

CCT Newsletter  
January & February  
Edition

Published bi-monthly by  
Christ Church Trumbull  
5170 Madison Avenue  
Trumbull, CT 06611

# Christ Church Trumbull Newsletter

## January and February 2020



Tel: (203) 268-5566

Website: [www.christchurchtrumbull.org](http://www.christchurchtrumbull.org)

Email: [info@christchurchtrumbull.org](mailto:info@christchurchtrumbull.org)

### From Pastor Jane

As we begin a new year and think about new year's resolutions, I am mindful of who we are as a church community, what we value, where we put our efforts, and what impact we want our church to have on our own lives, the lives of others, our community.

Jesus taught us that the most important commandment we have as Christians is to love the Lord and the second is to love one another.

But how do we as a community at Christ Church live out these commandments of our Lord?

Mission, vision, and values statements can help church communities articulate how we live out Jesus' call on our lives to love God and one another.

A church mission statement articulates what the particular church is already doing to live out these two commandments. At best, it is a concise one-sentence statement of 16 words or less that describes the reason the church exists. It helps guide decisions about priorities, actions, and responsibilities. One church in Louisville, Kentucky has a seven word mission statement: Connecting people to Jesus and one another.

Folks at Christ Church came together years ago to create a mission statement:

*"We are called to make ourselves and those around us disciples of Christ, and to continue to grow deeper in faith and stronger in numbers. We are guided by the Holy Spirit to invite and encourage all people to join us in worship, welcoming all without prejudice. We show our children the love of Jesus Christ by reaching out to feed the hungry and clothe the needy. We look ahead to joining with other houses of worship around us to build a stronger faith community."*

A vision statement is also a concise one-sentence statement; however, the vision statement describes how the church would like to create change. It is a clear and inspirational long-term change. One church in Edmond, Oklahoma has a fifteen word vision statement: to make a lasting difference in your life, in our community, and in the world.

A set of values articulates the primary beliefs and values of a community often in a word and then a definition of that word. A value based on the above mission statement could be: connection. The value definition could be: We believe that as Christians we are called to connect with God and one another. We live out this value by creating spaces for worship to connect powerfully with God. We also live out this value by creating events and small groups where we can connect with one another in meaningful and deep ways.

During our leadership retreat in November 2019, many who volunteer their time to help lead and run the church came together to pray, meditate, share stories, and learn more about ourselves and one another.

During the retreat we also took time to think about who we are as a church. Throughout the day, participants were invited to write down words and phrases that describe Christ Church. We grouped these words and phrases into three distinct, but overlapping categories: worship, church community, and outreach.

*Continued on next page*

## From Pastor Jane (continued)

The worship category included words and phrases such as: liturgical, love of God, Christ at the center of all that we do, learning more about God, prayer quieting one's mind for the Lord, centering in God.

The church community category includes words and phrases such as: nurturing, welcoming, commitment to our history, belonging, close knit congregation, respect for others and self, no politics, inclusivity, work happily together, friendship through the church, kind.

The outreach category includes words and phrases such as: seek and serve Christ in all persons, giving/serving the community, community outreach, love of self and neighbor, service, give back to its community, volunteerism, generous in our giving.

Looking at these words, phrases, and categories we then came up with a summarizing statement. We thought of the following statement "honoring the past and welcoming the future." We also reiterated our commitment to generosity, but then quite quickly the group pulled the sentiments together into the following statement:

Worship centered connection to God, one another, our history, and the community.

The statement struck me as quite profound. It is concise and truly reflects the focus of our community at Christ Church.

As we start the new year, I want to welcome all in our community to pray about our mission, vision, and values. I am hopeful that with more input from the community via email and conversation, we can refine our mission statement and create a living vision statement as well as a set of values before the next Newsletter.

I welcome simple edits as well as more extensive feedback such as additional values statements. Please submit any handwritten or emailed suggestions by February 15<sup>th</sup>.

I look forward to gathering together around our common mission, vision, and values.

