Worship & Spiritual Formation

Your gifts at work: Cultivating faith in an uncertain world

Your financial support brings ministry to life at Christ Church. Every dollar given helps us love God, care for each other, and serve the world – not just in theory, but in action. When you give – and when you follow through on your pledge – you are not just keeping the lights on (though you are helping with that, too!). You're equipping real ministry to happen in real time. Thank you for your generosity and commitment.

TRANSFORMATIONAL WORSHIP EXPERIENCES

Worship 101 (The Gifts of God for the People of God) – After a recent worship service, a class member remarked that the class had deepened her experience of worship by helping her see things in a new way.

Holy Week Labyrinth – Children, youth, and adults participated in this contemplative Eucharist that encouraged quiet, stillness, and presence.

The Bridge is a monthly worship experience for teens, tweens, and their families, offering leadership roles and a bridge from Discovery Eucharist to all other services. Now in its second year, more families are participating in this and other weekly worship services.

The Good Book, Beginning to End – Meets weekly to study the entire Bible over the course of a year. These gatherings have also transformed leaders, who gained confidence leading prayer in a group setting.

Church at the Farm – For the third year in a row, this summer worship experience allowed for connection beyond the walls of Christ Church for families of all ages.



The Bridge Worship Service



Holy Week Labyrinth

SPIRITUAL FORMATION FOR ALL AGES

Confirmation Retreat – Our 8th grade confirmands began their journey with a flower farm retreat themed around 1 Corinthians 12:12-27. Just as a bouquet is made of flowers of many textures, colors, and smells, so too is the body of Christ made of many parts.

Weekly Word – This Sunday Bible study for adults aligns with the children's curriculum, allowing adults in the parish the opportunity to be in conversation with children about the same Bible stories each week.

VBS – Every June, Vacation Bible School offers four days of meaningful opportunities for children, youth, and adults to connect with God, one another, and the community. Over 200 participants joined us in 2025.

845 Average number of people (all ages) per week engaged in classes, workshops, retreats, small groups, etc. so far this fall

Parish Life & Engagement

Your gifts at work: Nurturing connection for spiritual wellbeing

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A FEW FAVORITE EVENTS

Fall and Spring Parish Days – These joyful, intergenerational gatherings bookend the church program year celebrating our parish family with food, fun, and fellowship. Each event brings together 450-650 people of all ages to worship, serve, and share in community.

Trunk or Treat is a parish favorite! Nearly 500 children, families, and volunteers fill our campus with laughter and Halloween fun. Parishioners decorate trunks, serve dinner, and create a safe space for children.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper – In keeping with Episcopal tradition, we begin Lent by burning palms and burying alleluias, followed by a jambalaya and pancake supper. Over 350 parishioners come together for this annual celebration.





WELCOMING NEWCOMERS

Each year, we welcome around 200 new households who visit our church. Through personal outreach by clergy, staff, and our Hospitality Committee, and the warm welcome of staff and greeters each Sunday, we strive to ensure every person who walks through our doors feels seen, known, and valued.

Newcomer Dinners and Coffees – In 2025 we hosted 8 newcomer dinners and 3 newcomer coffees throughout the year. These relaxed gatherings help newcomers meet others, learn about Christ Church, and begin forming lasting relationships within our parish family.

Membership Orientations – New this year, these gatherings celebrate, educate, and inspire people who are joining or discerning membership. After sharing a meal and conversation, participants learn about the mission, ministries, and spirit of our parish. In our first year, 115 parishioners took part.

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Wellbeing & Care

Your gifts at work: Guiding people toward holistic wellbeing.

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CLASSES, WORKSHOPS & RETREATS

From weekly groups to immersive retreats, there are numerous opportunities to nurture wellbeing in ways that meet people right where they are.

A particularly joyful highlight was our Kintsugi experience, led by local artist Eva Crawford, which invited participants to explore healing and resilience through this ancient art form.

Since launching last year, over 300 people have experienced Soul Care 101, and we have added Soul Care 201 for those who want to go deeper. This program is resonating with a wide cross-section of people – young, old, married, single – and even led to a sell-out of The Book of Common Prayer in the The GoodNews Shop!





SUPPORT & THERAPY

We continue to strengthen our lay chaplaincy and congregational care networks. Our 13 trained and commissioned lay chaplains are at the heart of our desire to ensure that every member feels known, connected, and gently held by their church community. Their ministry of presence has become a vital extension of pastoral care.

"It is an honor to support church members in their therapeutic journeys – many of whom have never sought therapy before. I have such admiration for my clients who are bravely committed to enhancing their wellbeing and taking steps to claim better emotional health for themselves. And that client might be a 15-year-old or a 75-year-old!" – Alex Bacon, Therapist & Wellbeing Educator

300+ People have experienced Soul Care 101.

Outreach & Mission

Your gifts at work: Promoting wellbeing for all in our community

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A PLACE TO CALL HOME

Lisa Skinner, owner of this year's Christ Church Habitat house, shares: "This house means stability for my family. It is generational care. My kids are going to know, whatever happens in their life, they can always come home."

A CHANCE TO LEARN AND GROW

Christ Church became a Freedom School host site at our partner school, Rama Road Elementary School, over ten years ago. Each summer, Christ Church volunteers help students become more confident in their reading and in themselves through this six-week summer program.

500+ Students have participated in Freedom School at Rama over the past ten years.



Intergenerational Day of Service

3,792 People experiencing homelessness were fed by 285 parishioners through the Matthew 25 Casserole Ministry this season.

SUPPORT WHEN LIFE GETS HARD

At our Intergenerational Day of Service last fall, we "stuffed the truck" with groceries for Nourish Up and assembled care packages and relief kits for our Western NC neighbors still recovering from Hurricane Helene. Another day of service is planned for July 12!

Room in the Inn: Through the commitment of our volunteers, Christ Church was able to provide warm beds, hot showers, and nourishing meals for over 180 guests during the 2025-2026 season of Room in the Inn.

A MORE LOVING WORLD

Through our partnership with Time Out Youth, we have collected essential supplies, shared holiday meals, and provided financial support through the Outreach Commission's ongoing budget. Our booth at the Charlotte Pride Festival offered hospitality to many who often feel excluded by the church.

4,700 **Hours of service were provided by Christ Church volunteers last year.**