

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL ANNOUNCEMENTS August 31, 2025

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

IN LIEU OF FLOWERS, AN ACTION CENTERED TUTORING FUNDRAISER

The ACTS Mum Sale grower had a devastating fire in March and there will be no flower sale this year. (The sales represented 20% of ACTS operating budget.) Each fall the Mum Sale helped us launch the tutoring service programs. Despite this setback, we're about to begin our 40th consecutive year with 6 sites providing free, after-school tutoring to the elementary school children of Springfield. We're asking the churches that helped us by selling mums to again support us with a September fundraiser. Please consider donating what you might have purchased in the past (or perhaps more) to help us recover these lost revenues. Your gifts can be considered a charitable donation since ACTS is a 501 (c) 3 charity. Gifts can be made in cash or check made out to ACTS. Credit cards are also accepted with processing information on the gift form. Please complete a donor form so that ACTS has a record of your gift and to enable us to send you a proper thank you!

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 Jose 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 ☺

THE COLUMBARIUM AT CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL For those who might not know, the “Columbarium” are the niches in the Cathedral that contain deceased person’s ashes. Once ashes are placed in a niche, a name plate is put on the outside of the niche with the deceased name and dates of birth and death. There are 88 niches in the Cathedral....in the corner near the Chapel. The cost of a niche is \$1200. If a couple or family want to have niches next to each other, we will accommodate that request. The cost is \$1200 for each niche; the spaces will be reserved to be next to each other. There are currently 35 niches available for sale. If you have any questions, please feel free to talk with Dean José or Laura Manship (Cathedral Treasurer).

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@cccspfld.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.