



# 194TH ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

OF CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, DAYTON  
PRESENTED ON FEBRUARY 8, 2026



**2025 REPORT**

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## OUR MISSION

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We are called to love and serve God, giving of ourselves as we worship, wrestle with questions of faith and nurture the Christ in all people: the friend and the stranger, the satisfied and the needy, the believer and the unbeliever.

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## AGENDA

PAGE 03

|                                                                                                      |           |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Call to Order - Bruce Huntsbarger                                                                    | 2 minutes |
| Opening Prayer - Peter Homeyer                                                                       | 2 minutes |
| Minutes of the 2025 Annual Meeting - Lisa Loftin                                                     | 3 minutes |
| Elections - Sophia Fisher & Josh Plandowski                                                          | 8 minutes |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Introduction of Nominees</li><li>• Voting</li></ul>          |           |
| Recognitions                                                                                         | 3 minutes |
| Senior Warden's Report - Bruce Huntsbarger                                                           | 3 minutes |
| Junior Warden's Report - Jack Wells                                                                  | 7 minutes |
| Rector's Report - Peter Homeyer                                                                      | 5 minutes |
| Financial Reports                                                                                    | 6 minutes |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2025 Year End &amp; 2026 Budget - Georgette Walker</li></ul> |           |
| Other Business                                                                                       | 5 minutes |
| Closing Song                                                                                         | 3 minutes |
| Adjournment                                                                                          |           |

## 2025 CANONICAL RECORD

### Additions to the Christ Church Family

Desmond Barker  
Shane Cheshire  
Aurora Barker  
Ellen Bagley  
Jesse Cook  
Adam Firo  
Elias Firo  
Brandy Madden  
David Madden  
Samantha Martin  
Brian Tregoning  
Marissa Tregoning  
Caroline Tregoning  
Will Tregoning

### Deaths

Donna Boyer  
Nancy Bruck  
Charles Cerny  
Kay Nelson  
Anne Posey

### Baptized

Adam Firo  
Elias Firo

### Confirmed

Brian Tregoning  
Marissa Tregoning  
Antonio Walker

### Received

Terry Huysman  
Josh Plandowski

The meeting was called to order, on Sunday, February 9 with 60 members in attendance. Additionally, we received 13 mail in ballots. According to canons and bylaws, Senior Warden Len Roberts turned the meeting over to the Rev. Peter Homeyer.

The meeting opened with the Prayer to Open a Meeting from the Book of Common Prayer.

**Minutes of the 2024 Annual Meeting** - Valerie Weber moved to accept the minutes from the 2024 Annual meeting, seconded by Barb Cerny. The motion carried.

**Elections** - Lisa Loftin introduced the candidates. With no contested elections, the vote was by acclamation for the slate. Thirteen ballots were cast in advance and are unanimous for the slate. Jane Clinch moved to accept the slate as presented. The motion was seconded by Marjo van Patten and passed unanimously.

**Amendment and Restatement of Declaration of Trust** - The Endowment Committee is answerable to the congregation as a whole, not the Vestry, so the congregation needs to vote on the proposed changes. The head of the committee is Greg Sexton, who presented a brief synopsis of the declaration, first adopted in 1985.

The Declaration remains in large part the same, but updates the distribution of the funds. The Endowment Fund was established in 1910, but wasn't given a formal Trust declaration until 1985. That declaration hasn't changed since then. The areas amended and restated apply to distributions. Only interest and dividends could be distributed to the church, but the principle/corpus could not be touched. At the recommendation of KeyBank, we have migrated to a total return approach to managing the fund - it's treated as a total fund method when making distributions. The future year annual draw is calculated by averaging the ending fund balance of 12 consecutive quarters (3rd quarter current year and 11 quarters trailing) and applying 5% to that average amount. The fund is currently (as of 9/30/2024) at \$5,000,000; we will receive \$225,000 from it this year. This method allows us to provide more money to the church, but it's not aligned with the original trust.

The proposed changes were reviewed and approved by the Vestry at the December 2024 meeting. The Endowment Committee asks that the changes now be approved by the congregation. Kelli Myers moved to approve the request, seconded by Michael Clinch. Stephanie Sexton asked if funds could be used for building upgrades in addition to operations. The declaration does allow those - it is up to the vestry to determine how to use the distribution. Esther Brownsmith asked about what possible impact this would have on the size of the Endowment Fund and the distribution. Miles Schmidt responded that the Endowment Committee will keep growing the Endowment, and using more than dividends and interest will allow us to do that. Patty Tatarzycki asked about the Finance Committee meeting schedule. They meet quarterly with Key Bank, which manages the Endowment. They can meet more frequently, and communicate regularly. The members of the Finance Committee look at financial data daily. After some discussion and questions, the Rev. Peter Homeyer called for a vote, and the measure passed unanimously. The Rev. Homeyer thanked the Finance Committee for their work on this issue.

