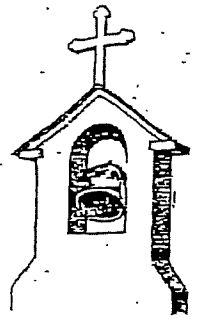


# Christ Church *Bell*

Volume XXXVIII, Issue 12

December 2024



In the midst of the world's anxiety and despair, the Holy Spirit appears to be blowing through Christ Church, offering fresh breath and glimpses of new possibilities.

Blue Christmas: When Christmas Hurts is scheduled for December 11th at 4pm. Flyers will be distributed to Rausch Funeral Home, Hospice, Care4 and Calvert County Episcopal churches as well as nearby faith communities.

Two children of former Christ Church parishioners' will be baptized on December 21st. And new Vestry member Ron Marney will be confirmed at St. Paul's Prince Frederick on February 16th.

Very early and preliminary conversations are taking place regarding elevating intentional Discipleship/Leadership Development and Missional Living at Christ Church.

And lastly, new connections are developing among local Episcopal clergy and C4's Executive Director, Michelle Crosby, in planning for this week's launch of **Sacred Ground** in Calvert County. **Sacred Ground** is the Episcopal Church racial reconciliation journey developed and launched nationally during the tenure of former Presiding Bishop Michael Curry and his Canon Stephanie Spellers.

Lucretia+

## CHRIST CHURCH PRAYER LIST

Please keep the following parishioners and items in your prayers:

### Joys / Thanksgivings

- Historic witness and mission of the parish in Calvert County, in Maryland and worldwide
- Buildings and 47 acres of grounds entrusted to the parish. For our Interim Rector, Dr. Lucretia Mann.

### Military

- Aaron Boudreau, Thomas Garcia, Michael Harris, Robert Harris, Clay Liles, Evan Metz, Brian Riva, Peeter Pleake-Tamm, Caidyn Nolan, Kamryn Nolan

### Homebound and Long-term Care

- Erich Fronck, Jessica Lewis, Vera Lind, Elaine Williams, Anne Yoe

### Sick / Hospitalized / Recovering

- Johnny Brodigan, Tom Cavin, Nancy Dare, Gloria DeBolt; Mason Lee Gott; Cindy Horsmon, Gil Masters, Shannon Masters, Virginia McCready, Ted Money, Sheila Pitcher, Kirk Taylor, Joe Wegner, Mary Linda Wegner, Joan Wood

### - Special Needs / Concerns of our Parish

- Discernment and labor for strengthening faithful parish witness & mission
- Ukraine
- Turkey
- Syria
- Israel
- God's guidance for our self-study and search for our next rector

### -Friends of Parish

- |                   |                       |                          |
|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| - Molly           | -Kay Hoile            | -Little Woody Lee        |
| -Ben Norfolk      | -Viola Carroll        | -Billy Bonolis           |
| -Dorothy Franklin | -William Johnson      | -Charlotte Hayman        |
| -Ann Garner       | -Josh Nudge           | -Roland (Sonny) Hayman   |
| -Tommy Rosnage    | -Daniel Carter        | -Kathy W.                |
| -Ronnie Bowen     | - Carrie              | -Jaylyn Almond           |
| --Bill Lerch      | -Amy Marburger        | Joyce Spangler           |
| -Jamie Gurney     | -Catherine Howanstine | -Barbara Clem            |
| -Linda            | -Shannon Persetic     | -Jean Bates              |
| -Carole Mistarka  | -Gaylyn Krenik        | -Cindi Cauffman's Family |
| -Norma Jean Welch | -Lisa Porter          | -Pat S.                  |
| -Roberto Dennis   | -Lynn H               | -Carolyn M               |
| -Richard Geffin   | -Thalbert Wilde       | -Anjie McCollumn         |
| -Shelia           |                       |                          |