Peace and Blessings,  
Pastor Jane



Christ Church on a cold winter's night. *Photo by Mark Baird*

## From Todd Rossel, our Senior Warden

As we begin this new year of 2020, I am struck by the profound changes we have seen in Christ Church over the past year, captured by our strong sense of spirit and renewal. Perhaps the best way I can highlight this is to “count our blessings.” We have a long list of people and God’s work to be thankful for. Here is a list, by no means exclusive (and in no particular order), that come to mind:

- First and foremost, Pastor Jane, and the “buzz” she has created. I am glad to announce that we have mutually agreed to continue our association with her as our Missional Priest-in-Charge in 2020, and hopefully for years to come.
- A cohesive, collaborative and dedicated Vestry that blend a variety of talents. I am particularly grateful to our officers – Jr. Warden Jaye Irwin, Clerk Karen Holmes, and Treasurer Kim Atherton.
- The incredible teamwork by contractors, parishioners, insurers in getting our archway ceiling and our historic organ repaired. Many thanks to Valley Restoration, and, particularly, our master craftsman, Richard Hamar, in completing his remarkable dismantling, repair, reassembly, and tuning of this musical gem (for the second time – 40 years apart!). Gratitude also to the wonderful publicity generated by organ repair stories in the CT Post and Trumbull Times.
- After years of driving by the eyesore of our fence along Tashua Road, we are grateful for our new picket fence and the donation from a generous neighbor that helped complete the task. We look forward to the painting of our classic white picket fence in 2020.
- The initial architectural work completed on the Uppercroft, giving us confidence and hope that our vision is about to come to fruition and we will soon be hearing hammers and drills, and seeing flooring and walls and, fingers crossed, a kitchen taking shape [patience, please!].
- The amazing and inspiring generosity of the Scott and Wallace families and their gifts to us – and the wisdom to utilize those gifts in ways that will continue to reward the faith those families have shown in us.
- The intelligence that came from the engineering reports on the ceiling work. While we are relieved to finish the work on the archway and the organ, and focused on the excitement of the Uppercroft project, we know now we should be planning a long-term objective on restoring the walls and ceiling in the sanctuary.
- Our parish families who reversed several years of declining pledge bases and contributed to a 2020 stewardship campaign that exceeded our goal, enabling our budget plans to start the new year on more solid footing.
- Increased attendance, new families, and active Sunday school with two ongoing classes weekly and new teachers filling slots.
- A wonderful tenant and good neighbor in the rectory.
- A welcoming website, new lighting around the church, and beautiful grounds (thanks to the attention of Martine Yourieff and well attended clean up days).
- Another successful Apple Festival and continued outreach efforts led by dedicated and caring parishioners who understand our value and responsibility to the surrounding community.

*Continued on next page*

## From Todd Rossel, Our Senior Warden (continued)

- And last, and certainly not least...our incredible, talented staff – Maryanne in the parish office; Matthew, our music director; Domingo, our sexton; and Judy, our new bookkeeper. Many thanks to the most capable and complete team I have seen in these roles in my thirty years as a member here.

A happy, healthy, and joyous new year to all...and may God continue to shine His light upon us!

Regards,  
Todd Rossel



## Fence Repair

Anyone who drives up Tashua Road regularly will certainly notice the new fence installed along the cemetery. The repair work is funded by monies from Marjorie Scott and private donations. The repairs were completed by Durham Fence last week, they did a great job matching the original sections along the front of the church, with those that were replaced a few years ago. We do need some help refurbishing the posts at both gates, unfortunately the company could not match the original "peaked" posts that echo the steeple and church detail. Luckily with some sanding and filling they can be repaired in time to have the fence painted, volunteers wanted.

Regards,  
Jaye Irwin





## Outreach at Christ Church Trumbull

Here at Christ Church Trumbull we support many causes during the holiday season. We start at Thanksgiving and donate food to our local food pantry. This year, the Trumbull Food Pantry asked for frozen turkeys and frozen pies. Boy, did we deliver! Here are some photos from what we delivered that day. Thank you to all of our parishioners who so generously donated to give many Trumbull families a Thanksgiving dinner. A special thanks to Lisa Woods and Jaye and Jody Irwin for delivering the food that afternoon!



