FALL 2024

# The Disciple

**News & Events at Christ Church Charlotte** 

Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body.

- COLOSSIANS 3:14-15

# Hello Friends,

I'm excited to share this issue of *The Disciple*, which outlines our ministries for the fall and the important priorities we'll be focusing on as a congregation.

Our theme this fall is "United In Love." Throughout the Bible, we're called to unity because division breaks God's heart. Differences are a natural part of life, but division is a choice rooted in behavior. Our baptismal vows remind us that achieving unity requires recognizing the dignity of every human being. In our Christian community, this means valuing our differences as strengths rather than weaknesses.

Together, as we heed our call to serve Christ, we can draw on our diverse perspectives and collective insights to advance God's work in our parish's key areas: nurturing faith in an uncertain world, fostering connections in an age of isolation, promoting wellbeing and care, and expanding our outreach efforts to meet the profound needs in Charlotte and beyond.

Embracing our diverse insights and acting with deep generosity, we can bring God's dreams to life.

This fall, return to your spiritual home to discover faith and hope, reconnect with old friends, make new ones, and explore how we can care for each other and our city.

I look forward to coming together again, united in love.

- The Reverend Chip Edens

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For details, scan this QR code » or visit



christchurchcharlotte.org/calendar

# Cultivating Faith

School of Faith & Faith Forum	Sundays, beginning September 15, 10 am
Thursday Morning Bible Study	Thursdays, after 7 am Eucharist
Christ Church Choir	Thursdays, 7 pm and Sunday Mornings
Education for Ministry (EfM): Fridays	Fridays, beginning September 6, 9:30 am
Education for Ministry (EfM): Wednesdays	Wednesdays, beginning September 18, 9:30 ar
Caritas Fall Concert	Saturday, September 28, 7 pm
The Well	Wednesdays, beginning October 2, 6:30 pm
Wonderfully Made Workshop	Wednesdays, beginning October 2, 6:30 pm
United in Love Sermon Series	Sundays, October 6 – 27, All Services
Blessing of Annual Stewardship Campaign Pledges	Sundays, beginning October 6
	(All Worship Services)
Blessing of the Animals	Sunday, October 6, 4 pm
All Saints' Day Holy Eucharist	Friday, November 1, 11 am
A Service of Thankgiving and Healing	Wednesday, November 27, 12 noon



Simple Presence	Mondays, 11 am
Yoga for the Spirit	Wednesdays, 10 am
Reflections in Motion: Monday Morning Strolls	Mondays, beginning September 16, 10 am
Holy Hike (McAlpine Creek Greenway)	Saturday, September 21, 9 am
Living with Grief and Hope	Mondays, beginning September 30, 12 noon
An Evening of Bach and Haydn:	

Music in a Time of Anxiety...... Friday, October 18, 7:30 pm







# Strengthening Connections

Book Discussion: Learning to Disagree	Wednesdays, beginning August 28, 7 pm
Dook Discussion. Ecanning to Disagree	Wednesdays, beginning August 20, 7 pm
Groundbreaking Ceremony	Sunday, September 8, 9:30 am
Fall Parish Day	Sunday, September 8, 11:30 am
Poetry Circle	Second Tuesdays, beginning September 10, 6 pm
Wednesday Dinners	Wednesdays, beginning September 11, 5:30 pm
Starting Point	Sunday, September 22, 10 am
Sages Conversations & Lunch	Wednesdays, September 25, October 23 &
	November 20, 10:30 am
Young Adult Fire Pit Social	Sunday, September 29, 6 pm
Newcomer Dinners	Wednesdays, October 2 & November 6, 5:30 pm
Trunk or Treat	Tuesday, October 29, 5:30 pm
Sunday Buffets	Sundays, beginning in October, date TBD



Men's Ministry Kickoff	Sunday, September 22, 3 pm
Men's Bible in a Bag Weekly Bible Study	Tuesdays, 7:15 am
Men's BIG Breakfast	Wednesdays, October 2 & November 6, 7 am
Stronger Together Men's Groups	Third Fridays, beginning October 18, 7 am
Mt. LeConte Hike: Finding God on the Mountaintop	October 30 – November 1