**Communications Report** - Emily Joyce reported that we launched an Engagement Survey to better understand how the parish engages with communication. A focus group also assisted. The results were mostly positive, and reflected changes that were already in progress. Email is the most preferred method of communication within the parish. Most of the respondents subscribe to The Broadcast and are satisfied with it. In the upcoming year, the parish will utilize email to disseminate information; use online forms for registration, signups, payments; and improve website usability for mobile devices.

What is missing is engagement with all the people just beginning to find us. Most newcomers first experience us online through the website and other social media. We have seen an increase in how many people engage on our social media sites. Since internal communication is functioning well, we should consider investing more in evangelism, as well as developing an intentional newcomer ministry. Evangelism included items such as banners on the building and marching in the Pride Parade. We need to consider how we greet newcomers, and touch base with them during their first months/years with us.

**RenewalWorks** - Gary Kuziinsky, who is the facilitator, could not be here. The Rev. Peter Homeyer shared a video sermon from the director of the program at Washington National Cathedral. Through this program, we hope to develop a deeper understanding of what God wants of us. As many as possible need to complete the inventory; we still need a few more responses to have the recommended number. Paper copies are available for those that need one. They are anonymous. The committee for the initiative will report by late spring.

**Recognitions** - The Rev. Homeyer read the names of those who died this year. He thanked those leaving Vestry - Patty Tatarzycki, Anne Posey, Georgette Walker (who will serve another year as treasurer for the parish), and Len Roberts for nine years of service as Senior Warden.

**Senior Warden's Report** - Senior Warden Len Roberts recognized James Paul as an at large member of the vestry, and acknowledged that it is encouraging to see leadership coming from younger members.

**Junior Warden's Report** - Junior Warden Jack Wells is also a postulant for the diaconate in the diocese. He presented the list of building projects and repairs from the building committee for the past year, focusing on the roof and the well. He also reviewed work from the past three years, including the new choir room and improvements on the upstairs classrooms. He thanked the people that have helped with this project the past several years.

**Rector's Report** - We may need to make sure another classroom is available upstairs; one is almost full on Sundays. The Rev. Homeyer highlighted many of the projects from the reports presented. He reminded the parish that, not unlike many of the stories presented in scripture, our current political climate is also one of fear and concern about what our lives will look like. In response to "What are we supposed to do?", he doesn't know the answer, but whatever we do, we should do it together. Here I am, send me.

**Financial Reports** - Georgette Walker, treasurer, thanked everyone for their contributions. Our challenges this year included HVAC repairs and roof repairs, but we came out "on top". Our banners and restored art on the parking lot side of the building have enhanced our visibility.

**Endowment Report** - The report is included in the meeting packet.

**Other Business** - Maureen Boyles announced that Waffle Shop grant applications are now open.

Kris Sexton announced her retirement as Executive Director of CityHeart. She thanked the congregation for their support and the wonderful relationship it shares with Christ Episcopal Church. CityHeart has begun the search for a new Executive Director. Their board will have an announcement of the new person in a few weeks.

**Closing Song** - The congregation joined in singing "We Are One in the Spirit" accompanied by Greg Sexton on the guitar.

The meeting adjourned at 1:41pm, with a motion to close from Elizabeth Blackwell, seconded by Maureen Boyles. The motion carried.

## **REPORT FROM THE RECTOR**

*My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit. – 1 Corinthians 2:4*

Our readings for the day of our annual meeting, February 8, include the reminder from Paul that God makes themselves known through the working of the Spirit. It is through the fruits of the Spirit that we know God's presence. Actions of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control provide God's life-giving power. We do this, as Paul tells the Corinthians, together. It is our collective wisdom, in action, which pleases God.

Here at Christ Church, we have again shared our collective wisdom in 2025. Once again, I have been blessed to see firsthand how this community of believers demonstrates their faithfulness. Once again, we provide through worship, study, outreach, hospitality, and advocacy, "the mind of Christ" (1 Corinthians 2:16).

