

THE CROWN

The Newsletter of Christ Church Shrewsbury

Christ Church is a community committed to exploring the reality of God in today's world

Volume XXVI Issue VII



July 2026



We joyfully welcomed Eleanor into our church family on June 7th.

**"I am about to do a new thing;
Now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?"**

--Isaiah 43:19

Dear Friends,

The past five months have been extraordinary for me—and I hope for you, too. I began my time here in February by walking straight into Ash Wednesday and the season of Lent, followed by the headlong rush into Holy Week and Easter, the joy of the Easter season and Pentecost, Mother's Day, Father's Day, Youth Sunday, our Annual Flea Market...whew!

It's been a busy time, to say the least, and I pray I've been able to find the time to connect with folks in ways that are meaningful. I'm so grateful for all of you, for the ministries in which you all engage yourselves and each other, and for the welcome you've given me, William, and our family.

In the midst of all of the activity, our vestry and ministry leadership and I have been hard at work determining what's next for us and our church. What does Christ Church need to move forward and grow? These aren't decisions that we make in a vacuum. These are decisions that we make with you and with the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

If you haven't completed our Parish Survey yet, this is the most important thing you can do for us right now. We're committed to hearing your voices before we make decisions that bring change to our congregation, and we want to make sure everyone gets the chance to be heard. In the fall, we'll have a special opportunity to look at the results together, re-examine our mission, and discover where God is leading us.

So far, our summary survey reports are giving us great information, especially regarding what we value as a congregation, our challenges and areas for growth, the ideas and inspirations people want to share, and our capacity for ministry and outreach. From your responses, we'll be able to see what new things are ready to come forth, and how we can better steward our resources and energy. The survey can be found here: <https://forms.gle/q2sTH9KAvPi35Msy6> It takes only a few minutes, but the impact will be lifelong and life-changing for all of us.

We look forward to sharing more about the survey very soon. In the meantime, please know how much your voices and guidance are valued at Christ Church. I'm always excited to see how God is at work here! Thank you.

Susanna+

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Office hours for the summer are Mondays through Thursdays from 8 am to noon.

PARISH DIRECTORY

We have updated our directory! Please send us an email or call the Church Office at 732-741-2220 if you would like a copy.

YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED

For the sick and suffering, and those in any need or trouble:

Anderson Pedalino, Ann, Arlene, Barbara, Beverly Ryser, Bill Balmer, Bob Bark, Candice, Carolyn, Cassie Reagan, Chip, Dave, Denzel Donaldson, Dianne Regiec, Doris, Elaine Feyereisen, Gerard, Halina Nibbling, Heather Forrest, Ingrid, Jack Sauber, Joan Landers, Jocelyn, John Smalls, John Veil, Judi Buncher, Julia Walsh, Julien, Kelly, Kristy R., Libby Noell, Linda Forrest, Lynn, Lynn McKittrick, Mignon Williams, Mimi Brown, Pat + Bill Jaeger, Pam, Paul Murgio, Richard Brugger, Robert Spencer, Rod Webster, Roger Cuthbert, Sandy Abdelaziz, Sarah Schmid, Skylar, Tia LaPiana, Tom Cameron, The Beebe Family, The Lam Family

May they be relieved of their distress.

HYGIENE BAG COLLECTION

As part of our Outreach at the Beach event, Christ Church will be collecting hygiene supplies for the Trinity Food Pantry clients. Please bring travel sizes of the following items: lotion, soap, combs, toothpaste, toothbrushes, hand sanitizer, and deodorant. We're also collecting socks, granola bars (healthy more than sugary, please), and quart-sized Ziploc bags to pack the kits once we're at the event on the 21st. Donations can be dropped off at the church office, Monday - Thursday from 9 am until noon, or on Sunday mornings.

FALL 2026 BACKPACK PROGRAM

As summer slowly gives way to autumn, thousands of children in the local community are preparing for the start of a new school year. For many, the excitement of new teachers, new friends, and new opportunities is accompanied by a quieter concern: having the basic school supplies they need to succeed.

Through our annual Backpack Project, Christ Church has the opportunity to help ensure that every child begins the school year with confidence and dignity. A backpack filled with notebooks, pencils, crayons, and other essential supplies may seem like a small gift, but to a child, it can mean the difference between feeling prepared and feeling left behind.

We invite you to join us in this important Outreach ministry by donating new backpacks and school supplies for children in grades 1 through 5. Needed items include sturdy backpacks, pencils, pens, crayons, markers, colored pencils, highlighters, zippered pencil cases, spiral notebooks (no binders), homework notebooks, child-safe scissors, glue sticks, marble notebooks, erasers, and other age-appropriate supplies.

Donations may be brought to the church any time before Sunday, August 30, 2026, when the backpacks and supplies will be blessed during worship. They will then be delivered to a local school guidance counselor during the first week of classes.