### **FOR WOMEN**

women's Evening Bible Study (WEBS):	
Book of James (Onsite or Online)	Wednesdays, beginning September 11, 6:30
Christ Church Women's Bible Study (CCWBS):	
Biblical Prophecy: Isaiah through Revelation	Thursdays, beginning September 12, 10 am
Women's Friendship Feast	Tuesday, September 17, 6:30 pm
Women's Fall Mahiong	Tuesdays, heginning Sentember 24, 10 am



For details about any program, scan this QR code or visit christchurchcharlotte.org/calendar



Blessing of the Backpacks	Sunday, August 25, All Services
Family Wellbeing Retreat at Kanuga	Friday, August 30 – Sunday, September 1
Youth Council	First Sundays, beginning September 8, 6 pm
Youth Coffee Office Hours	Every other Tuesday, beginning September 10, 3 pm
Youth Kickoff	Sunday, September 15, 6 pm
High School Life Group	Wednesdays, beginning September 18, 7 pm
Middle School Sunday School	Sundays, beginning September 15, 10 am
Middle School EYC	2nd and 4th Sundays, beginning September 22, 6 pm
Confirmation Parent and Student Orientation	Sunday, September 22, 10 am
Confirmation Retreat at Camp Bob	Saturday, September 28 - Sunday, September 29
8th Grade Confirmation	2nd and 4th Sundays, beginning October 13, 10 am
Glory Ridge Youth Council Retreat	Friday - Sunday, October 4 - 6
Family Faith Talks	Sundays, October 20 & November 17, 6 pm

# Children and Families

Music Club	Wednesdays, 5 pm
RCSM Ribbon Class	Wednesdays, 5 pm
Christ Church Choristers	Wednesdays, 5:30 pm
St. Nicholas Choir	Wednesdays, 5:30 pm
Blessing of the Backpacks	Sunday, August 25, All Services
Family Wellbeing Retreat at Kanuga	Friday, August 30 – Sunday, September 1
Sunday School	Sundays, beginning September 15, 10 am
These Are Our Bodies	Saturday, October 26, 10 am - 4 pm
Trunk or Treat	Tuesday, October 29, 5:30 pm

### CHRIST CHURCH PRESCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN (CCK)

Prospective Parent Tours	October - January, 9:30 am
Life After Preschool	Wednesday, October 23, 10 am
Kindergarten Open House	Thursday, November 7, 9:15 am







# Serving Opportunities

Dignity Drive	Monthly, First Sundays
Matthew 25 Casserole Ministry	Monthly, Third Wednesdays
Men's Shelter Dinner	Monthly, Fourth Thursdays
Friendship Trays	Flexible Schedule
Medical Supply Drive	September 8 - 22
Rama Road Curriculum Night	Tuesday, September 17, 5:45 pm
Rama Road Partnership Info Session	Sunday, September 22, 10 am
Rama Road Fall Festival	Saturday, October 19, 10 am - 2 pm
Rama Road Thanksgiving Meals	Flexible days & times
Jubilee Store Holiday Gift Drive	November 3 - 17

### School of Faith

Sundays, beginning September 15, 10 am

■ Basics of Faith	Soul Care Family Matters Faith in Action
September 15 September 22	Rector's Class: A Life Well-Lived Pathways to Faith: Scripture ■ 81st Episcopal General Convention Recap ■
September 29	Pathways to Faith: Outreach  Farewell Blueprint: Making Choices that Matter
October 6	Pathways to Faith: Practices & Wellbeing
October 13	Pathways to Faith: Sharing Our Gifts
October 20	Join the Faith Forum with guest speaker Becca Stevens
October 27	Dialogue Not Debate: Conversations Around the Dining Room Table, part 1 of 2 ■
November 3	Dialogue Not Debate: Conversations Around the Dining Room Table, part 2 of 2 ■
November 10	Contemplative Prayer with Connor Gwin ■ Sleep Health for Teens ■
November 17	Navigating the Holidays Amidst Grief
November 24	Diocesan Convention Recap

	Weekly Word Bible Study	
(Follows same scripture and stories as Children's Sunday School)		
September 22	Isaac is Born and God Tests Abraham	
	(Genesis 21:1-7; 22:1-19)	
September 29	Jacob and Esau (Genesis 25:19-34;	
	27:1-45)	
October 6	Jacob Meets Angels (Genesis 28:10-22;	
	32:1-22; 32:23-33; 33:1-20)	
October 13	Joseph's Story (Genesis 37; 39; 40-41)	
October 20	Join Faith Forum in ASH	
October 27	Moses, Agent of Deliverance (Exodus	
	3:1-4; 17)	
November 3	Gideon (Judges 6:1-7; 22)	
November 10	Samson (Judges 13-16)	
November 17	Waiting for the Coming (Daniel 12:1-3;	
	Joel 3:14-16; Malachi 3:1-2; Mark 13:1-	
	8; 14-27; Luke 3:1-18)	
November 24	John the Baptist (Luke 3:2-18)	



