

The Mustard Seed

October 2026

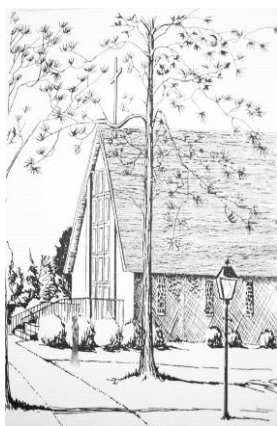
Christ Episcopal Church
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Lancaster, SC 29721

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lancaster.com

*Christ Church –
where we gather to
worship, pray, sing,
and share so
together we may
serve our community
and the world.*



**Saturday, October 3rd at
10:00 a.m.**

**At Christ Church
Blessing of the Animals**



**Trunk or Treat
at Christ Church
Friday,
October 31st
5:00pm – 7:00**

Please contact Pam Giardiello if you would like
to volunteer and/or donate candy.

Please make a note of new guidelines for our “Cans for Kitties” program. I am only taking aluminum drink cans for recycling. Thanks, Sara



For your information: Donations to EDUSC are down from approximately \$4,000 last year. Approximately \$2,000 has been contributed to date this year.

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*Note: The loose offering on the first Sunday of each month is designated for the Priest's Discretionary Fund.*

**The next Vestry Meeting will be  
Sunday, October 18<sup>th</sup>.**

**Choir Practice every Wednesday at  
7:00 pm.**

The next ECW meeting will be  
Sunday, October 4, 2026,  
in the Parish Place following the  
service.



**PLEASE COMPLETE FORMS FOR LISTING NAMES TO BE  
READ DURING THE PRAYERS FOR THE DEPARTED  
DURING SERVICE ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1<sup>st</sup> AND PUT IN  
THE COLLECTION PLATE.**

**FORMS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT BOTH ENTRANCES. YOU MAY ALSO  
EMAIL NAMES TO THE CHURCH OFFICE.**

### **PARISH PRAYER LIST**

(\*Denotes Members)

**Michael Cauthen, Dianne Johnson\*, Maxine, Rick, Michelle, Helen, Anita  
Christman\*, Kip Carter\*, David Ford\*, Jim Abercrombie, Ben Murphy,  
Kristen Phillips, Erin Gardner, Julie Bowers, Melissa McPherson, Debbie,  
Cathy, Amanda Ford\*, John, Kay Lamberton\*, Mildred Wilmot, Diane  
Hood, Tric Deaton\*, Fionna, Allen, Rebecca Bryson, Wayne, Amelia  
Davis, Mike Lamberton\*, Pam Giardiello\*, Earle Holmes\*,  
Aubrey Crawford\*, Father Bill Walters**



### October Anniversaries

Please contact the office if your anniversary is in October.



### October Birthdays

October 8<sup>th</sup> – Aaron Higgins

October 26<sup>th</sup> – David Ford



**Please be aware that Ray's will email an invoice for flowers. Due to the high cost of postage, they have made this change. They will no longer send paper invoices.**