Here is a partial list of some of the ways we demonstrated God's wisdom in 2025:

- Surveying our members spiritual lives & planning for spiritual growth through RenewalWorks
- Beginning adult Bible study classes, reading together The Path
- Supporting each other during the 10-week Rector's sabbatical
- Offering "A Sanctuary for Peace" during the NATO summit

- Marking our 150<sup>th</sup> Jubilee on First Street with the Bishop, confirmations, a food truck lunch and a visual timeline of our church history
- Updating another classroom for our Children's Programs (now 3 classrooms plus the nursery!)
- Completing our most successful stewardship campaign since COVID
- Sharing our pulpit with Diocesan staff, highlighting Latino Ministry, Adult Formation, and the Procter Center
- Assembling care packages for the neediest to celebrate MLK Jr.
- Continuing our relationship with Have a Gay Day, our foodbank
- Walking the streets at Pride and on Good Friday
- Beginning a Sunday Welcoming for newcomers by Vestry members
- Bringing communion to our shut-ins
- Celebrating the ordination of MaryJane to the transitional diaconate
- Providing hospitality and fellowship for our many events and services
- Forming disciples through our Children's & Adult Programs
- Affirming the call of 5 confirmands ("Episcopal 101" included 7 students) and 2 baptismal candidates
- Engaging with scripture through our Lenten series, "Biblical Killjoys"
- Ongoing efforts by a team of volunteers to keep the electrical, HVAC & plumbing systems as functional as possible
- Continuing the legacy of Waffle Shop, both as a feeding ministry & as a grant program
- Supporting the ongoing discernment of members toward ordained ministry
- Recalling the lives of those who we "love but see no longer" on All Saints Day, through Blue Christmas, and during memorial services
- Serving the last, the least, and the lost through our feeding ministry & CityHeart
- Offering music through our Great Lady Concert series
- Building fellowship through a successful 1<sup>st</sup> return year of our Foyer Groups
- Beautifying our sacred spaces through the work of the altar guild
- Enjoying each other at a Dragon's Game, annual picnic, young adults' events & Downtowners lunches
- Deepening our faith through our Advent devotional series, "What Do You Fear?"
- Reflecting on our walk with God through our Labyrinth Writings Walk
- And always, always, always through worship and praise throughout the year

Our actions, our wisdom of the Spirit, are needed, now. We see around us all the challenges, the old lessons of violence, intolerance, blaming, and persecution. They are very much alive. What we need, what our country needs, what the world longs for, is something different, living giving, promising. As Paul puts it, "None of the rulers of this age understands this" (1 Corinthians 2:8). We have the key; God only asks that we apply it.

I pray that you have experienced, and practiced, the wisdom of the Spirit in the past year. That you have taken time to acknowledge and thank the choir, Vestry, Fellowship Committee, servers, readers, altar guild, ushers, pastoral care team, members of the Order of St. Luke, staff, and so many other volunteers for the ways they demonstrate God's wisdom. That you have taken time to join them in their ministries. And that our offerings may continue to reflect the wisdom of God in the year to come.

Yours in Christ,  
Peter

**2026 Elections**

The slate of nominees for election at the Annual Parish Meeting on February 8, 2026.

**Vestry Members**

Elizabeth Blackwell -- 3 yr. term, expiring 2029

Lisa Loftin -- 3 yr. term, expiring 2029

**Endowment Trustee**

John Cloud -- 5 yr. term, expiring 2031

**Diocesan Convention Alternate Delegates**

Suniti Nelson -- 1 yr. term, expiring 2027

Chip Williamson -- 1 yr. term, expiring 2027

**2025 VAN CLEVE REPORT**

Van Cleve House, Inc. is an Ohio corporation which owns the parking lot next to Christ Church. The lot is leased to Parking Management, Inc., who operate the lot.

For 2025 the Church received \$17,500. This is well below plan and due to PMI experiencing challenges from, among other issues, weak parking lot activity in downtown Dayton. We expect that some of our 2025 losses will be recovered in 2026. Also in 2026 we anticipate performing (overdue) maintenance on the lot.

Van Cleve trustees are Frank Boensch, Bruce Hunstbarger, Peter Homeyer, Greg Sexton, and Miles Schmidt. In 2025 the Trustees Board lost two long serving members: Howard Heck and Donna Boyer, who passed away. We miss both of them.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Miles Schmidt

The Endowment has supported Christ Church for over 100 years, the result of gifts from many generous people who desired to create a permanent legacy for future generations of parishioners. In 2025 we received a combined \$76,938 in bequests from the estates of Rose Dwight and Millie Mooney, for which we are very grateful. To contribute, simply make your check out to Christ Episcopal Church Endowment Fund. Bequests are greatly appreciated.

A perpetual fund administered by the Trustees, the Endowment is for the maintenance, programs, and operations of the Church as designated from time to time by the Vestry and Wardens.

The Endowment Trustees provide Christ Church a distribution each year to support operations. The amount is up to 5% of the Endowment's average market value over the prior three (3) years.

