

# THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**Community Bag Lunch Program: Weekly!** Our next community free bag lunch is TODAY after the 10:30 a.m. service, and will continue weekly (not monthly) throughout at least April and May! We need folks to help prepare and set up the lunches (at about 12 p.m. – right after coffee hour) and help with distribution from 12:30-1:30 p.m. Most jobs take only 30-60 minutes, making it very manageable to add to your day! To lend a hand, sign up on the Atrium bulletin board or in the eNews or contact Josephine Powell (313-587-4545, [license123@aol.com](mailto:license123@aol.com)) - or just stop into the kitchen!

**Serve on Sundays:** Would you like to help our congregation in important ways? Would you like to experience communion more deeply? Consider becoming a Lector or Lay Eucharistic Minister (LEM)! Lectors read the scriptures, and LEMs read the Prayers of the People and help serve communion. In our communion practices, which are more inclusive and expansive post-pandemic, *two* LEMs assist at 8:15 a.m. services, and *four* LEMs assist at 10:30 a.m. services. Thus, there are many opportunities – and needs! – to serve. Anyone interested is actively invited to serve! No experience necessary. Simple, custom training and mentoring are provided. Contact Anthony ([amitchell8170@gmail.com](mailto:amitchell8170@gmail.com)) or Sandy ([zull.sandraf@gmail.com](mailto:zull.sandraf@gmail.com)) or sign up via the link in the eNews. We want to hear your voice!

**Capital Campaign Update!** Thanks to very generous gifts, we have secured the \$1 million for the exterior scope of work to begin in this construction season, which involves the critical work of waterproofing our buildings. We are so grateful for the inspirational generosity of this parish, and we look forward to sharing progress in the coming weeks and months! Next steps will include the Vestry's review of the joint recommendation of the Renovation Action Committee and Capital Campaign Committee to move ahead with contracts so that we can take advantage of the 2024 construction season, which we are currently on track to do.

**Join Adult Bible Study this Spring!** Beginning last week, the Adult Bible class has started reading the existing fragments of some of the “extra-canonical” gospels – those which did not meet ancient criteria to be included with Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John in our New Testament. We will continue reading and discussing these texts throughout the season of the Great 50 Days of Easter (until May 19<sup>th</sup>, Pentecost). Our starting text is the 2<sup>nd</sup> century CE fragment of the Gospel of Peter—unlike our canonical gospels that describe only an empty tomb and post-resurrection appearances, it actually describes what that writer envisioned as Jesus' resurrection. Then we will move on to Jewish-Christian gospels from those communities that believed in Jesus as the Messiah but desired to remain Jewish, and then the gospels of Thomas, Mary, and Judas. To complete our year of reading, following Pentecost we will conclude with the hopeful small Epistles of Peter, written it is believed in the late 1<sup>st</sup> and early 2<sup>nd</sup> centuries by followers of the Apostle Peter many years after his death at the hands of the Emperor Nero. Anyone interested is welcome at any time, and texts of these readings will be made available. There is no homework due in advance! Simply show up at 9:30 a.m. in Cary Lounge and read along! With questions, please contact Barbara ([barbara.cushing@yahoo.com](mailto:barbara.cushing@yahoo.com)).

**Gleaners Food Bank Work Day:** The next work session at Gleaners Food Bank in Taylor is tomorrow, Monday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> from 9:00-11:30 a.m. Sign up in the Atrium or contact Seth ([smlloyd4@gmail.com](mailto:smlloyd4@gmail.com)).

**Many Thanks!** The Altar Guild is so grateful to Jen Sainte Laurent for her efforts to repair our candle holder. Jen managed to repair it, and gave it a thorough polishing as well. We are so appreciative.

**Baptism Opportunities:** Are you or someone you know interested in baptism? The next opportunities for baptism are on Sundays throughout the Easter season, essentially April and May, through Pentecost Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. Following that, the next traditional opportunity is on All Saints' Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Preparation involves a few classes/conversations. Contact Rev. Emily!