*We will pray for members of the parish who are sick, hospitalized, or recovering for three Sundays in church, and then remove their names from the prayer list, unless specifically renewed. We will list Friends of the Parish for one month and then remove their names from the Bell, unless specifically renewed.*



**Celebrate the Season**

**Come and Enjoy**

**an Old-Fashioned Christmas**

**at**

**The One Room Schoolhouse**

**Sunday, December 22**

**11:00 am - 1:00 pm**

**Santa and Mrs. Claus arrive at Eleven**

**Enjoy**

**Old-Fashioned Fun**

**Homemade Cookies and Hot Drinks**

**Christmas Music with Guest Pianist**

**String Popcorn and Cranberry**

**Make Origami Stars**

**Help Decorate Christmas Tree**

**Crafts for Children**



all.

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published by:  
Christ Church  
3100 Broomes Island Road  
Port Republic, MD 20676  
410-586-0565  
Fr. Christopher Garcia, Rector

Production Staff:  
Dotty Greene, Mary Linda Wegner  
Nancy Zinn, Editor

Deadline for next issue: January 2, 2025

## **Fall Work Day**

*Taking pride in our parish home  
in preparation for Christmas celebration!*

**Saturday, December 14**

**Rain or Snow Date, Saturday, December 21**

**8:00 am - Noon**

***At 10:00 am, Wreaths Across America ceremony  
begins. You are welcome to participate by laying a  
wreath on a Veterans grave.***

*Work can be done anytime near this date.*

*Refreshments & Lunch provided*



**To the Glory of God  
and in thanksgiving for  
the 47 acres entrusted to this parish,  
let us together  
WORK, PLAY, GIVE  
to clean-up and beautify the grounds.**

*Tending to parish grounds and buildings as an act of  
thanksgiving and prayer strengthens the welcome  
Of holy hospitality and peace to all who the Lord  
brings to this place.*

*To offer your labor at other times,*

*Please speak with Barton Ewalt, Jr. Warden,*

**410-610-3428**

## CHRISTMAS FLORAL DECORATIONS

Contributions in memory of loved ones or in thanksgiving, support the seasonal decorating of the Church and regular worship needs. Checks are to be received by the Assistant Treasurer c/o Christ Church by **Tuesday, 17 December** to be listed in the Christmas worship leaflets.



### PARISH E-MAILING

Persons who would like to receive parish e-mailings of notices, news, and updates beyond those printed in weekly worship bulletins and monthly newsletters, please give your e-mail address to Rev. Lucretia Mann, Interim Rector or the Parish Office. 410-586-0565

## The Vestry of Christ Church Parish OFFICERS

Rev. Lucretia Mann, Interim Rector  
Nancy W. Zinn, Senior Warden  
Bart Ewalt, Junior Warden  
Helen Prince, Registrar  
Jim Yoe, Treasurer  
Pam Briscoe, Assistant Treasurer  
Beverly Lusby, Assistant Treasurer

### VESTRY MEMBERS

2025	Peter Cochran	Patti Wahl
2026	Ron Cole	Allyson Sigler
2027	Ron Marney	Phil Yeats
2028	David Campbell	Sandy Hall

**Advent Wreath Workshop.** Please join us on the **First Sunday of Advent, 1 December at 11:30 am** (after the 10:00 am service ends) in the Parish Hall to make your own Advent wreath and learn about Advent. There will be a small fee to cover the materials (wreath forms, candles, etc.) provided; please bring your own clippers and fresh greens, if you have any to share. Please sign-up on the sheets posted on the bulletin boards in the Church and Parish Hall if you plan to attend this fun making event.



