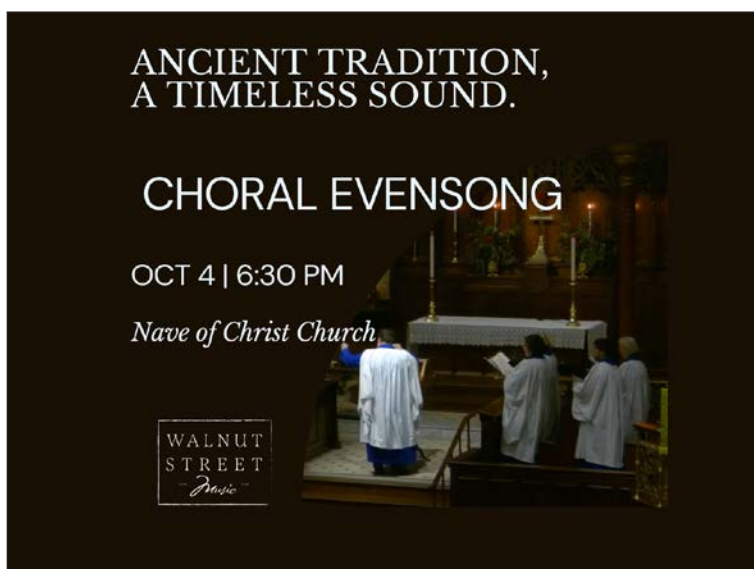
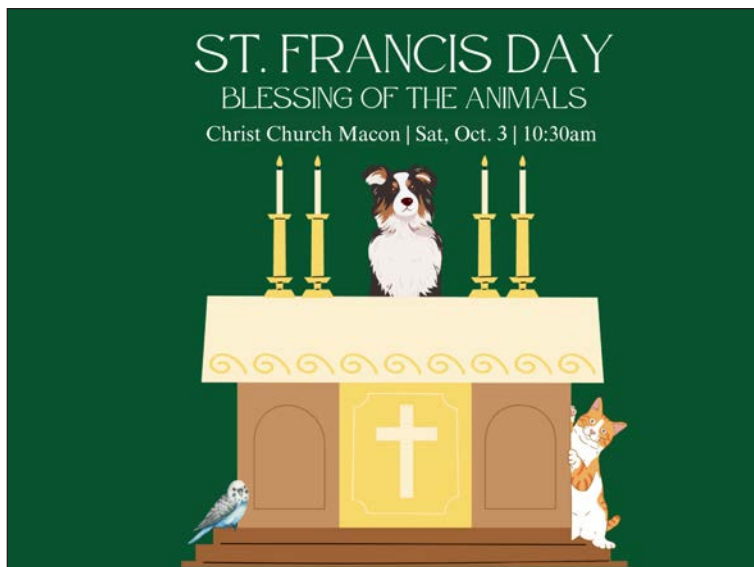
Adult Bible Studies

Women's Bible Study
Wednesdays at 9:00 am in the Parlor

Wise Women's Bible Study
Wednesdays at 10:45 am in the Cloister Room

Men's Bible Study
Thursdays at 7:10 am in the Cloister Room

OCTOBER EVENTS



PARISH PICNIC

SEPTEMBER 13, 2026





MUSIC MINISTRY

APOLLO.5

WSM Presents: Apollo5 in Concert
Tuesday, November 3, 2026 | 7:30 PM

FREE! All are welcome!

If you are interested in learning more about this concert and ways to support them please contact Jonathan Poe (478) 200-1062.

"One-to-a-part performances of repertoire spanning nine centuries no less... an inspired programme, superbly sung throughout... exceptional cohesion and effortless style...faultless."

BBC MUSIC MAGAZINE

"exceptionally beautiful singing"

CLASSIC FM

"harmonious without the slightest concession to quality... the rapt listener would be hard put to find fault"

YORKSHIRE TIMES

"an unbroken spectrum, [creating] the illusion of larger forces"

CHOIR & ORGAN

Lichfield Residency

Join us on our journey to
Lichfield Cathedral, UK
July 30–August 9, 2027

There will be guided tours of Lichfield Cathedral, excursions to Stratford-upon-Avon, Anne Hathaway's Cottage, and Kenilworth Castle & Gardens.

If you would like to join us contact Jonathan Poe no later than October 1st to reserve your spot. Space is limited!

Solemn Choral Evensong

Commemoration of All Faithful Departed

Join us for an evening service to honor those we've lost.



