

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL ANNOUNCEMENTS



October 26, 2025

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

THE LIFE AND MINISTRY OF ST. PETER – CATHEDRAL BIBLE STUDY

Join us for a four-week Bible Study series about the life and ministry of St. Peter beginning **Wednesday, October 29th** from 6:30-8pm. We'll start with a light dinner, the Very Revs. Jim Munroe and José Reyes will lead us in studying scripture about the life of St. Peter, and we'll end with prayer together. The other dates of the series are **Wednesdays, Nov. 5th, Nov. 12th, and Nov. 19th**. Get ready for lots of fun diving deep into scripture!

BISHOP'S VISITATION – NOV. 2ND

Our Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Douglas Fisher, will celebrate and preach on Sunday, Nov. 2nd at the 10am and 12:15pm services. It will be a wonderful celebration and an opportunity for thanksgiving for his 12 years of ministry as our bishop.

BISHOP CANDIDATES MEET AND GREET'S – NOV. 6TH

On Nov. 6th from 6-8pm, we will be hosting a Meet and Greet here at the Cathedral to get to know the three candidates who are on the ballot for bishop of our diocese. All are welcome to attend and get to know the candidates and have them get to know us. Spanish and ASL interpretation will be provided. You are welcome to arrive at 5:30pm for a brief reception before the event.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT – DEC. 6TH AT 4PM

It is with great joy that we announce that our very own Gary Hart and the West Mass Brass, a brass band in the style of traditional British brass bands, will offer a Christmas Concert here at the Cathedral on Saturday, Dec. 6th at 4pm for the whole community. Our Cathedral Choir will also join them for some of the musical pieces. Come and experience beautiful Christmas music and welcome the Christmas season with lots of cheer.

SUNDAY SCHOOL & BISHOP'S CHOIR SCHOOL

Every child and youth are invited to participate in the Cathedral's Sunday School and Bishop's Choir School on Sunday mornings.

Sunday School is held during the first half of our Sunday Services, from 10am-10:45am, with the children rejoining the congregation after class to celebrate the Eucharist all together. Children will learn about our God who loves them unconditionally through

Bible stories, prayer, and fun games, activities and arts and crafts projects connected to lesson of the day.

The Bishop's Choir School, the Cathedral's choir for children and youth, has practices on Sunday's from 11:30am-12:00pm. Children are invited to join and learn about music theory, harmony, singing in a choir, and learn music from all over the world.

Children are welcome to participate in either or both programs. Please speak with Dean José Reyes if you have any questions.

Sunday School and Bishop's Choir School Schedule

October 26

November 9

November 16

November 23

December 7

December 14

December 21

UNITED THANK OFFERING- UTO - United Thank Offering Ingathering today! Please use the envelopes that are out in the Brooks Foyer or in the office. Or, you can send your offering to the Cathedral, marked UTO. We will note it and send it along to the national UTO office.

NOTICE the good things that happen each day.

GIVE thanks to God for your blessings.

MAKE an offering for the blessings you have.

BLESS - Your blessing becomes a blessing for others.

100% of all funds given to UTO are granted the following year to support innovative mission and ministry in the Episcopal Church. To learn more, visit www.episcopalchurch.org/uto.

HALLOWEEN! Christ Church Cathedral has a few exciting Halloween events happening this year, including a Halloween Party and a Trunk O' Treat event in conjunction with our neighbors over at South Church UCC! To that end we are asking for Halloween donations; candy, toys, glow sticks, stickers and any other Halloween treats that you can share with us would be greatly appreciated! Please leave your donation

sin the box set up in the Brooks Foyer. To participate or help us with these events, please contact the main office.

TRUNK O' TREAT! Join us on Halloween October 31, 2025 from 3pm to 6pm for a fun Halloween event in collaboration with South Congregational UCC in their parking lot for this years Trunk O' Treat! Come stop by for some Halloween candy, music, fellowship, and a special Halloween themed bounce house! Please let Amanda in the office know if you would like to help out in anyway, whether that's decorating your trunk and handing out Halloween treats or helping set up and breakdown!

FLOWER WORKSHOP 2025- The Flower Guild invites you to a diocesan Flower Arranging Workshop on Saturday, November 1, 2025 at 9:30 in the morning. Admission is \$40 per person, and that includes the flower and arranging supplies. This workshop is being given by Bob Whitney, master floral arranger with Springfield Florists Supply, INC.. Bob will review basics and introduce techniques for arranging using chicken wire instead of oasis. Each Participant will complete an arrangement. Light Refreshments will be served! The Flower Guild needs more members to maintain our schedule of one service per month. It's much more fun when there are two people each week for fellowship and creative ideas. New guild members will be paired with existing members. Please consider joining this rewarding ministry. Call Amanda at 413-736-2742 to register for this workshop by October 18!

SOCIAL JUSTICE- Are you wondering how we as God's people should respond to current social justice concerns? On Saturday, November 8, from 10:00 to 2:00, Tara Parrish, Director of the Pioneer Valley Project, will be here to help us as a church community gain new tools to respond to injustices in our community and in our country. Please contact Amanda Parades in the office or speak with the Dean or with Judith MacMunn by October 31 to save your spot. Please rsvp so we can be sure to have lunch available for all who attend.

MYSTERY DINNER- BULLETS AND BRIE! Join Us on Sat, November 8, 4:30 to 7:00. The stage is set - It's 1942 in Casablanca, Morocco, governed by the Vichy French regime. You are invited to the Official Residence for an evening with France's greatest living mime artist, the Black Cat. The twist? He's a no-show, and the reason is spine-chilling - he's been murdered! Now, every guest is a suspect, and it's up to you to unravel the secrets and expose the killer. Get ready to challenge your detective skills, enjoy great company and great food! There are only roles for 12, but all are welcome to join. The cost is \$40.00 for dinner and a role, or \$30.00 to enjoy dinner and the action. **RSVP is**

required by November 1. Please see Judith MacMunn if you have questions or want to reserve a spot.

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.

See Jahn or Gary Hart for information or contact Director The Reverend Lora Smith at lsmith5606@icloud.com ☺

TELL US YOUR FAITH STORY - We will be sharing our faith stories during Coffee Hour! Please contact Verger Oswald Howard to schedule your testimony.

ACOLYTE TRAINING – There will be acolyte training sessions on Saturdays in October 10/18 and 10/25. Please contact Verger Oswald Howard for more details.

SUBSCRIBE TO WEEKLY EMAILS! Have you been receiving the Cathedral emails and would like to share them with someone else? Have you missed out on a few and need to resubscribe? Please do so at the below link, and make sure to stay in the know with our communications coming to your inbox. Please call the office for more information.

<https://mailchi.mp/cccspfld/christ-church-cathedral-newsletter-sign-up>

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.

OCTOBER 2025 CATHEDRAL FINANCES –

Projected 2025 Budget shortfall: \$44,300 - Financial Position as of September 30, 2025:

□ Revenue YTD: \$493,300 □ Expenses YTD: \$450,500

Revenue minus expenses = \$42,800 surplus

Questions? Ask Laura Manship 413.275.4587, or send her an email at Treasurer@cccspfld.org .

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.

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.

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, November 3, 2025, at 7:00 pm, via zoom. The Book is **"Caste: The Origins of Our Discontent" by Isabella Wilkerson.** For links and more information contact Laura Manship at laura@shouldertosoulder.org