23<sup>rd</sup> Annual

## ST. LEONARD POLLING HOUSE

### Holiday Caroling

Sunday, December 8, at 4:30 pm

Enjoy cookies, cocoa, and song  
Santa will make a special appearance at 5:00 pm

*Sponsored by St. Leonard Vision Group*  
*Information: Nancy Zinn, 410-586-0682*

### PLEDGE ENVELOPES

2024 pledge envelopes may be picked up at the Church entrance beginning **Sunday, December 8**. If you would like to have envelopes, and have not returned your pledge card, please place it in the offering plate, or mail it to the Assistant Treasurer c/o Christ Church.

## End of Life Workshop

On Saturday, January 11, 2025, Christ Church Port Republic will be hosting an End of Life Seminar for the local Episcopal Churches in the region, from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Guest speakers will include a representative from Hospice to talk about palliative care and Hospice care, a lawyer who deals in estates, trusts and wills, Margaret Phipps, Calvert County's Register of Wills, a representative from Rausch Funeral Home, and a minister to discuss funeral planning and church funerals. People are asked to bring their own lunches, but drinks and snacks will be provided. This is not just for the elderly! People of all ages could benefit from the information in this seminar. More information will be forthcoming, including where to RSVP. Questions, contact Patti Wahl or Norm Prince.

## REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

Last year, we did the Reverse Advent Calendar.

For those who want hands-on involvement, try a **reverse Advent calendar**. Each day add an item to a box, before Christmas Eve donate the contents to Food Bank or to a family at SLES or MES. Here is a suggestion of what you can do for the reverse Advent Calendar:

December 1 – box of cereal  
December 2 – peanut butter  
December 3 – stuffing mix  
December 4 – boxed potatoes  
December 5 – macaroni and cheese  
December 6 – canned fruit  
December 7 – canned tomatoes  
December 8 – canned tuna  
December 9 – dessert mix  
December 10 – jar of applesauce

## Celebrate the Season

Come and Join Us at

Christ Church

Dec. 24 – Christman Eve - 3:00 pm  
Family Holy Eucharist with Children's  
Message

10:30 pm Carol Sing

11:00 pm Festival Holy Eucharist


Wednesday, Dec. 25 – 10:00 am  
Christmas Day Holy Eucharist

Sunday, December 29 – The First  
Sunday after Christmas Day  
Regular 8:30 am and 10:00 am  
Services Resume



December 11 – canned sweet potatoes  
December 12 – cranberry sauce  
December 13 – canned beans  
December 14 – box of crackers  
December 15 – package of rice  
December 16 – package of oatmeal  
December 17 – package of pasta  
December 18 – spaghetti sauce  
December 19 – chicken noodle soup  
December 20 – tomato soup  
December 21 – can corn  
December 22 – can mixed vegetables  
December 23 – can carrots  
December 24 – can green beans

# DECEMBER



SUN	MON	TUE	WED
<p style="text-align: right;"><b>1</b></p> <p>8:30 Holy Eucharist Rite I                      10 am Holy Eucharist Rite II                      ZOOM @ 10:00</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>2</b></p> <p>6:30 pm Alcoholics Anon.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>3</b></p>	<p>7:00 – 8:15 pm                      Evening Bible                      ZOOM</p>
<p style="text-align: right;"><b>8</b></p> <p>8:30 Holy Eucharist Rite I                      10 am Holy Eucharist Rite II                      ZOOM @ 10:00</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>9</b></p> <p>6:30 pm Alcoholics Anon.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>10</b></p> <p>7:00 pm Vestry Meeting</p>	<p>7:00 – 8:15 pm                      Evening Bible                      ZOOM                      4:00 pm – Blue                      Service</p>
<p style="text-align: right;"><b>15</b></p> <p>8:30 Holy Eucharist Rite I                      10 am Holy Eucharist Rite II                      ZOOM @ 10:00</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>16</b></p> <p>6:30 pm Alcoholics Anon.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>17</b></p> <p>Deadline for Christmas Floral                      Memorial Contributions</p>	<p>7:00 – 8:15 pm                      Evening Bible                      ZOOM</p>
<p>8:30 Holy Eucharist Rite I                      10 am Holy Eucharist Rite II                      ZOOM @ 10:00                      11 am – 1 pm – Christmas Open                      House, One Room School                      and Parish Hall</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>22</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>23</b></p> <p>9:00 am Greening the                      Church                      6:30 pm Alcoholics Anon.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>24</b></p> <p>3:00 pm Family Christmas Eve                      Holy Eucharist                      10:30 pm Carol Sing                      11:00 pm Festival Holy Eucharist</p>	<p>10:00 am                      Holy Eucharist</p>
<p style="text-align: right;"><b>29</b></p> <p>8:30 Holy Eucharist Rite I                      10 am Holy Eucharist Rite II                      ZOOM @ 10:00</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>30</b></p> <p>6:30 pm Alcoholics Anon.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>31</b></p>	