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

WALNUT
STREET
— Music —

WEEKEND LUNCH @



CHRIST CHURCH

More Than a Meal:



For our October feature, we pause from the usual statistics and operational updates to reflect on what truly sustains Weekend Lunch. Behind every meal served are people who give their time, strength, and compassion so that our neighbors experiencing hardship are met with nourishment, dignity, and welcome. That spirit of service is at the heart of this ministry—and no one embodied it more faithfully than Michael Moore “Mickey” Rivers, who passed away on July 26.

This month, we lovingly dedicate this space to Mickey’s memory and to the enduring legacy he leaves with his family, our church, Weekend Lunch, and the wider community. Mickey was the rare kind of person who simply showed up and asked, “What do you need me to do?” Those words captured the heart of the man he was. Kind, generous, humble, and deeply loving, Mickey became an extraordinary part of the heart and soul of Weekend Lunch and of our mission to serve neighbors experiencing hardship.

While many see the dedication required to prepare and serve hot meals each Saturday and Sunday, some of the most important work happens quietly behind the scenes. Mickey understood that. Whenever something needed to be done, he was there. One of his most invaluable contributions was the often-unseen, physically demanding work of traveling to the Middle Georgia Community Food Bank, picking up our substantial food orders, loading them, bringing them back, and unloading them. It was not glamorous work. It was simply work that needed to be done—and Mickey was always willing to do it.

And none of that remarkable service happened without Marilee, his beloved wife and lifelong friend. Where Mickey was, Marilee was right beside him. She was his solid rock, his partner, and his quiet strength. The love they share has

always been evident to those fortunate enough to know them, and that love is itself part of the beautiful legacy they have given to our church and community.



The Enduring Spirit of Mickey Rivers

Mickey’s passing leaves a tremendous void for his family, our church, Weekend Lunch, and the many people whose lives he touched. But even as we grieve his absence, we can celebrate the life he lived. Mickey showed us that service does not always require recognition. Sometimes, it simply means seeing what needs to be done and saying, “I’ll help.” His legacy is found in every act of kindness, every helping hand, every load carried, and every meal placed before someone who needs it.

To ensure that Mickey’s spirit of radical generosity remains a permanent part of our outreach, Hal and I are deeply honored to announce the creation of the Mickey Rivers Community Service Award, a special recognition for our parish and community. There could be no more fitting inaugural recipient than Mickey himself. Through this award, we hope to recognize others who embody the same spirit Mickey lived every day: showing up, serving without seeking recognition, loving their neighbor, and simply asking, “What do you need me to do?”

Every meal served through Weekend Lunch is more than a meal. It is an opportunity to extend compassion, dignity, friendship, and the love of Christ to someone who may need it more than we know. From this day forward, when we serve, we will carry a little bit of Mickey with us. His hands may be at rest, but his spirit of service lives on.

You can help carry that spirit forward. Whether you have time to prepare meals, pack supplies, pick up food, serve our neighbors, or lend a hand behind the scenes, your presence can make a meaningful difference. Every volunteer helps ensure that Weekend Lunch continues to offer not only nourishment, but also dignity, welcome, and human connection. Financial support is equally important. Your gift helps provide the food, transportation, supplies, and other resources needed to keep this ministry serving consistently each weekend. A contribution of any size becomes part of the shared work of feeding our neighbors and honoring the example Mickey gave us.

If you feel called to serve or give, please contact Hal Brickle or Jonathan Poe to learn how you can become part of Weekend Lunch. In doing so, you will help keep Mickey’s legacy alive—not simply in memory, but through the ongoing work of compassion, generosity, and love.

Weekend Lunch

Dr. Hal Brickle, *Executive Director*

director@weekendlunch.org (478) 200-1066

For the website, click: www.weekendlunch.org

WEEKLY CALENDAR of EVENTS *October 2026*

September 27 – October 3

Sunday, September 27: The 18th Sunday after Pentecost

8am | Holy Eucharist | Church
 9:30am | Children's Sunday School | Parish House
 9:30am | Youth Sunday School | Youth Suite
 9:30am | Adult Scripture Discussion | Cloister Room
 9:30am | Bishop's Podcast Discussion | Parlor
 9:30am | Christ Church Choir | Church
 10:30am | Holy Eucharist | Church
 After 10:30 Service | Lemonade on the Lawn
 11:30am | Weekend Lunch | Jones Chapel
 5:00pm | Parish Supper | Great Hall
 5:30pm | EYC | Youth Suite
 5:30pm | Knitting Group | Parlor
 5:30pm | Adult Discussion Group | Youth Classroom
 5:30pm | Alpha | Cloister Room
 5:30pm | Choir School of Macon | Parish House
 6:30pm | Compline | Church

Wednesday, September 30

9am | Women's Bible Study | Parlor
 10:45am | Wise Women's Bible Study | Cloister Room
 12pm | Holy Eucharist & Healing | Church
 8:45pm | Compline | Facebook

