



FALL 2026

The Disciple

News & Events at Christ Church Charlotte

... that Christ may dwell
in your hearts through
faith, as you are being
rooted and grounded
in love.

– EPHESIANS 3:17

DEEP ROOTS BIG DREAMS

As our roots grow deeper, our vision grows larger.

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For details, scan
this QR code »
or visit



christchurchcharlotte.org/calendar



DEEP ROOTS BIG DREAMS

Faith that lasts isn't built overnight. It grows through worship, friendship, prayer, learning, service, generosity, and the daily practice of following Jesus.

Like a healthy tree, a vibrant life with Christ is sustained by deep roots. Throughout Scripture, we are reminded that when we are rooted in Christ, we are strengthened, nourished, and able to bear good fruit.

This year, Christ Church invites you into **Deep Roots, Big Dreams**. This is more than a theme for the year. It is the beginning of a shared journey. This fall and beyond, we will intentionally deepen our lives in Christ together. The journey isn't about checking spiritual boxes or simply learning more. It's about becoming people through whom God can do more than we could ask or imagine.

As our roots grow deeper, our vision grows larger. We trust that God will use this season to shape us into a congregation that is more grounded in faith, more connected to one another, and more engaged in God's work in the world. Whether you've been part of Christ Church for decades or you are just beginning your journey, this is an invitation to grow. Together, we'll put down deep roots so that, through God's grace, we can dream bigger, for our lives, our community, and the world God loves.

As you therefore have received Christ
Jesus the Lord, continue to walk in
him, rooted and built up in him and
established in the faith, just as you
were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

– COLOSSIANS 2:6-7

Sunday Mornings

Regular Sunday Schedule Resumes September 20

Worship (8:45 am, 11:15 am & 5 pm)

Nursery Care, for ages 6 weeks to 4 years (8:30 am – 12:30 pm)

Sunday School for ages 3 & up (10 – 10:50 am)

Sunday Brunch (11 am – 1 pm)

The Commons Café (8 am – 1 pm)

School of Faith at 10 am

Weekly Word Bible Study (Most Sundays)

September 27 | Prayerbook 101: The History of Our Prayers

October 4 | The Wellbeing Table: Spiritual Wellbeing

October 4 & November 15 | Seek & Serve 101 (same class offered twice)

October 25 | Soul Care 101

October 25 | Prayerbook 101: Daily Prayer

November 8 | Navigating Grief Amidst the Holidays



NEW
THIS
FALL

LIFE IN CHRIST

This fall we are launching Life in Christ, an experience designed to help people grow deeper in faith through sustained engagement with Scripture, theology, and the person of Jesus Christ. Rooted in Christ Church's commitment to cultivating faith, connection, and wellbeing for all, the series will bring leading scholars into conversation with our parish and the wider community.

The 2026–2027 inaugural series will focus on rooting ourselves in the life and teachings of Jesus, exploring themes such as the prayers Jesus prayed, the scriptures that shaped his life, the humanity and divinity of Christ and the implications of Jesus' life for the modern world. Each gathering will include a lecture or conversation at Christ Church, followed by curated discussion materials and a podcast designed to help small groups and individuals continue engaging with the material in deeper and more personal ways.

Through this series, Christ Church hopes to create accessible, thoughtful, and spiritually rich opportunities for people to encounter Scripture anew, deepen their understanding of Jesus, and cultivate practices that shape everyday Christian life.

October 4

Rooted in Scripture: The Bible Jesus Read
Ellen F. Davis

November 15

Rooted in Prayer: The Prayer Jesus Prayed
Warren Smith

See descriptions on the following page.

at Christ Church

All Saints' Hall at 10 am | Wisdom for the Season Ahead

RECTOR'S CLASS

September 20 | Deep Roots, Big Dreams

The Reverend Chip Edens opens our program year with an exploration of our new theme. How does being rooted in Christ, grounded in community, and fed by faithful imagination enable us to follow Christ in a changing world? Come discover how cultivating deeper roots together allows us to dream bigger for God's kingdom, our neighbors, and generations to come.

VESTRY PANEL

September 27 | Called to Serve

What inspires someone to serve the church? Members of the Christ Church Vestry share their personal stories of faith, belonging, and leadership. Through conversation with The Reverend Chip Edens, they'll reflect on how Christ Church has shaped their lives and why they continue to invest their gifts in the life of our parish.

LIFE IN CHRIST

October 4 | Rooted in Scripture: The Bible Jesus Read



Ellen F. Davis, Amos Ragan Kearns, Distinguished Professor of Bible and Practical Theology at Duke Divinity School, will delve into the Hebrew Bible and how it shaped the life of Jesus.