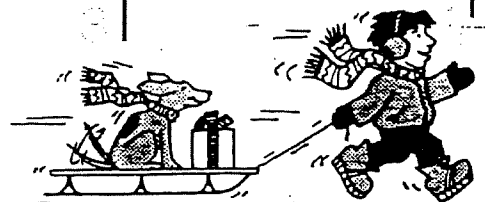
Holidays and Observances: 24: Christmas Eve, 25: Christmas Day, 31: New Year's Eve

PH 410-586-0565

Deacon Beth Bellner's e-mail - [eabellner@gmail.com](mailto:eabellner@gmail.com) Cell 407-256-3298

# ER 2024

D	THU	FRI	SAT
4 Wednesday Study via	5 10:00 am Holy Eucharist & Healing Service 10:45 am- 12:00 noon Bible Study (in person only) 7:30 pm Choir Practice	6 11:30 am JULIETS - Dream Weavers	7
11 Wednesday Study via Christmas	12 10:00 am Holy Eucharist & Healing Service 10:45 am- 12:00 noon Bible Study (in person only) 7:30 pm Choir Practice	13	14 8:00 am Fall Clean-Up 10:00 am Wreaths Across America Placement
18 Wednesday Study via	19 10:00 am Holy Eucharist & Healing Service 10:45 am- 12:00 noon Bible Study (in person only) 7:30 pm Choir Practice	20	21  WINTER
25 Christmas Day Eucharist	26	27	28
	Bell Deadline		



New Year's Eve

# DECEMBER

## HEARTFELT UPDATE

We are now filling 13 HeartFelt backpacks each week for St. Leonard Elementary School students. With these numbers, the food is disappearing quickly. We send home breakfast for 3 days, lunch for 2 days, and supper for 3 days plus snacks and drinks and more on holiday weekends. When you go shopping and would like to pick up some food, it would be greatly appreciated.

Listed below are foods that can be used in the backpacks:

Ravioli	Corn
Mac and Cheese	Canned potatoes
Ramen Noodles	Cookies
Spaghetti and Meatballs	Beefaroni
Beanee Weenees	Granola Bars
Cereal Bars	Tuna Salad
Cereal – individual boxes	Chicken Salad
Pancake Mix	Syrup
Peanut Butter crackers	Jelly

Thank you to all the parishioners who have been so faithful to the HeartFelt Backpack program. We would not be able to do this without you!

Nancy Zinn



## Greening of Christ Church

Monday, December 23

9:00 am

Parish Hall



Come work with creating Christmas floral decorations for the Church. A sign-up sheet is posted at the church entrance. No previous experience required, we will teach you!

Information: Helen Prince  
410-586-8421  
[neprince@comcast.net](mailto:neprince@comcast.net)

## PLEDGE CARDS FOR 2025

Pledge cards for 2025 were enclosed in your November Bell. Pledge cards can be mailed to Christ Church, 3100 Broomes Island Road, Port Republic, MD 20676, Attn: Assistant Treasurer, left in the Parish Hall Office, emailed to:

[treasurer@christchurchcalvert.org](mailto:treasurer@christchurchcalvert.org), or left in the offering plate.