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### Faith Forum

Sundays, beginning September 22, 10 am, All Saints' Hall or online (live or later)

#### September 15 Rector's Class: A Life Well-Lived

When our well is running on empty, how do we fill it up again? The Reverend Chip Edens will share practical wisdom on faith, connection, and wellbeing,

and invite us to consider how we can go deeper.

#### September 22 Miraslov Volf: Life Worth Living

What makes a good life? The question is inherent to the human condition, and lies at the crux of a crisis facing Western culture. We will talk with Miroslav Volf about how this crisis can be ameliorated by searching, in one's own life, for the underlying truth of what matters most.

#### Lawson Wulsin, MD: Toxic Stress and What To Do About It September 29

The alarming rise of stress-related health conditions shows the price we're paying for our highpressure living and increased stressors in the world, but what can we do about it? Dr. Lawson Wulsin will offer expert advice and tools to prevent toxic stress from taking over.

#### October 6 John Inazu: Learning to Disagree

Are you discouraged by our divided, angry culture? It doesn't have to be this way. John Inazu will share wisdom on how to disagree in ways that build new bridges with our neighbors, coworkers, and loved ones — and help us find better ways to live joyfully in a complex society.

#### October 13 Meg Jay: The Twenty-Something Treatment

There is a young adult mental health crisis in America. What can we do about it? Meg Jay will discuss why the 20's are the most challenging time of life and skills for handling the challenges of work, love, friendship, mental health, and more during that decade and beyond.

#### October 20 **Becca Stevens: Love Heals Our Community**

Becca Stevens will help us think about how we sharpen our focus on community wellbeing and what we as a church can do, based on her own story as a survivor, her experience with abused women, and her belief that love is the strongest force for change in the world.

#### Katherine Wolf: Hope Heals: Overcoming Loss October 27

After surviving a near-fatal brainstem stroke at age 26, Katherine Wolf's life and the way she viewed God changed forever. She encourages us to trust God with an unknown future, and offers practical insights into surviving anything by redefining how we think about everything.

#### Community Wellbeing: Widening our View November 3

Who do we consider our community and what does wellbeing mean? Is it the same for everyone? Join us for an interactive exploration of wellbeing for all.

#### Community Wellbeing: A Wholistic Perspective November 10

Wellbeing encompasses many aspects that are all deeply interconnected. A panel of local nonprofit leaders and community partners will discuss what embodies care for the whole person and what in turn strengthens the broader community.

#### Community Wellbeing: A New Approach to Housing November 17

The Housing Impact Fund's wrap-around approach is drawing attention nationwide for its use of existing infrastructure and community navigators. Hear from its founders and the community health worker whose position in an East Charlotte community was funded, in part, by our Transforming Hearts, Changing Lives Campaign.

#### November 24 **Community Wellbeing: Becoming Beloved Community**

Learn about Christ Church and St. Michael's Episcopal Church's Beloved Community, and discover opportunities for friendship and action.

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## **FALL WORSHIP SERVICES**

### **SUNDAYS**

(Regular Sunday Worship Schedule resumes September 15)

Holy Eucharist 8:45 am, 11:15 am, 5 pm, Church & Online Contemporary Eucharist (except 9/29, 10/27 & 11/24)....

The Bridge (9/29, 10/27 & 11/24) 8:45 am, All Saints' Hall & Online Biscovery Eucharist 11:15 am, All Saints' Hall

### **WEEKDAYS**

### SPECIAL SERVICES

Parish Day Festive Eucharist Sunday, September 8, 10 am

The Well Wednesdays, October 2 - November 20, 6 pm

Blessing of the Animals Sunday, October 6, 4 pm

The Well Wednesdays, October 2 - November 20, 6 pm

All Saints' Day Holy Eucharist Friday, November 1, 11 am

A Service of Thankgiving and Healing Wednesday, November 27, 12 noon