

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL ANNOUNCEMENTS



December 28, 2025

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

A MESSAGE REGARDING OUR CATHEDRAL DEACON; Deacon Kate is on sabbatical from UMass for this academic year and is spending time with her father in the California desert until early March. While she misses being physically present at the Cathedral, she is deeply grateful for this season of reflection and for the gift of daily time shared with her father.

PRAYER BOX FOR THE LATE REVEREND TOM A. CALLARD, *DEAN EMERITUS* Christ Church Cathedral will be collecting messages of love, prayer and well wishes for the Callard Family. Prayer cards are available in the Sanctuary. Bishop Fisher will then gift the box to them when he attends Tom's funeral on January 19, 2026. **The last day to submit anything will be on January 11, 2026!**

BENDING TOWARDS JUSTICE MLK SERVICE The Social Justice Commission invites you to a festive Eucharist at Christ Church Cathedral to celebrate the life and ministry of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Please join us in-person or via livestream on Monday, January 19th at 10:00 a.m. There will be a light brunch served afterwards.

"SHARING OUR BLESSINGS" 2026 PLEDGE CAMPAIGN

During this Stewardship Campaign Season we have dived deep together exploring our theme of "Sharing Our Blessings." God blesses us everyday and invites us to share these blessings with the world. We invite all the members of the Cathedral to fill out your pledge cards and bring them in on Sunday. We will have extras in the church if you need them. At the time of the offering you can place them in the collection plate and after our worship service we will gather in the Library for cake to celebrate. Just as God blesses us, your generosity blesses the people we serve in the Cathedral, in our community and throughout our diocese. Thank you for sharing your blessings with the world!

QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DONATIONS; As you ponder your gift to the Annual Pledge campaign, please consider this: Individual retirement account (IRA) qualified charitable distribution (QCD); If you are 70½ or older, you can give directly from your IRA. A QCD is not taxable and, if you are subject to a required minimum distribution (RMD), it can count toward it. Thank you!

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.

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 lams959@yahoo.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.

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL CALENDAR If you need to put something on the Cathedral Calendar, please email Mrs. Delphine Williams for assistance at

CCCCALENDARINFO2025@GMAIL.COM. Delphine will input the information you send onto the physical calendar in the office, as well as the Google Calendar Online. **SUBSCRIBE TO OUR EMAILED NEWSLETTERS!** Sign up for weekly emails from Christ Church Cathedral, receive church news faster, and connect to the office much easier!

[HTTPS://MAILCHI.MP/CCCSPFLD/CHRIST-CHURCH-CATHEDRAL-NEWSLETTER-SIGN-UP](https://mailchi.mp/cccspfld/christ-church-cathedral-newsletter-sign-up)

CCC HOMEBOUND MINISTRY Do you have a loved one that is currently unable to make it to church services? Sign them up for our HomeBound Ministry, so they can receive weekly church communications in the mail directly to their homes! Call the Main Office to add them to our mailing list!

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.

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, January 12, 2026, at 7:00 pm, via zoom. The Book is **“The Women” by Kristen Hannah.** For links and more information contact Laura Manship at laura@shouldertoshoulder.org