**Opportunity for Confirmation or Reception:** We are invited to join Bishop Perry for a diocesan service of confirmation or reception into the Episcopal Church on Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. at St. James' Episcopal Church, Grosse Ile (25150 E River Road, Grosse Ile Township, 48138). If you are curious about or interested in making an adult profession of faith, please contact Rev. Emily ([emily@christcd.org](mailto:emily@christcd.org)). The upcoming Inquirers' Course is a great way to explore and prepare!

**We're Hiring!** We are seeking a Facilities Manager and Children's Assistants (Nursery Caregivers). Although these paid positions are not open to parishioners, they are excellent opportunities for friends, neighbors, colleagues, classmates, and other contacts—please spread the word! Learn more at [christcd.org/job-openings-3](http://christcd.org/job-openings-3) and contact Rev. Emily ([emily@christcd.org](mailto:emily@christcd.org)) to express interest.

**Community Chorus of Detroit Concerts:** On Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30 p.m. or Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. at Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church (8625 E. Jefferson Ave., Detroit), enjoy the Community Chorus of Detroit's Heart & Soul concert, conducted by the one and only Dr. Edward Maki-Schramm and featuring numerous friends and members of Christ Church Detroit! This magnificent concert features the 80-voice chorus, with orchestra, performing *Lux Aeterna* by Morten Lauridsen, alongside pop favorites from John Lennon, Marvin Gaye, Aretha Franklin, and more! Tickets are \$25 in advance or \$30 at the door. Visit [communitychorusofdetroit.com](http://communitychorusofdetroit.com) for tickets and more information.

**Jim Wallis Lecture & Book Signing:** On Thursday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m., Jim Wallis, New York Times Bestselling Author and Theologian will visit the Diocese to discuss his latest book *The False White Gospel: Rejecting Christian Nationalism, Reclaiming True Faith, and Refounding Democracy*. The lecture and book signing is open to the public and will take place at St. David's Episcopal Church, Southfield (16200 W 12 Mile Rd). Everyone wishing to join the group for dinner prior to the lecture/book signing will be asked to make a reservation and pay a nominal fee. There will be no cost to attend the talk and book signing at 7:00 p.m. To learn more & register, please visit <https://www.edomi.org/event/jim-wallis-lecture-and-book-signing-southfield/>

***The Philadelphia Eleven*, with Rev. Emily, panelist:** On Tuesday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. at the Michigan Theater Screening Room (603 E Liberty St, Ann Arbor, 48104), you're invited to a special screening of *The Philadelphia Eleven*, a new documentary on the first eleven women ordained as priests in the Episcopal Church – in 1974 in Philadelphia - followed by a panel discussion with the Rt. Rev. Dr. Bonnie A. Perry, The Rev. Joyce Matthews, The Rev. Barbara Cavin, our own The Rev. Emily Williams Guffey, and The Rev. Anne Clarke (moderator). In the film, meet women and their supporters who succeed in building a movement that transforms an age-old institution, and challenges the very essence of patriarchy within Christendom – and then hear from some women clergy leaders in our diocese! Tickets are limited, so don't wait! Visit [marquee-arts.org](http://marquee-arts.org) for tickets and information.

## VESTRY UPDATE

Our March Vestry meeting was extraordinary.

On the surface, it seemed ordinary. We gathered, opened with prayer and Bible study, and approved minutes of prior meetings. Then we passed several resolutions regarding the church's finances and work, and reviewed the annual "census" we submit to the national church. We discussed committee liaisons, and adjourned.

But there was so much more going on. As we talked about the word "teacher" in our Bible study passage, Emily's enthusiasm for the Godly Play curriculum used in our children's Sunday School was on full display. She literally went running to collect and show us the materials used during Lent!

Those resolutions? We are seeing results from the hard work and sacrificial giving of our Capital Campaign. We approved two contracts negotiated by the Renovation Action Committee.