**You may provide your own flowers or contact the church office if you would like to use Ray's Flowers.**

### October Flowers

October 4<sup>th</sup> – open

October 11<sup>th</sup> – open

October 18<sup>th</sup> – Aubrey & Joan Crawford

October 25<sup>th</sup> – Aubrey & Joan Crawford



**Many thanks to Philip McGuirt for  
taking and sharing pictures from  
Homecoming with us.**



## OCTOBER/NOVEMBER PARTICIPANTS

| DATE                         | L E M              | ACOLYTE/<br>CRUCIFER | USHERS/<br>GREETERS                               | TELLERS                                | ALTAR GUILD                            | LECTOR             | VIDEO<br>OPERATOR |
|------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Sunday,<br>October 4, 2026   | Ernest<br>Jenkins  | Ernest<br>Jenkins    | Mike Sistare, Jake<br>Wilson & Melton<br>Mayfield | Nicki<br>Robertson &<br>Kathy Sistare  | Mike & Kathy<br>Sistare                | Caroline<br>Oliver | Wayne<br>Johnson  |
| Sunday,<br>October 11, 2026  | Linda Baker        | Ernest<br>Jenkins    | Mike Sistare, Jake<br>Wilson & Melton<br>Mayfield | Joan Crawford<br>& Pam<br>Giardiello   | Mike & Kathy<br>Sistare                | Kay<br>Lamberton   |                   |
| Sunday,<br>October 18, 2026  | Caroline<br>Oliver | Ernest<br>Jenkins    | Mike Sistare, Jake<br>Wilson & Melton<br>Mayfield | Ernest Jenkins<br>& Nicki<br>Robertson | Mike & Kathy<br>Sistare                | Sally<br>Higgins   | Linda Baker       |
| Sunday,<br>October 25, 2026  | Ernest<br>Jenkins  | Ernest<br>Jenkins    | Mike Sistare, Jake<br>Wilson & Melton<br>Mayfield | Kathy Sistare<br>& Joan<br>Crawford    | Mike & Kathy<br>Sistare                | David<br>Ford      |                   |
| Sunday,<br>November 1, 2026  | Linda Baker        | Ernest<br>Jenkins    | Mike Sistare, Jake<br>Wilson & Melton<br>Mayfield | Pam Giardiello<br>& Ernest<br>Jenkins  | Nicki Robertson<br>& Philip<br>McGuirt | Lisa<br>Stamper    | Wayne<br>Johnson  |
| Sunday,<br>November 8, 2026  | Caroline<br>Oliver | Ernest<br>Jenkins    | Mike Sistare, Jake<br>Wilson & Melton<br>Mayfield | Nicki<br>Robertson &<br>Kathy Sistare  | Nicki Robertson<br>& Philip<br>McGuirt | Kathy<br>Sistare   |                   |
| Sunday,<br>November 15, 2026 | Ernest<br>Jenkins  | Ernest<br>Jenkins    | Mike Sistare, Jake<br>Wilson & Melton<br>Mayfield | Joan Crawford<br>& Pam<br>Giardiello   | Nicki Robertson<br>& Philip<br>McGuirt | Ernest<br>Jenkins  | Linda Baker       |
| Sunday,<br>November 22, 2026 | Linda Baker        | Ernest<br>Jenkins    | Mike Sistare, Jake<br>Wilson & Melton<br>Mayfield | Ernest Jenkins<br>& Nicki<br>Robertson | Nicki Robertson<br>& Philip<br>McGuirt | Caroline<br>Oliver |                   |
| Sunday,<br>November 29, 2026 | Caroline<br>Oliver | Ernest<br>Jenkins    | Mike Sistare, Jake<br>Wilson & Melton<br>Mayfield | Kathy Sistare<br>& Joan<br>Crawford    | Nicki Robertson<br>& Philip<br>McGuirt | Kay<br>Lamberton   |                   |

**PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER TO SERVE.**

**PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PROVIDE SNACKS FOR FELLOWSHIP TIME ON SUNDAY.**

Please remember to contribute your spare change to “The Little Church” that is located on the table at the main entrance.



Monthly gifts as of September 30, 2026

\*Priest Discretionary Fund - \$22.00

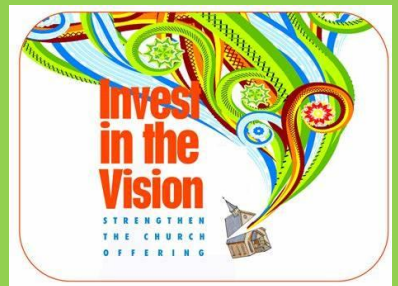
Ray's Backdoor Ministry - \$.00

HOPE - \$.00

Sheltered - \$.00

EDUSC - \$100.00

Pledge/Plate: \$5,283



**Forward Day by Day booklets for August/September/October are at both entrances and in the red mailbox at the side entrance. You are welcome to pick up a copy at your convenience.**

## **October Grocery List for H.O.P.E.**

Grits, oatmeal, jelly, rice, pasta (any type), spaghetti sauce, boxed instant potatoes, beef stew, tuna, juice (any type.)

