

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL ANNOUNCEMENTS August 10, 2025

Questions, links: Contact Ms. Amanda Paredes at cccspfld@gmail.com or 413-736-2742

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS AND TEACHERS On Sunday, August 24, 2025, all students are invited to bring your backpacks to services for a special blessing Ahead of the new school year! Also, If you are able, please donate a new backpack with some school supplies included for children in need in our community!

AFGHAN FAMILY UPDATE Afzal and Sharifa wish to thank the Cathedral community for inviting them to come and meet everyone on June 29th. Sharifa regrets that she had to help care for a friend's children and therefore could not come. Afzal and the 6 kids enjoyed the warm welcome they received. We want to thank everyone for their generosity. Dean José presented a \$2500 check to the family from donations given by the Cathedral family. Unfortunately, there is no news to report regarding their Asylum application nor Work Permit. Dean José had the great idea that they might enjoy going to Forest Park. So, we recently took the family to the park to get them a Parking Pass and Swimming Pool passes so that they can enjoy all that Forest Park has to offer. The park is beautiful, and close to their house. We will let you know if their situation changes.

UNDIE SUNDAY UPDATE In June, we revived our Undie Sunday Event to collect underwear for our guests at the Drop-In Center. The success of our efforts has not been publicized and we want to assure everyone who contributed - it was a success! Because some of the donations were delivered to the Center early, we have not been able to get a totally accurate account but...we know it was approximately 700 hundred pieces! Our sincere thanks for all who contributed! -The Daughters of the King

DONATIONS & VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE DROP IN CENTER

As a Cathedral, we should be proud of the success of our Thursday Drop In Center! We are getting between 60 and 80 visitors each week and their needs are great. We distribute snacks, coffee, and water as well as toiletry items and clothing to folks who are struggling to meet ends and those who are unhoused. Since March, we have provided our homeless guests with 27 tents and 22 sleeping bags, which we purchase. Consequently, our financial resources have dwindled.

How can you help?

1. You can donate funds to the Drop In Center to help pay for the supplies that we distribute!
2. You can donate clean new or used clothing, especially sneakers, sandals, jeans, and underwear for both men and women.
3. You can volunteer – once in a while or on a regular basis. If you want to “ease in” to helping, just come to the Undercroft during our busiest time - between 9 and 11 a.m. - and we will bring you to the storage room where you can fulfill clothing and supply requests. We will bring you a list and you can look for the items (men's XL t-shirt, ankle socks, shampoo, etc). Then one of us will bring back your finds to the guest.

See Jahn or Gary Hart for information or contact Director Jeanne Conrad at jeanne@conrad.us.com ☺

HELP NEEDED! Christ Church has been responsible for serving the Loaves and Fishes lunch the first and second Wednesdays of the month for over 25 years. A few of our helpers are retiring next month and we need replacements. It involves coming to the Cathedral at 10am, making the sandwiches and lunch items, and you are finished by 12 noon. You can volunteer for only 1 of the weeks or for both. You might be asked to buy some of the food for which you would be reimbursed. Please contact Susan Forrest at 413-244-0622 via text or call for more information or if you would like to sign up. It is a very rewarding volunteer service.

JULY 2025 CATHEDRAL FINANCES - Projected 2025 Budget shortfall: \$44,300

Financial Position as of June 30, 2025:

- Revenue YTD: \$329,744
- Expenses YTD: \$313,568

Revenue minus expenses = **\$16,176 surplus**

If you are 72 years of age (or older) and are required to take Distributions from your IRA, you can make a Distribution directly to the Cathedral. This is a Win-Win – the Cathedral receives the donation (your pledge) and you don't have to pay taxes on the distribution. Questions? Ask Laura Manship 413.275.4587, or send her an email at Treasurer@cccsfld.org.

VOLUNTEER NEEDED! - Christ Church Cathedral is in need for someone who could assist us with our IT needs. We are looking for a technology-minded individual to volunteer a few hours a month to helping us update, install and maintain all of our Information Technology Systems here at the church. If you know of anyone who might be interested, please contact us today to learn more about this exciting volunteer opportunity.

THE PRAYER TEAM IS BACK! We have resumed this important ministry at the 10 am Service. During July and August, we will continue 'on duty' in the space behind the Altar in the undercroft. The Prayer Team will be available on the second and the fourth Sundays. We look forward to praying with/for you.

WE ARE STILL COLLECTING MEAL KITS FOR SQUARE ONE! – Christ Church Cathedral is still collecting Meal Kits to send to Square One! Meal kits are items placed in a bag that will be given to parents. They should be non-perishables or items with an extended shelf life. Please consider donating today.

FLOWER DEDICATIONS- Donate flowers in memory of a loved one today! Send your dedication, along with your \$45 donation to the Main office, and we will call you to confirm placement! We still need dedications for 07/07/2025 and 11/23/2025

UPDATED CORI CHECKS 2025 - All of those who participate in the following need to have an updated CORI check to be able to engage in any ministries involving children: Sextons, secretaries, choir directors, Sunday school leaders, activity chaperones, nursery, J2A, confirmation mentors, acolyte trainers and adult acolytes, VBS, Christmas programs, ACTS, Drop In Center. Forms may be obtained from Delphine Williams or the office and must be returned with a copy of a valid ID in a sealed envelope.

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE CLASSES There is an English class for beginners at the Cathedral that meets on Sundays after the 12:15 mass, around 2 pm until 3:30. The curriculum includes conversation and listening practice as well as reading and writing. For more information, call or text Sara at 413-454-7172 or speak with her after the 12:15 Spanish mass.

BIBLE STUDY Weekly on zoom, Sunday morning 9:00am, Wednesday morning 8:00am, Saturday evening 5:00 pm. Links and more information are available through the office.

CENTERING PRAYER weekly on zoom, Saturday morning at 10:30. Lectio Divino with a guided meditation every week. Links and more information are available through the office.

BOOK CLUB - meets via Zoom every 6 weeks or so. Next Meeting: Monday, September 15, 2025, at 7:00 pm, via zoom. The book is "**Anxious People** by Fredrik Backman". For links and more information contact Laura Manship at laura@shouldertoshoulder.org