The first was with our architect to bid out work to reconfigure pews in the sanctuary to allow more room for concerts, more space for wheelchairs, and safer egress in case of an emergency. Thank you, Caroline Widak and the Safety Committee, for keeping us aware of that!

The second was with Detroit Collaborative Design Center, which has astounding ties to community groups and other nonprofits, to survey our neighbors and determine their specific needs so that our new kitchen can best serve them.

Another resolution, from the Finance Committee aided by the Capital Campaign Steering Committee and Outreach Committee, authorized moving funds from the Outreach account to pay for the DCDC contract. By following all due processes in spending money, we display care and diligence with the gifts parishioners have given to the church. Outreach's approval of that expenditure, as approved at our special meeting March 6, represents their investment in serving our neighbors well into the future.

That census? At our last meeting, we celebrated numbers showing an increase in young families at Christ Church. This time, we reviewed wording – crafted by Emily from Vestry members' submissions – of essays on the challenges and opportunities faced in 2023 and our hopes for the future. We reviewed thoughtful comments from Finance Committee Chair Jane Forbes on the positive and negative financial trends facing the church. We discussed whether the document shows fully the varied Outreach work this church does.

That discussion acknowledged that our neighbors in Detroit need a beacon of hope. There is a true need for the food and other necessities that we provide by donating to Crossroads or volunteering at Gleaners, through our bag-lunch program – or, in future years thanks to the work Christ Church is doing now, by having a new kitchen serving our neighbors.

— Submitted by Jim Treece, Senior Warden

### **SUSTAINING PRAYER LIST**

Please continue to pray for these persons:

*Pat Ald, John Aurand, Genet Barthwell, Christopher Beck, Stacey Becker, Ismat Begum, Ed Beverly, Maura Campbell, Donna Cillette, Dorothy Coleman, Margie Deeb, Asha Dhanarajan, B. J. Essen, Christine Franklin, Ronald Griffin, Lauren Keils, Lucinda Keils, Kelly, Madelyn Lenhard Laurer, Julia Lenhard, Edna Lock, Arnold Matthews, Ruby Mays, Thelma McCrary, Jane McFeely, Pat, Preston Family, Lori Rikken, Parker Roberts, Irene Ryke, Dennis Scanland, Atticus Schoonover, Tom Solomon, Mimi Van Scoter, Bob Vitolins, Mary Wilbert, Lydia Z.*

## ABOUT THE LITURGICAL ARTS

The art on the bulletin cover is called *The Good Shepherd* (1973). It is from the JESUS MAFA collection, a response to New Testament readings from the lectionary by a Christian community in Cameroon, Africa. Each of the readings was selected and adapted to dramatic interpretation by the community members. Photos of their interpretations were made, and then transcribed to paintings. *The Good Shepherd* is reprinted with permission under the Creative Commons Attribution Noncommercial License of Vanderbilt University.

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## ASSISTING IN TODAY'S LITURGY

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<i>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</i>	The Rev. Emily Williams Guffey, <i>Rector</i>
<i>Guest Speaker</i>	Ms. DeeDee McVety, <i>Director, Faith Centered Engagement, Samaritas</i>
<i>Musicians</i>	Dr. Edward Maki-Schramm, <i>Director of Music</i> The Christ Church Detroit Choir
<i>Lector</i>	8:15 Letha Ann Steward 10:30 Jocelyn Burrell
<i>Lay Eucharistic Ministers</i>	8:15 Letha Ann Steward 10:30 Jim Treece, Sandy Zull, Bobbi Gaspar, Anthony Mitchell
<i>Livestream Team</i>	Chuck Atwater, Desmond Jones, Taylor Matthew
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Bobbi Gaspar, Alma Simmons, Letha Ann Steward
<i>Floral Iconographer</i>	Richard Thomas
<i>Breakfast</i>	Edwina Simpson, Hope Hoffman, Mary Herring, Mary Brown
<i>Coffee Hour</i>	Bobbi Gaspar, Betty Warner, Kathryn Treece

