



Christ Church exists to show everyone God loves them unconditionally.

What does it mean to be the Church? The Church is not a building, but a community of people. There are many opportunities listed below where you can share your gifts within our community. How is God leading you to serve in new and exciting ways at Christ Church?

EXPERIENCE the outstretched arms of God's unconditional love through our worship, music, and other opportunities.

Music

- ❖ The **Christ Church Choristers** is our children's choir for 3rd through 12th grades. The Choristers join the Parish Choir to sing the 10:30 AM Eucharist monthly on the 1st and 3rd Sundays. Rehearsals are weekly.
- ❖ The **Christ Church Ringers** (Handbell Choir) provides quarterly musical offerings by playing English handbells. Rehearsals are on Tuesdays, 6:00 - 7:30 PM in the library.
- ❖ The **Parish Choir** sings for the 10:30 AM Eucharist and special services throughout the year. Rehearsals are on Wednesdays, 6:00 - 8:00 PM, in the Choir Room.

Worship

- ❖ **Acolytes** serve in worship service by being servers, torchbearers, crucifers, or other responsibilities. Elementary-age children may acolyte for the 10:30 AM children's chapel. Youth and adults are welcome to acolyte in both Sunday services.
- ❖ **Eucharistic Ministers** are licensed by the bishop to administer the chalice during Eucharist services.
- ❖ The **Host Ministry** (NEW) welcomes visitors and parishioners to Christ Church on Sunday mornings. Hosts provide directions to parishioners to aid in navigating the church grounds.
- ❖ **Readers** read the Lessons and lead the Prayers of the People in worship.
- ❖ **Ushers** are a ministry of hospitality. They welcome those who attend service, provide bulletins, assist with seating, and help maintain a safe environment.

Behind the Scenes

- ❖ The **AV Technology team** (the Stream Team) operates the soundboard, camera, and livestream equipment.
- ❖ The **Altar Guild** cares for the parish's Altar, vestments, vessels, and linens; prepares the sanctuary for worship.
- ❖ The **Flower Guild** prepares flowers for Sunday services, funerals, and weddings.

Feel the saving EMBRACE of God and let God's love abide in you as part of a community in our formation offerings.

Christian Formation

- ❖ **Adult Christian Formation** is offered Sundays throughout the year on a variety of faith-oriented topics.
 - 8-plus is offered at 9 AM in the Parlor. This is a time of coffee and conversations.
 - A clergy-led class is offered at 9:30 AM in the Parish Hall.
 - A clergy-led class specifically for parents of children and youth is offered at 9:30 AM in the Library.
 - A book study class is led at 9:30 AM in the Christian Education Building.
- ❖ **Confirmation Classes** are offered for adults and youth (8th grade and above) annually. This is an opportunity to "confirm" your baptismal faith during the Bishop's visit in the Spring. Classes begin in February.
- ❖ **Christ Church 101/Membership Matters** is offered several times throughout the year for new members and anyone who wants to learn more about the church.

- ❖ **Education for Ministry (EfM)** was developed by the School of Theology in Sewanee, Tennessee, to provide a way for people to work through questions of faith. This four-year course of study allows individuals to connect faith to their daily lives through reading and discussion. Registration is in August/September and the group meets on Tuesday evenings in the Parlor August-May.
- ❖ The **Men's Bible Study** meets weekly on Mondays at noon via zoom from September–May.
- ❖ **Small groups** meet during the season of Lent to prepare for the celebration of Easter while building connections and studying the Bible. Meets weekly during Lent with details found in the Chronicle.
- ❖ The **Wednesday Morning Bible Study** is offered for both men and women. Meets weekly on Wednesdays at 7:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall.
- ❖ The **Women's Bible Study** meets weekly on Thursdays at 10:00 AM in the Library.
- ❖ **Young Adults of Christ Church (YACC)** gathers for conversation, fellowship, and Bible Study. Meets weekly on Tuesdays at 6:30 PM at Odd Colony.

