

# THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## LITURGY

**Paschal Candle:** Many thanks to Mira Hughes, who designed the 2025 Paschal Candle (the tall candle beside the center altar), which was lit for the first time last Sunday and will be used until Easter 2026. About the design, Mira writes:

*I designed the 2025 Paschal Candle using paint, woven cattail, and shells from my collection. Going into this process, I created many sketches and came to the realization that shells are a very present symbol for me in my life, which represent baptism and pilgrimage. Specifically for me, they represent my J2A pilgrimage in Spain. I chose one shell to become the centerpiece of the candle and it was hand painted with the cross, which I designed based on crosses passed down in my family. I also included a symbol of the sun, representing God's light, placing it at the top of the candle. The background of the candle was inspired by our church's beautiful architecture. Finally, the woven cattail strand was included as a symbol of spiritual connection to nature.*

**Senior Speeches, May 11th:** On Sunday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, graduating high school seniors of the parish will give their "senior speeches" at the 10:30 a.m. service. Come out to support them!

**Baptism Opportunities:** Are you or someone you know interested in baptism? Sundays throughout this Easter season (through Trinity Sunday, June 15<sup>th</sup>) are wonderful times for baptism. Following that, the next traditional opportunity is on All Saints' Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Contact Rev. Emily!

**Columbarium Fee Increase:** The columbarium on the west side of the sanctuary is the final resting place for many of our beloved family and friends, lovingly visited and resplendent with evening sunlight through the historic stained glass. As costs to maintain our buildings rise, so, too, will the fee to secure a columbarium niche need to increase. (The first and only fee increase was twenty years ago.) As of May 1, 2025, the fee to secure a niche will increase from \$1,500 to \$2,000, which offsets facilities and materials costs. If you are interested in securing a niche for yourself or loved ones, please contact Joshilyn (313-259-6688, [joshilyn@christcd.org](mailto:joshilyn@christcd.org)) or Rev. Emily.

**Arrangements for Phil Campbell:** A committal service for Phil Campbell is being planned for Sunday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, likely in the morning. Further information is forthcoming.

**Arrangements for Jan Weir:** A memorial service for Jan Weir will take place on Saturday, May 31<sup>st</sup> at 1:00 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church of Royal Oak, 529 Hendrie Blvd, Royal Oak, 48067.

**Arrangements for Phil Brown:** A memorial service for Phil Brown will likely take place at Christ Church later this spring. Information will be shared when available.

**Grand Prix:** There will be no on-site worship services or activities at Christ Church May 28<sup>th</sup>-June 2<sup>nd</sup> (including Sunday, June 1<sup>st</sup>) due to the Detroit Grand Prix.

**Rogation Eucharist:** A service of communion and prayers for our natural world will be held at Knagg's Creek Farm (Jon's Farm) in Detroit on Sunday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, time TBD.

**Birthday Ahead!** Pentecost, June 8<sup>th</sup>, marks the 180<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Christ Church Detroit! We'll also celebrate LGBTQ+ Pride and the many ways that the Spirit guides and empowers us.

**Last Sunday of Program Year:** On Trinity Sunday, June 15<sup>th</sup>, we'll celebrate the final day of the 2024-2025 Choir and Sunday School season.

## EDUCATION

**Graduates:** Are you or someone you know at church graduating from high school, college, or another degree program this spring? If so, let Beth Ann know ([bethann@christcd.org](mailto:bethann@christcd.org)) so we can celebrate!

**Bible Study:** Beginning today, until the end of our Bible class year on June 15<sup>th</sup>, we will read together 1 Maccabees, a book from the Apocrypha. In Protestant Bibles, this collection of writings is not considered to be part of the canon, having been written later than the traditional Old Testament books. Because of their late date of composition, Jewish readers also consider them not part of the Hebrew Bible and classify them as “Second Temple writings”. For Roman Catholic and Orthodox Christians, they are accepted as part of the Bible. The attraction for this particular book is its rendering of the religious history of a period in the 2<sup>nd</sup> century BCE, during the Greek Seleucid control of Judea, when the high-priestly family of Judas Maccabaeus staged a fairly successful revolt against this Hellenistic rule. During his many years as an English citizen, George Frideric Handel wrote a successful oratorio called *Judas Maccabaeus*. We will add to our experience by listening to small portions of it. All are welcome in Cary Lounge at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings. There is no homework, and the text will be supplied. Contact: Barbara ([barbara.cushing@yahoo.com](mailto:barbara.cushing@yahoo.com))

## MUSIC

**Detroit Women’s Chorus Concert:** This Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 3:00 p.m., the Detroit Women’s Chorus will present a spring concert here at Christ Church Detroit. They will also be presenting a concert the night before at St. Andrew & St. Benedict Church (2400 S Beatrice St, Detroit 48217). All tickets are “pay what you can” and benefit Brilliant Detroit, an excellent education nonprofit here in the city. Learn more at [detroitwomenschorus.org](http://detroitwomenschorus.org), and make plans to support this wonderful ensemble!

**A Beacon of Hope: the Music of Detroit Composers:** On Friday, May 16 at 8:00 p.m. and Saturday, May 17 at 4:00 p.m., you are cordially invited to hear the Community Chorus of Detroit at Christ Church as they present the music of Detroit’s finest composers including Stacey Gibbs, Brandon Waddles, Dorian Dillard, Brandon Spencer, Mary Olivanti-Duerksen, Edward Maki-Schramm, Mike Rowan, Lara Alami, and Maurice Draughn that share the message of hope and perseverance. Tickets are available at [www.communitychorusofdetroit.com/](http://www.communitychorusofdetroit.com/) and from your CCD choristers.

## BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

**Spring Work Days:** With the thawing temperatures and the end of Phase 1 of the capital campaign, the Buildings & Grounds Committee is planning out projects for the spring and early summer. We’d love to have your assistance in caring for our shared spaces!

- **Project 1:** *Cleaning up the grounds around the Sanctuary, Sibley House, and Ledyard Hall.* This is fairly light gardening work; please bring hand tools if you have them.
- **Project 2:** *Picking up trash and cutting back underbrush along the Woodbridge (large) parking lot.* We’ll start ASAP, depending on volunteer availability. This is heavier work because there is a steep slope and the brush has gotten fairly wild since it was last trimmed back a couple years ago. If you have any power tools that could help, please bring them.
- **Project 3:** *Planting annual flower beds.* Timed for later in May, exact date TBD depending on weather and volunteer availability. If you have hand tools, please bring them.
- **Project 4:** *Painting Ledyard’s lower level classrooms.* This will be a late spring/summer project. Exact dates will depend on volunteer availability. Dress in paint clothes and if you have paint brushes or rollers you prefer to use, bring them!

If you can help with any of these projects, contact Ruth Boeder at [rlboeder@gmail.com](mailto:rlboeder@gmail.com) or 734-474-7147. You can also sign up in the Atrium or in the eNews.