We also supported the Greater Bridgeport Deanery's Thanksgiving outreach by donating lots and lots of cans of cranberry sauce. Our favorite deacon, Deacon Diane, brought our donations to the Deanery. Thank you!!



At our final community supper of the year at Calvary St. Georges, we served 69 "1st helpings" and 40 "2nd helpings" - and in addition to that - we were able to give 25 dinners to people to take home. Thank you, as always, to Martha Kaechele, for another year of organizing (and cooking for!) this outreach, as well as to our faithful volunteers who come with their smiling faces, spreading good cheer while they serve and clean up at our suppers through the year.

Missing from this photo is Martine Yourieff — who we believe had already started washing the dishes when this photo was taken!

Continuing into December, we had our annual outreach of collecting household items and warm outerwear for the families helped by IRIS, our St. Nicholas Coat Drive, our collection of toys and personal gift items for the students who belong to the McGivney Community Center, and our gifts to the clients of the Prospect House in Bridgeport who are in need of warm winter clothes and socks. On the right is a photo of our Jesse Tree, loaded with wrapped presents, ready to be delivered by our Christmas elves, Ray and Betty Hofbauer! Thank you one and all!!



## Organ Repair and Reassemble

As you know, because of the ceiling repair needed in the church, our historic organ has gone through a disassemble and reassemble in the last couple of months. Here are a few photos of the amazing process...





## Organ Repair and Reassemble

Repair work to the historic 1849 Simmons and McIntyre organ was completed on December 17, thanks to tireless effort from Richard Hamar 83, of Norwich CT. He last refurbished the organ in 1968. His dedication to craft was incredible and the parish owes him a great deal of thanks. The project took most of two weeks, aided by Todd and Casey Rossel, Jaye Irwin, Bob Mitola and our sexton Domingo. It was an inspiring project to see it come back to life in time for Christmas. The story was recognized in the CT Post on Christmas Day. Special thanks to Brian Pounds who made the trek to Tashua, twice during the ice storm that week to capture photos and video. Richard said the organ will be better than it was, which is fantastic news, he said it will need to "settle in for a year or so." We hope to have Richard come back early in the year to recognize him and have him play, he is an accomplished organist as well at his church in Mystic, CT.

Regards,  
Jaye Irwin

Here is the link to the article in the Trumbull Times and the CT Post: [https://www.trumbulltimes.com/news/article/Trumbull-church-hopes-to-have-1849-pipe-organ-14915956.php?utm\\_campaign=CMS%20Sharing%20Tools%20\(Desktop\)&utm\\_source=share-by-email&utm\\_medium=email](https://www.trumbulltimes.com/news/article/Trumbull-church-hopes-to-have-1849-pipe-organ-14915956.php?utm_campaign=CMS%20Sharing%20Tools%20(Desktop)&utm_source=share-by-email&utm_medium=email)



I spy Matthew Johnson, our exuberant Music Director and Organist, happily back playing our newly restored organ, as Jaye said, in time for our Christmas Eve service.

What a blessing indeed!



Thanks to Jody Irwin and other members of our parish who helped to get the church back in order once the ceiling and organ repair work was done.

We are so lucky to have you all!



## Roast Beef Dinner at Christ Church Trumbull

It seems like forever ago, but way back in November of 2019, we held a Roast Beef Dinner for friends and family of Christ Church Trumbull. A special thank you to the Flader's for helping to organize this, for making the delicious side dishes, and for arranging for the delicious roast beef for our dinner! Here are some photos of the fun event. Thanks to all who came out and supported us that night!





## More Parish News

### Mediation Group at Christ Church Trumbull



Fellow parishioner, Peter Ulisse leads a Meditation Group right here at Christ Church Trumbull. If you have an interest in meditation, ever thought you'd like to try meditation, or would just like to try something new, feel free to join us on —

The 1st and 3rd Monday of each week.