Below is a historical look at the Endowment market value and distribution to Christ Church.

| <b>Endowment Fund</b>         | <b>2021</b> | <b>2022</b> | <b>2023</b> | <b>2024</b> | <b>2025</b> | <b>2026</b>          |
|-------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|----------------------|
| Market Value (December 31)    | \$4,860,370 | \$4,214,600 | \$4,597,537 | \$5,029,479 | \$5,614,779 | N/A                  |
| Distribution to Christ Church | \$184,399   | \$197,930   | \$209,210   | \$218,005   | \$225,014   | \$238,400 (approved) |

Endowment Trustees are elected for five (5) year terms. Current Trustees are John Cloud, Lonnie Franks, David Harrison, Miles Schmidt, and Greg Sexton. I'd like to thank them for their commitment and contributions to overseeing the Endowment Fund.

Respectfully submitted,  
Greg Sexton  
Endowment Trustees, Chairperson & Secretary

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## **WORSHIP MINISTRIES**

**Altar Guild:** The Altar Guild sets up for weekly Eucharist, ensures that Eucharist is served at all Sunday services, and as needed at special services. We change the altar frontals as needed seasonally, as well as for any special services (wedding, funerals, etc.). Currently we have roughly 10 members of the Altar Guild and always welcome new guild members! Please contact Lisa Loftin, [ldloftin@gmail.com](mailto:ldloftin@gmail.com), if you have questions or are interested in joining Altar Guild.

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Eucharistic Ministers serve at the altar by assisting the clergy during the administration of the Eucharist. Licensing is by the diocese after a training session at Christ Church. If interested in becoming a Eucharistic Minister, contact Maureen Boyles, [bluewhitemvb78@yahoo.com](mailto:bluewhitemvb78@yahoo.com)

**Ushers:** Ushers help to greet members and newcomers, hand out bulletins, and assist in the smooth progress of the liturgy. They are also available to assist with special needs that may arise. Interested in learning more? Parishioners who worship at 8am can contact Gary Kuziinsky at [gkuziinsky@gmail.com](mailto:gkuziinsky@gmail.com). Parishioners who worship at 10:30 can contact Terry Murray at [nano.murph@gmail.com](mailto:nano.murph@gmail.com)

**Lectors:** Lectors participate in the services of the church by reading passages from Scripture and leading the Prayers of the People. Special licensing is not required. Interested in learning more? Parishioners who worship at 8am can contact Allen Moe at [marwoodmoe@gmail.com](mailto:marwoodmoe@gmail.com). Parishioners who worship at 10:30 can contact Maureen Boyles at [bluewhitemvb78@yahoo.com](mailto:bluewhitemvb78@yahoo.com)

**Children's Chapel:** Children's Chapel takes place during the 10:30am worship service on Sundays from the Gospel through the passing of The Peace. Volunteers help create this special worship time for our kids by leading songs, prayers, and the Godly Play lesson. If you're interested in joining our rotation of Children's Chapel volunteers, please contact Jen Sammons at [christdaytonsammons@gmail.com](mailto:christdaytonsammons@gmail.com)

*"Let everything that has breath praise the Lord." – Psalm 150:6*

We filled 2025 with thanksgiving and praise to God! Sunday mornings, Wednesdays at noon, and our Children's Chapel service set the weekly rhythm. We took our prayers to the streets, homes, and institutions of our city and our Diocese. Worship took on new forms, new expressions, as our members and our mission ("to serve God, giving of ourselves, wrestling with questions of faith, and nurture the Christ in all people") responded to the needs of the world around us.

We shared our altar and pulpit with others from lay people, to Episcopal priests, to Orthodox priests, to Baptists to many others, including our Bishop at our milestone anniversary for our building (the 150<sup>th</sup> on First Street). We offered God's call to begin again and ask for mercy from in front of our building (Ashes-to-Go) and on the streets of the city (Good Friday march). We broke bread together at the annual picnic and at our Maundy Thursday Agape feast. We took the Good Word to shut-ins. Sat with the broken-hearted on Good Friday and our Blue Christmas service. Laid our beloved dead to rest with funerals and memorial services. Remembered those who have passed into God's greater glory on All Saints Day and through our ofrenda. Prayed for peace and justice through our Sanctuary of Peace vigil during the NATO gathering and by adding prayers for war-torn portions of the world to our Prayers of the People.