Please complete your Pledge Card so the Vestry will know what to anticipate as income from pledges. If you find you can't fulfill your pledge as the year goes on, just let the Treasurer, James Yoe, know.



## Christmas Open House Event

Anyone who stopped by the Children's Corner Tent on Tournament Day quickly sensed the energy and enthusiasm of everyone there.

To continue that level of enthusiasm and fun, there will be a **Christmas Open House at Christ Church in partnership with the One-Room Schoolhouse on Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

**Activities will include:**

### **One-Room Schoolhouse**

- **Pictures with Santa**
- **Live Music**
- **Crafts**

### **Parish Hall**

- **Refreshments**
- **Photo Backdrop**
- **Seasonal Crafts**
- **Christmas Attic Treasures**

### **Christ Church**

- **Tour our Historic Church**
- **Find the Church Mouse for a Treat**

**This event will be such a fun way to get into the holiday spirit, so please plan on joining us on December 22<sup>nd</sup> and spread the word. And, yes, volunteers to assist with crafts are always appreciated.**

The **J.U.L.I.E.T.s** are having their next lunch **Fri, 6 Dec.**, 11:30 a.m., at Dream Weavers. All women of the parish (and their friends) are welcome!



**Advent Walks.** Deacon Beth will be facilitating our Regional Advent Walks and Joe will be keeper of the Bon Fire. **Mark your calendars for Tuesdays, Dec 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 17<sup>th</sup>, at 4:00 pm** at the back porch of the Parish Hall. Enjoy a brief Advent reflection, a walk on Christ Church's trails, and fellowship by the fire. Bundle up and bring a flashlight or headlamp - twilight comes early in December. Don't want to walk the trail? Come and warm up by the fire (near the One-Room Schoolhouse) and join the reflection time. Let's get on the trail together as we prepare for Christmas! *Deacon Beth asks for continued prayers for guidance.*

## Year of Transition

Canon Kristin Krantz visited Christ Church on October 27. She was able to answer any questions we might have on the Search. That afternoon, we had Trunk or Treat in the Parish Parking Lot. We only had 15 children attend and 14 adults with 10 parishioners handing out treats. Karen had sent out over 400 postcards to our neighboring communities. We are going to be looking at other ways to attract the community in the fall of 2025.

The Profile Committee completed the revised Profile and prepared the OTM. The Vestry approved both the Profile and the OTM which was then sent to Canon Krantz and the **Search was launched**. The Revised Profile is on our website. **Shannon Campbell's Search Committee Update:** The Christ Church Vestry and Search Committee will participate together in an anti-bias training workshop conducted by the Office of Transitional Ministries on **December 3, 6:30 – 8:30 by ZOOM**. The Search Committee is meeting weekly. They are formulating questions for candidate interviews. The rector search will close on **Sunday, December 1, 2024**. **The Search Committee, to refresh your memory, is Shannon Campbell, Chair, Norm Prince, Philip Yeats, Heather Brady, Nicole Foveaux, Bill Wright, Patti Ritter, Jimmy Coffren, James Briscoe, Brian Williams, and Terri Beck. Continue to pray for the search and the Search Committee.**

Ron Marney was sworn in as our new Vestry person on November 12.

November 17, we will had a joint service at 9:15 am followed by a delicious pot luck

brunch and the Fall Business Meeting. Reports were given by our Interim Rector, Lucretia+, the Senior Warden, the Junior Warden, Barton Ewalt, the Treasurer, James Yoe, Shannon Campbell, update on the Search Committee, Norm Prince, Delegate to Diocesan Convention, and Patti Wahl, updating the End of Life Workshop.

Thanksgiving Day, there will be one service at 10 am. A pot luck breakfast will be had at 9 am in the Parish Hall before the service if we have enough to sign up.