This group meets in the Primary Classroom — right down the hall from the Parish Office.

All are welcome!

## Our Altar Guild

Sending a huge thank you to the members of our Altar Guild—Martha Kaechele, Shirley Mayo, and our newest member, Karen Godfrey. Thank you so much for your commitment each week to preparing our altar for our Sunday services. Your loving care shows week after week. Here are some photos from the holiday season — Advent through Christmas — to show you some of their wonderful work!



# Christmas Eve Worship Service





# Christmas Eve Worship Service





**JANUARY**

2-Jan	Noah Green
4-Jan	David Green
5-Jan	Victoria Vasone
7-Jan	Alexandra Baird
7-Jan	Karen Holmes
9-Jan	Jeanne Spath
12-Jan	Elizabeth Hawkins
13-Jan	Natalie Green
20-Jan	Matthew Mitola
24-Jan	Georgia Yourieff

**FEBRUARY**

3-Feb	Linda Halaby
7-Feb	Jonah Jeuland
10-Feb	Lauren Morse
11-Feb	Betheny Hawkins
13-Feb	John Lundy
19-Feb	Susan Mitola
26-Feb	Michelle Miklus
27-Feb	Chandler Green
27-Feb	Julia Brenha

Coffee Hour after our worship services is a wonderful time to get to know one another. A time to catch up with old friends and get to know new ones. Let's keep our Coffee Hour fun and well attended by providing goodies and/or refreshments on Sunday!

If you would like to bring something in for Coffee Hour, there is a sign up sheet on the front table in the Undercroft.

Feel free to sign up for more than one date!

Thank you!



*Thinking about becoming an Altar Server?*

We always welcome new members!  
There are MANY ways to serve!

You can be a Lay Eucharistic Minister and assist Pastor Jane on the altar & read the Epistle, be a Prayer Leader and read the Prayers of the People on Sunday, be a Lector and read the First Reading, be a Greeter and greet everyone on Sunday mornings and bring up the gifts before Communion, or be a teacher at our Church School and get to know our kids!

If math is more your thing, you can become a Counter and assist a fellow parishioner with recording the Sunday collection.

If you are interested in any of these, please talk with Pastor Jane or Maryanne in the Parish Office.



## Vestry Information

### Current Vestry Members

Todd Rossel.....Senior Warden  
Jaye Irwin ..... Junior Warden  
Kim Atherton (incoming Treasurer, Margaret Marcotte) ..... Treasurer  
Karen Holmes.....Clerk  
Pastor Jane Jeuland.....  
Martine Yourieff .....  
Bob Mitola.....  
Amy Germano .....  
Pat Foster.....  
John Flader.....

### Christ Church Trumbull Vestry Meeting Policy

Parishioners are welcome to attend Vestry meetings if they have a particular concern, idea or proposal that should be brought to the attention of the Vestry. A written request should be made to one of the Vestry officers or the Rector a week in advance for inclusion on the meeting agenda, along with any documentation to be reviewed in advance of the meeting. Approximately the first 15 minutes of the next Vestry meeting will then be set aside to address the parishioner's concerns, ideas or proposals. Otherwise, in the interest of covering all of the items on the agenda in a timely way, Vestry meetings are generally closed to parishioners.

### Upcoming Vestry Meeting Dates-- 6:30pm

January 15, 2020  
February 19, 2020  
March 18, 2020  
April 15, 2020



EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN CONNECTICUT  
PARTICIPATING IN GOD'S MISSION

Would you like to learn more about the  
Episcopal Church in Connecticut?

Visit the Episcopal Diocese website at [www.episcopalct.org](http://www.episcopalct.org)  
to read blogs, view photos, enjoy poetry and learn more about  
upcoming events in the Episcopal Church in our state.

Stay connected!