And we celebrated, lifting up our offerings, our lives, to the Lord. We welcomed the newly baptized, hosted a confirmation service for those among us ready to renew their baptismal promises, celebrated a wedding, joined our voices with others to support one of our own ordained to the Diaconate (yay, MaryJane!). We welcomed the birth of the Savior with festive Christmas services, both traditional and family focused. We dressed up and showed off for All Hallow's Eve. Blessed our pets for St. Francis Day. Worshipped one Sunday with the Prayer Book used in 1874. And we opened Easter with fire and story at a First Light party in my backyard. Many filled in, took on new roles, for 10 weeks while I was on sabbatical.

Our worship reflects our hopes and desires, our traditions and history, our growing edges and heart-breaking concerns. Through it we remember who we were, who we are, and who we hope to become. It is the center, the lodestone, of our lives together. It remains my great privilege to work alongside all of you who "make church happen". Altar guild, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Eucharistic Visitors, ushers, acolytes, Children's Chapel leaders, choir members, and soloists, I give thanks for you! Consider joining us in these ministries. I am certain you will find they enrich your own journey in faith more than you can imagine.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rev. Peter Homeyer

Spark Family programs celebrated two years of Education for All by realizing that we had outgrown our current space! A very special thank you to members of the Building Committee and other volunteers for working hard this summer to prepare a new classroom space for our Preschool and Kindergarten children.



Our regular Sunday morning programming includes Sunday School and Youth Group during the 9:00am Education Hour, Children's Chapel during part of the 10:30am service, and Nursery Care from 9:00-noon. With an average Sunday morning attendance of 15 children and youth, including those who come to church only, and 27 unique children and youth in attendance at least once during the 2025 calendar year, our programs are both thriving and primed for continued growth.

With funds raised through Waffle Shop Jr in conjunction with a grant from Episcopal Community Ministries, we were able to offer significant financial support to the Dayton Foodbank Good-to-Go Backpack program and create 60+ care kits that will be distributed to clients at St. Vincent de Paul. Thank you all for your generous support of our children's desire to help our neighbors in need.

Additional celebrations from 2025 included **Jamey, Harper, Michael, Tate, Eliza and Juneau** attending summer camp at Procter, our Diocesan Camp and Conference Center; **Caroline, William, and Tate** becoming new acolytes; **Jamey** continuing in his second year of being the Youth Representative on Vestry; and **Adam and Elias** receiving the sacrament of Baptism.

Deep thanks for the dedication and care of our leadership team:

- Lydia Geis and Jessica Plandowski, Nursery Caregivers
- Marissa Tregoning, Lead PreK/K Teacher
- Liz Geis, Assistant PreK/K Teacher
- Margaret Clinch, Lead Elementary Teacher
- Patty Tatarzycki and Val Weber, Assistant Elementary Teachers
- Elizabeth Blackwell and Brian Tregoning, Youth Group Leaders
- Greg Sammons, Children's Chapel Musician
- Stephanie Sexton and Brenna Seifried, Substitute Teachers

If you are interested in volunteering or learning more about Spark Family Programs, please contact Jen Sammons at [christdaytonsammons@gmail.com](mailto:christdaytonsammons@gmail.com).

Respectfully submitted,  
Jen Sammons, Director of Children and Youth Ministry

We're now in our third program year of holding consistent Christian formation on Sunday mornings for youth and adults, and we are seeing the fruits of this labor. In 2025, we had 75 adults participate in at least one Christian formation program, with 8 of our parishioners leading adult formation programs with Rev. Homeyer's guidance.

Here's a reminder of all the wonderful adult formation programs that were offered in 2025:

- Intro to RenewalWorks
- MLK Jr All-Parish Service Project
- The Jesus Prayer
- Seasons: A celebration of Christ Church's 150 years on First Street
- "Camp Sunday" All-Parish Program hosted by the Procter Center
- *The Serviceberry* Book Study
- Feminist Killjoys: Reading the Bible with Unhappy Women
- DSO Hispanic Ministry
- Episcopal 101
- Beloved: LGBTQ+ Topics & Preparing for Pride
- The Sabbath of Sabbatical
- RenewalWorks Parish Presentation
- What's In The Book?
- DSO Lifelong Formation
- The Path Bible Study
- The 3 Legged Stool
- Jesus & Nonviolence: A Third Way
- AED Education
- All-Parish Advent Gathering
- What Do You Fear? Insisting on Hope This Advent

What a full, rich year of formation we've had!

We are entering 2026 with a commitment to offering adult Christian formation that is rooted in scripture and creates space to open our lives before God and others, for the purpose of being in those relationships, and for becoming more loving, just, whole, and holy.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Emily Joyce  
Director of Communication & Parish Life

With tremendous help and ongoing support from our parishioners, the music ministry in 2025 was vibrantly active. Both Christ Church Choir and Jubilee Ringers were busy preparing for new music and presenting at special services throughout the year. We welcomed Jesse Cook, a new choir member and bassist, and Brandy Madden, a new handbell ringer. However, it was a very sad year for us due to the unexpected passing of our much-beloved choir member, Charles Cerny, who sang as a bass for more than 30 years.