Thursday, October 1

7:10am | Men's Bible Study | Cloister Room
 6pm | Christ Church Choir | Choir Room

Saturday, October 3

10:30am | Blessing of the Animals | Memorial Garden
 11:30am | Weekend Lunch | Jones Chapel

October 4 – October 10

Sunday, October 4: The 19th Sunday after Pentecost

8am | Holy Eucharist | Church
 9:30am | Service Project | Great Hall
 9:30am | Christ Church Choir | Church
 10:30am | Holy Eucharist | Church
 10:30am | Communion Around the Altar | Church
 After 10:30 Service | Lemonade on the Lawn
 11:30am | Weekend Lunch | Jones Chapel

5:00pm | Parish Supper | Great Hall
 5:30pm | EYC | Youth Suite
 5:30pm | Knitting Group | Parlor
 5:30pm | Adult Discussion Group | Youth Classroom
 5:30pm | Alpha | Cloister Room
 5:30pm | Choir School of Macon | Parish House
 6:30pm | Choral Evensong | Church

Tuesday, October 6

6pm | Alpha Marriage Course | Great Hall

Wednesday, October 7

9am | Women's Bible Study | Parlor
 10:45am | Wise Women's Bible Study | Cloister Room
 12pm | Holy Eucharist & Healing | Church
 8:45pm | Compline | Facebook

Thursday, October 8

7:10am | Men's Bible Study | Cloister Room
 6pm | Christ Church Choir | Choir Room

Saturday, October 10

11:30am | Weekend Lunch | Jones Chapel

October 11 – October 17

Sunday, October 11: The 20th Sunday after Pentecost

8am | Holy Eucharist | Church
 9:30am | Christ Church Choir | Church
 10:30am | Holy Eucharist | Church
 After 10:30 Service | Lemonade on the Lawn
 11:30am | Weekend Lunch | Jones Chapel

Wednesday, October 14

9am | Women's Bible Study | Parlor
 10:45am | Wise Women's Bible Study | Cloister Room
 12pm | Holy Eucharist & Healing | Church
 8:45pm | Compline | Facebook

Thursday, October 15

7:10am | Men's Bible Study | Cloister Room
 10:30am | Holy Eucharist | Carlyle Place
 6pm | Christ Church Choir | Choir Room