Children and Youth

- ❖ **Children's Chapel** is offered for preschool–5th graders on Sundays during the 10:30 AM service.
- ❖ The **Christ Church Choristers** is our children's choir for 3rd–12th graders. The Choristers join the Parish Choir to sing the 10:30 AM Eucharist monthly on the First and Third Sundays. Rehearsals are weekly after school on Wednesdays.
- ❖ **Seekers** is an afterschool program for 2nd–5th graders to grow in learning about God and Scripture. Offered weekly after school on Wednesdays.
- ❖ **Episcopal Youth Community (EYC) Youth Group (NEW)** for youth (6th–12th grade) is a weekly gathering on Monday nights at 7:00 PM. EYC Volunteer opportunities are on the Third Saturday of each month.
- ❖ **High School Bible Study** meets Thursday mornings at 7:15 - 8:00 AM, August–May.
- ❖ **Godly Play** is offered for children Pre-K 4–3rd grade. Children learn the stories of our faith while playing, crafting, and exploring. A snack is offered. Meets on Sundays at 9:30 AM, August–May.
- ❖ **Journey Through the Bible** is offered for 4th and 5th graders. This two-year curriculum dives into the Bible to learn more about what we believe. Meets on Sundays at 9:30 AM, August–May.
- ❖ **Youth Sunday School** is offered for all youth (6th–12th grade), Sundays at 9:30 AM in the undercroft, August–May.
- ❖ **Vacation Bible School (VBS)** is a week of fun activities offered for children and youth in our parish and community to learn about God's love. Offered one week during the summer, Monday–Thursday.

Connections

- ❖ **Pensacola Bay Concert Band (PBCB)** is Christ Church's "Ensemble in Residence," and Christ Church serves as PBCB's home base and practice space. Rehearsals are Mondays 6:30 – 8:45 PM, with performances throughout the year.
- ❖ The **EPIC Challenge Book Club** meets once a month to discuss the latest book. Meets the First Wednesday of the month at 3:00 PM.
- ❖ **Prime Timers** is a group formed by seniors and retirees of Christ Church. Meets the Third Wednesday of the month at 1:30 PM in the Parlor, September–May. Smaller groups (called "salons") allow for fellowship in various activities (e.g., walking, going to the movies, playing Bridge and Mahjong).

Spirituality

- ❖ The **Brotherhood of St. Andrew (BOSTA)** is a local chapter of a national organization whose mission is to inspire, empower and equip men to fulfill the Great Commission through the threefold disciplines of Prayer, Study, and Service. Meets the Third Saturday of the month at 8:00 AM for breakfast, worship, and a program.
- ❖ **Centering Prayer** is a method of silent prayer, in which we experience God's presence within us. It begins with a few minutes of basic guidelines to the practice, a 20-minute prayer period, and a brief time

of sharing with intercessory prayer. Meets Thursdays at 5:30 PM in the Centering Prayer room and Sundays at 9:30 AM.

- ❖ **Cursillo** (“Cur see yo”) is a three-day weekend retreat that introduces people to simple methods for nurturing and growing their relationship with Christ. It provides an experience of living in a Christian community centered in worship, prayer, Scripture, and interaction with other Christians. **Happening** is a similar retreat for teens in 10th–12th grades. Both are offered at various times throughout the year.
- ❖ **Daughters of the King** is a local chapter of a national organization of Episcopal women whose mission is the extension of Christ’s Kingdom through Prayer, Service, and Evangelism. Meets on the Second Saturday of the month at 9:30 AM.
- ❖ **Episcopal Church Women (ECW)** is a national organization of all Episcopal women who are a part of the life and work of Christ Church and the Episcopal Church of the United States who desire to participate in God’s transforming work in the world. **ECW Chapters** are smaller groups that gather for fellowship and prayer. Meets on the First Tuesday of the month at 11:00 AM from September–May.
- ❖ The **Men’s Conference** is an annual opportunity for the men of Christ Church to spend a weekend in the Spring at Camp Beckwith for fellowship and formation.
- ❖ The **Women’s Retreat** is an annual/bi-annual opportunity for the women of Christ Church to spend a weekend at Camp Beckwith for fellowship and formation. The 2023 annual retreat is September 22-24.

Love in truth and action by EXTENDING our hands in love to care for those both in and outside our walls.

In-reach Ministries are opportunities to extend our hands in love within Christ Church through the Circle of Care and Hospitality to parishioners and visitors.