FAITH FORUM

October 11 | Coming Down to Earth



For decades, Barbara Brown Taylor has helped readers discover the sacred in ordinary life. In this conversation about her newest book, *Coming Down to Earth*, she'll reflect on what the earth beneath our feet has to teach us about reverence, belonging, and living with wonder. Join us as one of today's most beloved spiritual writers invites us to slow down, pay attention, and

rediscover the grace that has been here all along.

FAITH FORUM

October 18 | Rooted in Wellbeing: Tending the Souls of Students

How can schools, families, and communities help students become not only successful, but grounded, resilient, and whole amidst today's extraordinary pressures? The Reverend Connor Gwin will host a conversation with the heads of Trinity Episcopal School (Imana Sherrill), Charlotte Country Day School (Dr. Tara Christie Kinsey), and Charlotte Latin School (Chuck Baldecchi).

FAITH FORUM

October 25 | Rooted in Community: A Place to Call Home

Charlotte's growing need for affordable housing affects thousands of our neighbors and the health of our whole community. We'll talk with Liz Clasen-Kelly of Roof Above and a Housing Impact Fund representative about the challenges facing our city and our role in helping to ensure that everyone has a place to call home.

CLERGY PANEL

November 1 | For All the Saints

On All Saints' Sunday, members of the Christ Church clergy will share stories of the saints who continue to shape their lives and imaginations, inviting us to consider whose witness helps us see Christ more clearly.

CLERGY CLASS

November 8 | A Church That Serves

In our baptism, we are called not only to gather in worship but also to seek and serve Christ in the world around us. Explore how the promises of our Baptismal Covenant lead us from being formed in God's love to sharing that love with the world through lives of service.

LIFE IN CHRIST

November 15 | Rooted in Prayer: The Prayer Jesus Prayed



Warren Smith, Professor of Historical Theology at Duke Divinity School, will help us discover what we might learn about prayer from Jesus' own practices.

Wednesday Evenings at Christ Church

As the week unfolds, Wednesday evenings at Christ Church offer a much-needed pause for connection, renewal, and fun. Let Chef Andrea do the cooking while you take advantage of groups and programs for all ages or just enjoy casual fellowship in your Spiritual Home. It's a wonderful way to make connections and help our church feel even more like home.

Wednesday Evenings Beginning September 16

Dinner Buffet | 5:30 - 7 pm | Blue Room

Childcare (ages 6 weeks to 4 years) | 5:15 - 8:15 pm | Nursery Suites

Children's Choirs | 5 - 6:30 pm | U302, U304

High School Life Group | 7 - 8:30 pm | Youth Center

Adult Programs

Bible studies, classes, musical opportunities, and fellowship groups are available after dinner on Wednesday nights.



Visit the church calendar at this QR code to view the full schedule.



Praying Compline Together



Wednesdays, October 7 - November 18
6 - 6:30 pm | The Church

Compline is the "goodnight" prayer of the church. Set aside the concerns of the day and rest in God's care. Offered in both spoken and sung forms, this worship experience is a chance to pause, pray, and hear again the reassurance that God is our light in every darkness.



See You at The Commons

More than a building. A place to connect.



The Commons was designed to be a "third place" for our community – a place beyond school or work for you to ground yourself in faith and connection with others.

Open to parishioners, neighbors, and the broader community during regular building and café hours, The Commons offers comfortable gathering spaces, free Wi-Fi, and a café serving Javesca Coffee, breakfast, lunch (beginning September 13), and more.

Café Hours

Sunday | 8 am - 1 pm

Monday - Friday | 7 am - 2 pm

Saturday | Closed

Building & Courtyard Hours

Monday - Thursday | 6:30 am - 9 pm

Friday | 6:30 am - 4:30 pm

Saturday | Closed

View the Javesca Menu
& Order Online Here »



There's more to come.

From music and conversation to learning, coffee, and community, we hope The Commons becomes a place you want to be throughout the week.

View more information about The Commons and upcoming events at christchurchcharlotte.org/the-commons or use this QR code. »



Featured Events at The Commons This Fall

SPEAKER SERIES

The Future of Work

Tuesdays, September 29, October 20 & November 17 |
6 – 8 pm

Join The Reverend Chip Edens and local business leaders for a three-part conversation exploring the changing world of work and how our faith helps us understand these changes. Expect an engaging evening of conversation, learning, networking, and community with light refreshments and beverages. See details and register at christchurchcharlotte.org/the-future-of-work.