Many other parish musicians, including our children, continued to share their talents as singers, guitarists, and other instrumentalists. Guest musicians loved performing in our gorgeous musical space – Easter Brass and Timpani, Mennonite musician Wendy Good, as well as all those who performed for the annual Great Lady Concert Series – Dayton Metro Barbershop Chorus, Anna & Pavel Vinnitsky (piano & clarinet), and the Downtowners' Christmas Concert. We couldn't have hosted these musicians without the incredible generosity of all our donors and volunteers, especially the Fellowship Committee. Also, our space and Steinway piano "Ruby" attracted the advanced piano students at Stivers School for the Arts to present their piano recital, as well as lyric soprano Angela Gorman to present her voice recital.

As always, it's been my privilege to serve this amazing parish.

Yours in Christ,  
Yun Kim, Organist & Director of Music

## **SAFETY ENHANCEMENTS AT CHRIST CHURCH**

The emergency maps were updated to include the AEDs that have been added to the lower level and second floor. On November 16<sup>th</sup>, Terry Huysman conducted the adult forum and provided a video demonstration of the use of an AED and discussion followed. This was offered prior to the annual Waffle Shop. In 2026, she plans to offer a focused review session for ushers and prospective first responders. New security doors were installed at the southeast exit to the alley. The painting of the safety stripes in the southeast staircase will continue in 2026.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Judith Wehn

Order of St Luke: The ministry of the Laying On of Hands takes place on the 2nd Sunday of every month at the 10:30 Sunday Service. Laying On of Hands is also offered at the Wednesday Service. Members are always available on the other Sundays after the services, just ask an usher to point out the members (Maureen Boyles and Karla Miles) and we can pray with you.

The following practice was so well received during the height of COVID, that the members of OSL continue to provide the Prayer Bowl. Church members were able to write down their prayer requests any time before or during the service. An usher can show you where paper and pens are to write down your prayers and place them in the bowl. At the end of the service OSL members pray over the prayer requests that were left in the bowl. Anyone is welcome to attend a meeting to see if you might be interested in joining or studying with us. Just contact Maureen Boyles by email for more information at: [bluewhitemvb78@yahoo.com](mailto:bluewhitemvb78@yahoo.com).

Respectfully Submitted,  
Maureen V. Boyles

## **FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE**

The Fellowship Committee provides support for parish events with fellowship and hospitality. Our mission is to make Christ Church a welcoming place. We have celebratory coffee hours for special guests, receptions for the Great Lady Concerts, breakfasts for the Advent Event and MLK Service Project. We support Easter week services, Wassail Bowl, Pentecost Sunday, and have Sundae Sundays in the summer. We assist or provide funeral receptions and hostess carry-in meals. A monthly Downtowners Lunch is set up where all are welcome to join us to explore and support local restaurants. All are opportunities for our fellow parishioners get to know each other better.

I wish to thank those on the committee as well as those who support us in this important work. We are always looking for those who would be interested in our mission for our church community. Please talk to the Rector or myself. We would love to welcome you.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Linda Schmidt

In 2025, we continued the progress the church has made on the building from the last few years. Projects have included major 2nd-floor renovations, well refurbishment, roof repairs, and more.

**Projects completed in 2025:**

- Nave Catwalk Lighting - 24 fixtures and lamps, new wiring, new T8 sockets
- Room 204 cleared and rejuvenated - smoke alarms, door kick plates, paint, cleaned carpet, new blinds
- Elevator Maintenance
- Alley Door Secured/Repaired
- Lamppost Repair
- AED - 2nd-Floor Installation
- Drainage & Piping Repair - lower level
- Kitchen Fridge Repair

\*\*Other minor maintenance and services were performed on the building and grounds throughout 2025, not listed here.

**Projects currently in the works for 2026:**

- Accent window lighting - exterior
- Concrete walkway - emergency exit to 1st St.
- West end wall/gutter repair
- Repave parking lot

\*\*More projects will be planned throughout 2026, not listed here.

I look forward to continuing to build on this momentum as we envision the future of Christ Episcopal Church in downtown Dayton. During Lent, we will be rearranging the Sanctuary. Let's allow the Spirit to inspire ideas and creativity that lead to ambitious feats. 2025 was a productive year, and 2026 will be as well.

Special thanks to everyone who made this possible. Your hard work and contributions make all this happen.