**Please remember HOPE prefers plastic containers.**

**Grocery bags are also needed.**

Place your donated items in the shopping cart located in the Narthex.



Christ Church collected 118 pounds of food for the month of September. Many thanks to Linda Miller for delivering the food to HOPE for us.

### **Ray's Backdoor Ministry**

Christ Church will continue to support the ongoing needs of this ministry. Please put Ray's Backdoor Ministry on the memo line of your check. God bless you richly for your ongoing contributions.



**Sheltered of Lancaster:** Sheltered is a non-profit in Lancaster, SC with the goal of providing housing, showers, food and other needs for members of our community. Please contact Jamie Miller at 803-287-7443 if you would like to volunteer at one of their events. Christ Church supports this ministry by individual contributions.

**Urgent need:**

**Women's underwear (all sizes)**

**Men's pant (34 and under)**

**Please drop in our donation bin out front 713 S Main Street, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 9am-noon and Monday-Friday 1pm-5pm.**

***Sheltered is in need of volunteers to help with clients at the office. Here are the days and times:***

***Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 9am- noon***

***Please call or come by to sign up.***

**Sheltered  
713 S Main Street  
[803-287-7443](tel:803-287-7443)**



## Gifts for Life

Have you ever had difficulty finding a good, meaningful gift for someone?

Have you ever wanted to help people in need?

Did you know that the Episcopal Church provides a way for you to accomplish both goals at the same time?

Episcopal Relief and Development, the international relief and development agency of the Episcopal Church, issues the Gifts for Life Catalog. Through the gifts offered in the catalog, we can help transform lives through giving gifts with lasting impact. Gifts featured in the catalog include clean water, disaster relief kits, beehives, goats, bicycles, care for mothers and newborns, family gardens, and savings and loan groups for women. We have a copy of the 2025-2026 catalog available in our church office if you would like to consult it. You may also order online at [www.episcopalrelief.org/gifts](http://www.episcopalrelief.org/gifts) or call Gifts for Life at 1.855.312.4325.

## The Work of the Diocese

What does the Diocese of Upper South Carolina do? Here are some of the activities of our diocese.

Our diocese engages in an impressive array of international ministries. We have been involved in Haiti since 1979. Much of our work there now supports Zanmilasante, the Haitian branch of Partners in Health. Partners in Health is an international charitable mission founded over twenty years ago by Dr. Paul Farmer, a Harvard physician. Clemson Engineers in Developing Countries provides valuable expertise assisting in these efforts. We also support work in Ecuador. Cameron Graham Vivanco, formerly the Youth Pastor at the Episcopal Church of the Advent in Spartanburg, started Education Equals Hope (E=H). This is a micro-scholarship program that helps provide for the education of those living in desperate and difficult situations in Ecuador.

Within our diocese we provide leadership opportunities for youth and young adults. These opportunities include serving on our Diocesan Youth Leadership Committee, serving as peer ministers in our Canterbury Campus Ministries, and attending the Episcopal Youth Event. This event focuses on helping youth develop leadership skills, spiritual practices, and early stages of vocational discernment.

We provide a range of spiritual development opportunities for youth and adults, including the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Bridge Retreat, New Beginnings (a weekend retreat for youth in grades 6-8), Vocare (a weekend retreat for young adults ages 18-30), and Cursillo. Some of these events are hosted by Camp Gravatt near Aiken, and some are hosted at several parishes in our diocese.

The Matthew 25 Committee of our diocese administers a grant program to encourage deaneries and congregations to create, join, and expand ministries of compassion and justice. These ministries address the needs of the poor and those at risk in our home communities and throughout the world. Proposals should include plans to sustain these ministries beyond the grant year. Churches of all sizes within our diocese have received these grants.

This is not an exhaustive list of activities supported by our diocese, but I hope that it indicates the range and importance of those activities. If any of this work appeals to you, please consider supporting it. You may make a check out to Christ Church and indicate "EDUSC" or "Diocese" on the memo line. You would help our vestry achieve our goal of increasing our diocesan contributions. We, and our sisters and brothers across our diocese and beyond, all benefit from these contributions. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Ernest Jenkins  
Senior Warden