## Sunday Servers Schedule - January 12 through March 15, 2020

	January 12	January 19 Morning Prayer Svc. at 8 & 10	January 26	February 2	February 9
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	Shirley Mayo	Karen Godfrey	Martha Kaechele	Shirley Mayo	Karen Godfrey
<b>Altar Linen:</b>	Karen Godfrey	Karen Godfrey	Karen Godfrey	Shirley Mayo	Shirley Mayo
<b>Greeters:</b>	Todd and Jen Rossel	Karen Godfrey Margaret Marcotte	Jaye and Jody Irwin	Karen Godfrey Volunteer Needed	Todd and Jen Rossel
<b>Lay Euch. Min.:</b>	Sally Lundy	Susan Vasone	Todd Rossel	Ginnie Glassman	Margaret Marcotte
<b>Lector:</b>	John Holmes	Peter Ulisse	Pat Foster	Jaye Irwin	Martha Kaechele
<b>Counters:</b>	Sally Lundy John Holmes	Margaret Marcotte Bev Van Der Ploeg	Jody Irwin Todd Rossel	Kim Atherton John Holmes	Margaret Marcotte Bev Van Der Ploeg
<b>Refreshments:</b>					
<b>Flowers:</b>					
<b>Chalice—8am</b>	Ray Hofbauer	Ginnie Glassman	Margaret Marcotte	Ray Hofbauer	Ginnie Glassman

Please note: Ginnie Glassman will lead Morning Prayer Service on January 19th at the 8am & 10am worship services.


	February 16	February 23	March 1	March 8	March 15
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	Martha Kaechele	Shirley Mayo	Karen Godfrey	Martha Kaechele	Shirley Mayo
<b>Altar Linen:</b>	Shirley Mayo	Shirley Mayo	Martha Kaechele	Martha Kaechele	Martha Kaechele
<b>Greeters:</b>	Jaye and Jody Irwin	Karen Godfrey Volunteer Needed	Sally Lundy Jen Rossel	Jody Irwin Volunteer Needed	Karen Godfrey Margaret Marcotte
<b>Lay Euch. Min.:</b>	Sally Lundy	Ginnie Glassman	Susan Vasone	Todd Rossel	Susan Vasone
<b>Lector:</b>	John Holmes	Peter Ulisse	Pat Foster	Jaye Irwin	Ginnie Glassman
<b>Counters</b>	Jody Irwin Todd Rossel	Kim Atherton Bev Van Der Ploeg	Sally Lundy John Holmes	Todd Rossel Jody Irwin	Bev Van Der Ploeg Kim Atherton
<b>Refreshments:</b>					
<b>Flowers:</b>					
<b>Chalice—8am</b>	Margaret Marcotte	Ray Hofbauer	Margaret Marcotte	Ginnie Glassman	Ray Hofbauer



## Parish Calendar -- JANUARY 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
<b>5</b> The 2nd Sunday after Christmas Day  Worship 8 & 10:00am	6  The Epiphany of our Lord Jesus Christ	7	8	9	10	11
<b>12</b> The 1st Sunday after the Epiphany  Worship 8 & 10:00am	13	14	15  Vestry Mtg 6:30 p.m.	16	17	18
<b>19</b> The 2nd Sunday after the Epiphany  Morning Prayer Worship Service at 8 & 10:00am	20	21	22	23	24	25
<b>26</b> The 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany  Worship 8 & 10:00am	27	28	29	30	31	

## Parish Calendar -- FEBRUARY 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
<b>2</b> The Presentation of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple  Worship 8 & 10:00am	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>9</b> The 5th Sunday after the Epiphany  Worship 8 & 10:00am	10	11	12	13	14	15
<b>16</b> The 6th Sunday after the Epiphany  Worship 8 & 10:00am	17	18	19  Vestry Meeting 6:30pm	20	21	22
<b>23</b> The Last Sunday after the Epiphany  Worship 8 & 10:00am	24	25  Shrove Tuesday  Details on events to follow	26  	27	28	29  It's a Leap Year!





**CHRIST  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
TASHUA**

*Est. 1760*

**SUNDAY SERVICES**  
8 AM & 10 AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM

*All are Welcome*

Please Join Us  
(203) 268-5566  
[www.christchurchtrumbull.org](http://www.christchurchtrumbull.org)