Friday, October 16

5:30pm | Newcomers Party | Knapps' House

WEEKLY CALENDAR of EVENTS *October 2026*

Saturday, October 17

11:30am | Weekend Lunch | Jones Chapel

October 18 – October 24

Sunday, October 18: The 21st Sunday after Pentecost

8am | Holy Eucharist | Church

9:30am | Children's Sunday School | Parish House

9:30am | Youth Sunday School | Youth Suite

9:30am | Adult Scripture Discussion | Cloister Room

9:30am | Bishop's Podcast Discussion | Parlor

9:30am | Christ Church Choir | Church

10:30am | Holy Eucharist | Church

After 10:30 Service | Lemonade on the Lawn

11:30am | Weekend Lunch | Jones Chapel

5:00pm | Parish Supper | Great Hall

5:30pm | EYC | Youth Suite

5:30pm | Knitting Group | Parlor

5:30pm | Adult Discussion Group | Youth Classroom

5:30pm | Alpha | Cloister Room

5:30pm | Choir School of Macon | Parish House

6:30pm | Compline | Church

Monday, October 19

5:30pm | Outreach Committee | Davis Room

Tuesday, October 20

5:15pm | Vestry Meeting | Cloister Room

Wednesday, October 21

9am | Women's Bible Study | Parlor

10:45am | Wise Women's Bible Study | Cloister Room

12pm | Holy Eucharist & Healing | Church

8:45pm | Compline | Facebook

Thursday, October 22

7:10am | Men's Bible Study | Cloister Room

6pm | Christ Church Choir | Choir Room

Saturday, October 24

11:30am | Weekend Lunch | Jones Chapel

October 25 – October 31

Sunday, October 25, The 22nd Sunday after Pentecost

8am | Holy Eucharist | Church

9:30am | Children's Sunday School | Parish House

9:30am | Youth Sunday School | Youth Suite

9:30am | Adult Scripture Discussion | Cloister Room

9:30am | Bishop's Podcast Discussion | Parlor

9:30am | Christ Church Choir | Church

10:30am | Holy Eucharist | Church

After 10:30 Service | Lemonade on the Lawn

11:30am | Weekend Lunch | Jones Chapel

5:00pm | Parish Supper | Great Hall

5:30pm | EYC | Youth Suite

5:30pm | DOK Knitting Class | Parlor

5:30pm | Adult Discussion Group | Youth Classroom

5:30pm | Alpha | Cloister Room

5:30pm | Choir School of Macon | Parish House

6:30pm | Compline | Church

Tuesday, October 27

6pm | Alpha Marriage Course | Great Hall

Wednesday, October 28

9am | Women's Bible Study | Parlor

10:45am | Wise Women's Bible Study | Cloister Room

12pm | Holy Eucharist & Healing | Church

5:30pm | All Hallows' Eve | Jones Chapel

8:45pm | Compline | Facebook

Thursday, October 29

7:10am | Men's Bible Study | Cloister Room

6pm | Christ Church Choir | Choir Room

Saturday, October 31

11:30am | Weekend Lunch | Jones Chapel



PARISH NEWS

2027 Annual Giving Campaign

Dear Christ Church Family,

It seems like just yesterday that we were in the midst of our beloved Parish's Bicentennial celebration in 2025. That year was full of excitement, celebration, reflection, memorial, and a look to the future of our Church. As I have reflected on last year and the success that we had during our 2026 Stewardship Campaign, I am filled with hope and excitement as we kick off our 2027 Campaign. It is my honor and privilege to serve as this year's chair once again, and I look forward to connecting with all of you in the coming weeks.

This year's guiding scripture for the Campaign is from I Chronicles 29:14 which reads, "But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand." What a good reminder from scripture that all we have is from God, and it is our faithful response to give back to support the ministry of our church.

Each one of us is blessed with the modern comforts that our society affords us, and it is hard to imagine how different life was when this verse was written. How different it must have been to give back a portion of what you had in that day when survival was much more tenuous. I encourage all of you to prayerfully reflect on how you can support the Church in the coming year and make a pledge of faith. Dare I say, make a pledge that stretches you beyond your comfort zone.

In the coming weeks, you will hear from the Stewardship Committee and others as we talk about what it means to us to financially commit to the church. Not only are these commitments critical to the mission of the church to support our congregation, but they also are a reflection of our faith and a way to honor God. If you are so moved and inclined, please consider fulfilling your pledge by making monthly or quarterly tithes. This is a tremendous help to the Vestry as they work tirelessly to ensure our Church can make good on its commitments to our staff, congregation, and community at large.

Blessings and peace,

Andy Jones

Stewardship Chairman

The Rev. Cynthia C. Knapp

Rector

The annual pledge campaign is very important for allowing the vestry and staff to accurately draft the budget for next year. Pledges can be made using the pledge cards included in your letter, or those in the Narthex, or online at <https://www.christchurchmacon.com/stewardship-campaign/>. The campaign concludes with the Stewardship Luncheon on November 8. Please return pledges by November 1 so that numbers can be announced at the luncheon.



All Hallows' Eve Candy Donations

The All Hallows' Eve Service and Carnival is a beloved tradition at Christ Church and one of the most anticipated annual events for our children. Before the Carnival on October 28, we need to replenish our candy supplies so we have plenty give out as prizes for the carnival games. There is a basket in the lobby of the Parish House in front of Christ Church Central where you can drop donations or you can bring them by the church office during the week. We also need volunteers to run the games, so contact Rachel if you are interested.

Newcomer Welcome Party October 16

If you have started attending Christ Church in the last six months, we want to welcome you. You are invited to a newcomers party hosted by Cynthia & Chet Knapp. Come to meet new people and learn about the opportunities for fellowship, study, and service available at Christ Church. The party will be held on Friday, October 16 beginning at 5:30 PM. Staff, vestry, and ministry heads are encouraged to come and meet the newest members of our community.

The People of Christ Church photos have been updated in the Parish House! Check outside the Great Hall to see who has been chosen for this quarter.

MINISTRY *of the* MONTH



WEEKEND LUNCH

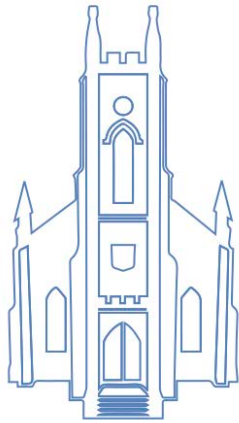
AT CHRIST CHURCH



The Weekend Lunch program has served the needs of downtown Macon since the mid-1990s. What started as an opportunity to help feed the homeless, hungry, and less fortunate in a safe and enjoyable environment has since grown into a program that delivers far more than a meal to our community.

In addition to providing meals, we also offered clothing, warm jackets, school supplies, shoes, water bottles in hot weather, containers of food to local ministries as well as family meals for special occasions and always prayers for and with our guests.

As a volunteer, your time and talents are greatly appreciated. If you are interested in volunteering, please email hal@weekendlunch.org or visit www.weekendlunch.org.



CHRIST
CHURCH
EPISCOPAL