Peace,  
Jack Wells  
Junior Warden

Through the efforts of the Creation Care Committee, 325 pounds of corrugated cardboard and paperboard from food packaging, 550 pounds of office paper, and approximately 608 plastic and glass bottles and aluminum cans have been recycled and diverted from the landfill. In addition, 25 toner cartridges and 35 batteries were recycled. Thank you to the committee members.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Judith Wehn

## **PASTORAL CARE COMMITTEE**

The pastoral care committee was formed in the Fall of 2020 to assist the rector in caring for and comforting the congregation during sickness, grief, isolation, or other difficult times. The committee meets about once a month via Zoom. Members include Marta Hopkins, the Rev. Gregory Sammons, Leslie Nogle, and the Rev. Peter Homeyer.

Activities:

- Cards are sent to the sick and grieving.
- Meal Trains can be established to organize the delivery of hot meals to the sick, recovering, or grieving.
- Check-in calls are made (or we see that someone makes them) to the isolated or ill.
- Information is shared with the rector of needs within the parish.
- Transportation can be provided to medical appointments.
- As an outgrowth of the pastoral care committee, eucharistic visitors have been trained and sent out to carry communion to shut-ins.

Please share pastoral care needs with any member of the committee or the church office.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marta Hopkins

The ministry of RenewalWorks provides an opportunity to reinvigorate the church and our own spiritual lives with a renewed focus on discipleship just like the first disciples who grew the church. We're looking to grow in loving God and loving our neighbors as ourselves. Our Vestry approved the report from our RenewalWorks Workshop Team. Their report included the following initiatives – Initiative progress can be viewed at: <https://gkuziinsky.wixsite.com/christ-episcopal-day>

**Initiative # 1:** Encourage daily Bible reading and reflection through supporting the use of Forward Day by Day. Forward Day by Day inspires people who want to be more like Jesus and encourages them to spread his love in the world.

**Initiative #2:** Beginning in the Fall of 2025, offer a congregation-wide opportunity to read the Bible together using lay-led programs like The Path, The Bible Challenge, or The Story – we have several lay volunteers willing to lead the selected program.

**Initiative # 3:** Embed Bible study, prayer, and spiritual intention in all church ministries starting with Foyers – introduce our spiritual intention through conversation starters to be used by our Foyer conveners.

**Initiative #4:** Our Vestry should develop a plan for both Vestry and parish-wide retreats in 2026 that will communicate to everyone in the congregation, new and not so new, that they are on a spiritual journey.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gary J Kuziinsky, Ministry Leader

Canterbury Court, located in West Carrollton, is owned and operated by Episcopal Retirement Services (ERS). It is a HUD-sponsored independent living community for older adults with very limited income.

Christ Church, along with St. Mark's, St. George's and St. Paul's constitute "Friends of Canterbury Board". While Representatives from Christ Church are Donna Boensch and Penny Nixon, there were many CEC members who answered the call to volunteer. The group's focus is to support Canterbury Court Staff in meeting residents' social and recreational needs through volunteering and financial support. Some of the activities that CEC volunteers were involved in included taking the lead on the Butterfly Garden in which plants were donated, planted, weeded and watered weekly June through August. Volunteers manned the kitchen for various social events including the annual quarter auction, summer picnic, Christmas bake sale, and submarine sandwich sale. We provided sandwiches and soup for the Friends Annual Lunch. We offered ice cream sandwiches for the resident's summer cookout. Pumpkin pies were donated for Thanksgiving Dinner. Members of Christ Church donated jewelry for their third annual Jewelry sale. Finally, a CEC member coordinated a craft class in making greeting cards. We are very grateful to all who stepped in to keep the residents healthy and happy.

Monetary donations to the Samaritan Fund/Partners in Care are always welcome. This fund helps the residents with expenses such as glasses and dental work that is not provided under their insurance plans.

Volunteers are always needed for Canterbury's many events. If you are interested, please reach out to Donna Boensch (904)-955-3133 or Penny Nixon (937)-428-0637.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Penny Nixon

CityHeart was founded as a program of the church in 2006 and established as a 501 (c) (3) in 2016. CityHeart offers compassionate response to urgent needs of the homeless, low-income, and marginalized, and makes connections to resources for long term solutions.

Urgent needs may include assistance with food, transportation, utility disconnections, emergency shelter, or rental evictions. We respect the dignity of all people, listen to their stories, and work to resolve temporary crisis situations. We are a safe place for individuals and families who have no other place to turn.

In 2025, CityHeart provided a total of 6,617 service interactions, provided to 3,823 People (adults & children) living in 1,742 households. CityHeart is committed to stabilizing hard working families, preventing their homelessness, and advocating on their behalf.