MUSIC

Where Love Abides: Devotion, Longing and Remembrance in the Songs of Benjamin Britten

Saturday, October 24 | Evening, Time TBD

Acclaimed for his versatility, tenor William Ferguson moves comfortably between the worlds of opera, concert, and song, with a repertoire ranging from contemporary works to the Baroque masters. Free and open to the public.

FELLOWSHIP

Young Adult Mahjong

Mondays, September 14 - October 26 | 6 - 8:30 pm

Mahjong is back for the fall! Young adults are invited to gather for play and fellowship. Whether you're an experienced player or still learning, pull up a chair and join us. Use the QR code at right to register. »



DISCUSSION

Worth a Listen

Mondays, September 14 & Monday, October 26 | 11 am - 12 noon

Listen to a podcast episode beforehand, then spend an hour (or so) connecting with others over good conversation, thoughtful reflection, and laughter.

September 14: The Anthropocene Reviewed, "The Limits of What We Can Know"

Monday, October 26: The Anthropocene Reviewed, "Monopoly & Academic Decathlon"

Ministry Opportunities

Put Down Roots in

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

The next generation of disciples starts here!

Sunday School for children age 3 through 5th grade resumes September 20! Watch your email for your child's classroom assignment and other important details.



YOUTH & FAMILIES

Faith grows stronger together.

Youth programs resume Sunday, September 13 with our Fall Kickoff for middle and high schoolers. Check the website for details on all regular programs and activities. Don't miss these opportunities for fellowship, formation, and fun.



YOUNG ADULTS

Come as you are. Find your people.

Young adults (20s & 30s) are a thriving community at Christ Church.

Young Adult Firepit Social
Sunday, October 4 | 6 - 9 pm | Saunders Home

Gather for fellowship around the firepit and enjoy appetizers with beer, wine, and soft drinks.



ADULT FORMATION

Faith is a journey. Not a destination.

Find your path through Bible studies, book & podcast discussions, classes, and retreats. View the entire schedule online.

What Keeps You Up at Night?
Wednesdays, September 23, October 28 & November 18 | 10:30 am - 12 noon | Blue Room



Lunch and conversation featuring a different topic each month and plenty of opportunity for genuine connection.



WORSHIP

The most important thing we do.

Regular Sunday worship schedule resumes September 20, with services at 8:45 am, 11:15 am, and 5 pm

Wednesday Evening Worship: Praying Compline Together
Wednesdays, October 7 - November 18 |
6 - 6:30 pm | The Church



Set aside the concerns of the day and rest in God's care. Offered in both spoken and sung forms, this worship experience is a chance to pause, pray, and hear again the reassurance that God is our light in every darkness.



MUSIC

What makes your heart sing?

There are choirs for all ages, the Christ Church band, an intergenerational handbell ensemble, and many other ways to participate in our music ministry.

Concerts This Fall: See page 10.



WELLBEING & CARE

Holy moments await!

Find serenity through Yoga for the Spirit, Sacred Stitches, Mindful Mondays, Simple Presence, Blessing of the Animals, and more.

The Wellbeing Table: Spiritual Wellbeing
Sunday, October 4 | 10 - 11 am | Green Room



Explore practical ways to live with greater health, wisdom, and wholeness. Over coffee, light refreshments, and conversation, Alice deVries will lead us in a conversation about spiritual wellbeing. Pull up a chair, meet others on the journey, and discover practices that help us flourish in everyday life.



for Everyone

Your Spiritual Home

GENEROSITY

Generosity flourishes here.

Be inspired by some amazing stories on Season 2 of the *With Generous Hearts* podcast, and watch your mailbox for Annual Stewardship Campaign materials.

The Generosity Practice | Thursdays, September 17 - October 8 | 11:30 am - 1 pm | Green Room



Generosity isn't simply about giving money; it's a spiritual practice that reshapes how we relate to everything we have: our time, our attention, and our resources. Join this small group and dig into what it actually looks like to live open-handed.



MEN'S MINISTRY

Show up. Dig deep. Grow together.

Explore how being rooted in God's love shapes the way we live. Gather for food, conversation, and Panthers football at the Kickoff Event (September 20) and hear about this year's new Stronger Together curriculum; join a Stronger Together group; or check out Men's BIG Breakfasts, men's Bible studies, and more.

The Strength of Showing Up

Thursday, November 12 | 5:30 - 8 pm | Blue Room



An important evening of BBQ, conversation, and connection. Around the table, we'll explore the role community plays in men's mental health and how men can show up for one another with courage, honesty, humor, and care.