Circle of Care

- ❖ The **Bereavement Hospitality Ministry** provides compassion to grieving families by organizing a reception in the Parlor or Parish Hall following a funeral service.
- ❖ **Eucharistic Visitors** bring the Holy Sacrament of Bread and Wine from Christ Church to homebound parishioners who are unable to attend services.
- ❖ The **Food Ministry** provides meals for parishioners who are recovering from surgery, illness, grieving, or celebrating a new life in the family.
- ❖ The **New Baby Ministry** supports and cares for parishioners having or adopting children by offering a baby blanket, a meal, a special book, and prayers.
- ❖ The **Pastoral Care Flower Ministry** arranges altar flowers from Sunday services for parishioners in pastoral need or celebrating life milestones. This ministry works in the sacristy on Monday mornings. The Brotherhood of St Andrew and other volunteers deliver the flowers at the beginning of the week.
- ❖ The **Prayer Card Ministry** sends notes of encouragement or condolence to parishioners in need.
- ❖ The **Prayer Shawl Ministry** knits and crochets prayer shawls, prayer patches, and baby blankets, which are presented to parishioners as the need arises. Meets the Second Thursday of the month at 9:30 AM in the Parlor.
- ❖ The **Telephone Ministry** maintains contact with homebound parishioners to keep them involved and informed of parish life as active parishioners.

Hospitality

- ❖ **Coffee Hour/Breakfast Ministry** prepares the parish hall and serves trays of food for Sunday breakfast at 9:00 AM and coffee hour after the 10:30 AM service.
- ❖ The **Host Ministry (NEW)** welcomes visitors and parishioners to Christ Church on Sunday mornings. Hosts provide directions to parishioners to aid in navigating the church grounds.
- ❖ **Under the Dome Ministry** welcomes the community into Christ Church on Saturdays to tour the church and chapel from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM.

Outreach Ministries are opportunities to extend our hands in love by working alongside non-profit organizations in the broader Pensacola community and globally.

Local Opportunities:

- ❖ **Bridging the Gap** – cares for our neighbors without homes. Support this work by donating clothing to the church or helping them serve food on Thursdays at 5:00 PM under Lee Street bridge.
- ❖ **Favor House** – works with victims of domestic violence and their children. Support this work by volunteering at the kids center and family education center.
- ❖ **Loaves and Fishes** – serves over 4500 meals a month to those in need. Support this work by volunteering at the soup kitchen or assisting in sorting donations. Look for scheduled volunteer days in the Chronicle.
- ❖ **Manna Food Pantry** – provides 26,414 meals for 938 families in Escambia and Santa Rosa counties. Support this work by taking part in “Bag it for Manna” food drives in the Spring and Fall, and sorting donations at the Food Pantry. Look for scheduled volunteer days in the Chronicle.
- ❖ **Montclair Elementary** – is an amazing school, in one of Pensacola’s most impoverished communities. Support Montclair by mentoring, volunteering, teacher appreciation events, and drives to stock the school store.
- ❖ **Ocean Hour** – protects our beaches and coastal waterways through cleanups. Held around the community on Saturdays from 7:45 AM – 9:00 AM. Look for scheduled volunteer days in the Chronicle.
- ❖ **Ronald McDonald House** – supports families of children with medical needs. Support this work by providing lunch to residents and assisting in cleaning communal areas. Look for scheduled volunteer days in the Chronicle.
- ❖ **United Ministries** – ministry of local churches where families in crisis receive assistance in a caring, comforting atmosphere. In 1987 Christ Church played a key role in founding United Ministries. Support this work by becoming an office volunteer who assists with making copies, answering phones, and interviewing clients.
- ❖ **Waterfront Rescue Mission** – cares for men in our community without homes and in recovery. Support this work by volunteering at the soup kitchen or assisting in sorting donations. Look for scheduled volunteer days in the Chronicle.

Justice Ministries are organizations that help the people who are Christ Church to address the root causes of poverty and injustice, through the empowerment of marginalized people.

- ❖ **Freedom School** – is a six-week summer program, to promote literacy and social engagement for elementary and middle school-aged students in impoverished communities in Pensacola.
- ❖ **JUST Pensacola (Justice United Seeking Transformation)** – accomplishes its mission by engaging congregation leaders and members in annual listening, research, and action processes.

Our community is not complete without you!
What other opportunities might God be calling you to lead?

Next Steps:

As you notice God leading you to become more involved in one of these ministries, complete the survey and turn it in at the end of the service.

Please contact the clergy or Krista McGraw at krista@christ-church.net or 850-432-5115 with any questions.