CityHeart volunteer Resource Specialists provide most of the assistance over the telephone, and our volunteer Intake Specialists welcome visitors for respite and basic hospitality needs, such as coffee, water, snacks and sack lunches, toiletries, and bus passes.

At the close of 2025, we are grateful for the leadership of our Board, CityHeart staff, and Anthony Ehresmann, Interim Executive Director. We're entering the new year with hope for the ways CityHeart will continue to grow in 2026.

Did you know that several members of Christ Church serve with CityHeart as volunteers, staff members, or on the Board? We're thankful for all the wonderful volunteers that make our work possible. In 2025, our dedicated volunteers invested 3,200 hours of hands-on support!

If you are interested in volunteering or learning more about this ministry, contact Anthony Ehresmann to have a conversation or schedule a visit. CityHeart welcomes you! Contact Email: [director@daytoncityheart.org](mailto:director@daytoncityheart.org)

Respectfully Submitted,  
Bruce Huntsbarger  
Secretary of the Board

**Ministry to the St Vincent de Paul Homeless Shelters**

The Transformative Power of Faith in Action:

Countless people find strength in the belief that every individual matters deeply to God. This conviction inspires us to care for our world and those around us, showing love through our actions. Recently, this spirit came alive in our neighborhood when our Take, Eat volunteers dedicated their time and care at the St Vincent de Paul Shelter on Apple Street. Their service reminds us that love is not just a feeling but a commitment to the well-being of others. Jesus came to live among us because each person matters to God. This truth calls us to take responsibility for the world entrusted to us—not only as caretakers of the environment but as stewards of compassion and service. When we care for our neighbors, we bring this calling to life in meaningful ways.

On this day, four volunteers—Karla Miles, Greg Cleary, Joy Witt, and Linda Schmidt served a nourishing lunch to guests at the shelter. Like the feeding stories in the Bible, a meal is more than just food; it is a moment of connection and comfort. Our servers offered a variety of dishes designed to nourish both body and spirit. No meal was complete without a sweet treat, and six different varieties of cookies were offered, and they quickly became the highlight of the lunch. Many guests enjoyed seconds and even thirds, savoring the simple happiness that comes from being cared for and remembered.

When we serve, we create moments where love becomes real and transformative. These moments build hope and remind everyone that they matter. If this story inspires you, please join us at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4BA5AB22A5FCC70-44753007-christ#/>

Respectfully Submitted,

Gary J Kuziinsky, Ministry Leader

Waffle Shop 2025 had a great turnout, providing good food and treats to our neighbors in Downtown Dayton. This year we provided a delicious lunch of waffles, sandwiches, and soup to over 900 people over the course of 4 days. We also had a Bake Sale and several Raffle items to entice people as they either waited to eat lunch or after lunch. We will be able to distribute proceeds in the form of grants to local Dayton area non-profits that serve the poor and marginalized in our community. The grant period is currently open, and you can find the application on the Church's website.

The all-volunteer event was successful with volunteers coming from Christ Episcopal Church, Living Beatitudes Community, from some of our grant recipients, and other friends of Waffle Shop. As Waffle Shop Chair, I would like to say thank you to all who helped in any way from volunteering, having lunch, bringing someone to lunch, buying raffle tickets and baked goods to donations and your prayers and well wishes for this annual event. I extend a special thank you to Beverly Francis, a member of LBC, who stepped up and took over the reins as Kitchen Chair at the last minute. Her assistance was appreciated. We kept a period of silence & prayer for Charles Cerny our previous Kitchen Chair. Working with the members of LBC and others provided an opportunity for Christ Church members to build community and get to know people better by working together over the course of the 4 day event.

I invite you to think about volunteering in 2026 in any way that you can. Come join the fun and excitement of Waffle Shop. If you need more information about this annual church event, please contact me, Stephanie Sexton, or any of the area chairs. See you in November.

Sincerely submitted,  
Maureen V. Boyles

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## NOTES & DOODLES

# STAFF INFORMATION

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**Office Phone:** 937-223-2239

**Website:** [www.daytonchristepiscopal.com](http://www.daytonchristepiscopal.com)

**Social Media:** @christchurchdayton

## Staff Email Addresses

The Rev. Peter Homeyer, Rector  
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Katherine Wagner, Parish Administrator  
[christdaytonwagner@gmail.com](mailto:christdaytonwagner@gmail.com)

# WORSHIP TIMES

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## **Sundays**

8am Holy Eucharist without Music

10:30am Holy Eucharist with Music

## **Wednesdays**

12:00pm Holy Communion with Healing Prayer