PARISH LIFE

Looking for ways to connect with others?

There are so many ways to get connected and engaged at Christ Church, from attending parish-wide events to joining a small group to participating in outreach, greeting or ushering, volunteering in the GoodNews Shop or kitchen, serving on a committee, and so much more.

We would love to help you find the place that's right for you. Let's grab a cup of coffee and talk about what interests you. Contact Katherine Vest, Director of Engagement, at vestk@christchurchcharlotte.org or 704-714-6947.



NEWCOMERS

We want to welcome you!

If you're new to the parish we have special events designed to help you meet others and get involved. Join us for a Newcomer dinner (October 7) or sign up for a Belonging & Beyond Membership Orientation (November 4).



WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Friendship, faith, and a place at the table.

Women of all ages will find meaningful opportunities to deepen connections with other women at the Friendship Feast, Mahjong, Bible studies, and more.

Women's Evening Fellowship

Thursdays Monthly | 5:30 - 8 pm | The Commons



Women of all ages are invited for an evening of fellowship, connection, and community, with a different activity or conversation topic each month.



OUTREACH & MISSION

We are a church that serves.

Find details about the many ongoing opportunities to volunteer at the Men's Shelter, Crisis Assistance Ministry, the monthly Dignity Drive, Lydia's Pantry, and more.

Seek & Serve 101

Sundays, October 4 & November 11 | 10 - 10:50 am



A life of service is a response to God's love. This workshop (offered twice) equips participants with practical tools for putting their faith into action in the community. Facilitated by The Reverend Allen Pruitt and Laura Konitzer.



Special Events for the Whole Parish

Trunk or Treat

Tuesday, October 27 | 5:30 - 7 pm | Christ Church

Enjoy a spooky nugget and mac-n-cheese supper with a craft activity, then parade around the circle and through the parking lot, where kids will “trunk or treat” among parishioners’ Bible-themed (or Halloween-adorned) cars. This event is for everyone! Sign up to host a trunk, serve food, or help with the parade.

Intergenerational Day of Service: Feeding Charlotte

Sunday, November 22 | 8:45 am - 12:15 pm

The whole parish will join together for this special day of worship (8:45 am), service (10 am), and a fellowship lunch for all ages. This season we will pack Lunches of Love in partnership with Feeding Charlotte. Once packed, the meals will immediately be delivered to over 60 approved nonprofit feeding programs in the greater Charlotte area.



... And a Few More Highlights

Digital Wisdom Tech Workshops

Mondays, October 5 - 26 | 10 - 11 am | St. Francis B



Get tips for everyday use of the internet and smartphones or computers. Topics will range from scams and password safety to photo storage and AI. Bring your device to any or all sessions.

Charlotte Master Chorale Chamber Singers Concert

Friday, October 9 | 7:30 - 8:30 pm | Church

Join the Chamber Singers of Charlotte Master Chorale, Charlotte's premier chamber choir, for a moving performance of contemporary composer David Lang's Poor Hymnal. Get tickets at charlottemasterchorale.org/poor-hymnal.

Lux Perpetua: A Choral-Orchestral Concert

Friday, October 16 | 7:30 - 8:30 pm | Church

All are invited to a choral-orchestral concert by the Christ Church Choir, Charlotte Chamber Choir, and guest musicians, featuring Dan Locklair's Requiem. Admission is free and open to the public.

Choral Compline & Reception for Bishop Metlha

Wednesday, November 18 | 6 - 8 pm | Church & The Commons

Christ Church and the Diocese of NC have long been in partnership with the Anglican Diocese of Botswana. We are honored to welcome The Right Reverend Metlha Beleme of Botswana in worship during his upcoming visit to Charlotte. All are invited to a reception following the service. No registration required.

Gatherings at The Commons

See page 7 for some featured events and meet us at The Commons!

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Start Your Sunday at The Commons

Free Coffee in September!

We're kicking off the fall season with a little extra hospitality! Beginning September 13, our café partner, Javesca Coffee, is generously providing complimentary drip coffee on Sundays in September as we celebrate a new season of gathering at The Commons.

And did you know Javesca serves more than coffee? Stop by for breakfast or lunch, meet a friend, get a little work done, or stay awhile. You can even order ahead online. Learn more about what's happening at The Commons on page 7.



With Generous Hearts Podcast

In Season 2 we are exploring what it means to be rooted in faith, community, service, and more. Tune in on the Christ Church Charlotte app, Spotify, Apple, or YouTube. New episodes of these stories from parishioners will be available weekly beginning September 10.

Listen Here