December 1 is the **Advent Wreath Workshop** lead by Helen Prince. Deacon Beth will be leading the **Advent Walks** on December 3, 10, and 17 at 4:00 pm. **Fall Work Day** is at 8 am on December 14. **Veteran's Wreath Laying** service will be held on Dec. 14 at 10 am.

Karen is working on getting names for the Angel Trees so we can help a child's Christmas be a little brighter.

**Wed., December 11, is the Blue Christmas Service at 4 pm.** This is a new service that Lucretia+ has held at previous churches and it helps those who are sad get through Christmas

**December 22** is the Christmas Open House at the One Room Schol and at Christ Church. See all the information in this edition of the Bell.

**Christmas Eve** services are at 3 pm and 11 pm with Carol Sing at 10:30 pm. **Christmas Day** service is 10 am.

I wish each of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy 2025!  
Nancy W. Zinn, Sr. Warden

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Prayer is offered for each person posted on the birthday list by the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, The Daughters of the King, and other parish prayer ministries and intercessors.

Birthdays are posted from the most current records. Please provide updates.

- 1 Camryn Harrigan  
Annette Wegner
- 2 J. D. Garner  
Rylan Nolan
- 3 Brandon Bowen  
John Hollowell
- 4 Dru Branche  
Rita Yoe
- 5 Crofton Briscoe  
Thomas Cotner
- 6 Judy Coffren  
Chloe Ewalt
- 7 Jonathan Davis  
Kim Fridman  
Casie Reynolds  
Jacob Weems
- 8 Jan Huether  
Jack Sigler  
Matthew Spring
- 9 Benjamin J. McCready
- 10 A. Edison Culver
- 11 Jack Rosnage
- 12 Donna Goucher  
Debbie Lobas
- 13 Alan Burke
- 14 Art Cochran  
Trinette Garner



- Walter Wolf  
15 Logan Watson  
Hannah Wilt  
17 Tate Reynolds  
Jason Sharpe  
18 Kim Gott  
Emily Wahl  
19 Elaine McQueeney  
20 Jake Cornellier  
Cindy Horsmon  
Gil Masters  
21 Jessie Curtis  
25 Allan Barrett  
26 Mattie Stott  
Jenni Richardson  
28 Cindy Bladen  
Jacob Garner  
Lucy Schoemer  
John Seymour  
29 Braden Dunlap  
30 Roberta Baker  
31 Peggy Cochran  
Kori Hand  
Jamie Weems

### December Altar Guild

- Diane Azpiazu  
Francine Lamson

CHRIST CHURCH  
3100 Broomes Island Road  
Port Republic, MD 20676



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### Christmas Attic Treasures

As part of the One-Room Schoolhouse/Christ Church Christmas Open House (12/22/24), we will be having a few **Christmas Attic Treasures tables** set up to sell Christmas items to benefit the church. Items can be holiday linens, ornaments and decorations. As you decorate for Christmas, please keep us in mind and **drop off your gently used Christmas themed items** in the last classroom on the left in the Parish Hall. The door will have a sign, "Christmas Attic Treasures". Please do not put items in the shed. The last day to drop off items will be **Saturday, 12/21**. Thank you.

**Veteran's Wreath Laying.** Christ Church has joined *Wreaths Across America*, a national nonprofit program to continue and expand the annual wreath-laying ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery. The organization seeks to "Remember the fallen, Honor those that serve, Teach the next generation the value of freedom" by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies at thousands of locations in all 50 states. We have identified over eighty veterans in our Christ Church churchyard. Come out on **Sat, 14 Dec 2024 at 10 a.m.**; be part of the ceremony and help lay wreaths on our veterans' graves. **You can sponsor wreaths (\$17 each; cash or check made out to Christ Church with "Wreaths Across America" in the memo line).** Everyone is invited to join the event to honor our service men and women.

**Search Prayer.** Please pray daily for our search for our next rector: *Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a rector for this parish, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our mission through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*