As followers of Christ, we are called to care for our neighbors and support the children of our community. Together, we can help send these young students back to school with confidence, dignity, and the knowledge that someone cares, someone believes in them, and someone wants them to succeed. In doing so, we remind them that they are loved by God and remembered by their community.

Thank you for your generosity and continued support of this important Outreach ministry.

CHURCH SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

On Sunday, June 14 the church celebrated the end of the Church School year. The service fully engaged the children who served as lectors and leaders of the prayers of the people. For their faithful commitment to church school each child was awarded a gift card to Nicholas Creamery which we hope will remind them of the Youth "Sundae" celebration, the lessons learned and the fun they had crafting in church school. Not to mention the camaraderie developed.

We also celebrated the service of our excellent teachers: Kristen Downs, Katie Wachter, Laura Stroebel and Jennifer Craven who devoted their time and talents on Sunday mornings as well as to many hours in preparing lessons and setting up crafts. I am thankful for the gifts each of you bring to God's table and I appreciate every single one of you immensely. Yours is an important ministry at Christ Church and your service is faithful.

Thanks to all who scooped ice cream, provided the toppings, set up for the coffee hour and served beverages.

While church school may be over for the summer, Christian education doesn't take time off. Any time you and your family spend at our church services on a Saturday or Sunday or take time out to notice and discuss God's handiwork in the world, education is in process. It doesn't have to be formal, sometimes casual works best. You'll know what works best for you and your family.

We are always looking for volunteers to teach and otherwise assist in the church school. Should you have any interest; I would be pleased to speak with you. My phone number is 732-272-5135. Feel free to call or text me.

So, until September have a relaxing, blessed and safe summer. May God be with you in your activities and may you find Him awaiting your arrival upon your return.

Faithfully, Sue Napoletano



BRIGHTENING THE ENTRANCE OF THE PARISH HOUSE

A heartfelt thank you to Denzel,
who spent several mornings
planting flowers in the planters
outside Christ Church. What a
lovely reminder that kindness and
beauty live in the little things!



FLEA MARKET JUNE 27 2016

This year's flea market was truly a work of many members of the parish. We had quality items to sell, had several people available to set up, including the members of the Vestry, and numerous parishioners helped out on the Saturday of the sale. Thank you to everyone for helping make this fund raiser a success.

At first count the total is \$2,611.35, although there are a few funds still outstanding. Cleanup is on-going and the remaining items will be donated elsewhere. A special thank you to Denzel who was there to help each step of the way!

Elaine



"IT TAKES A VILLAGE"

**Phoenix and Julien Canoy are Filipino students whom Christ Church supports with college scholarships.*

**Queenie Caay lives in the Philippines and Christ Church sponsored her college education.*

**"A generous person will prosper;
whoever refreshes others will be
refreshed."**

- Proverbs 11:25

Greetings to the Shrewsbury Parish Family,

It has been quite a while since I last wrote a letter. Recently, I have been very busy with my studies especially with school reports, projects, and advanced reading to help me achieve good grades.

The School Year 2026–2027 has just started and during the first week, we had several activities and programs such as orientations and Pakighimamat, which kept us occupied.

I also recently celebrated my 20th birthday last week and I am very grateful to God for another year of life and for all the blessings He continues to provide. Thank you for being part of our journey. We pray that God will continue to bless each one of you, your families, and the entire parish community with good health, happiness, and abundant blessings.

With heartfelt gratitude,
Phoenix Canoy

HERITAGE ROSE GARDEN

The garden is very colorful now with the addition of some new plants thanks to Denzel. Among these are a new Rose bush, purple Phlox and Gaillardia flowers. Other flowers include Rosa Rugosa, Zinnias, purple and yellow Supertunias, and yellow Lantana. White, red and pink Vinca are flowering next to the perennial Lavender plants. Seven members of the Shrewsbury Garden Club in addition to Denzel will weed and water the garden over the summer. Stop and check out this beautiful garden anytime or on your way into church.

Nancy Stewart



The DAR Patriot Plaque Project Culminates in an Event at our Church

As parishioners at Christ Church, we are well-aware of the historical significance of the graveyard that surrounds our 1769 edifice. Some of us even know that a few of the graves predate the building of our church.

As aspect of this significance was celebrated on Saturday June 6. The sun shone as we welcomed members of the Shrewsbury Towne Monmouth County DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution), who were honoring the men buried in our graveyard who fought in the Revolutionary War.

Organized as part of the DAR's celebration of the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, the event was an outcome of several years of effort undertaken by DAR members nationwide. The project's purpose is to place a specially designed plaque on the graves of all the soldiers who fought in that war.

Leading the effort here was Jo Ann Slocum Mazzucca, who descends from more than one patriot buried in our graveyard. She undertook the arduous process of authenticating the service of these patriots sufficiently well to satisfy the national office of the DAR.

The ceremony marking the placement of the plaques included remarks by Mother Susanna as well as by members of DAR, by Don Burden and Kim Eulner, past and current mayors of Shrewsbury. This was followed by a reception in our Parish House.

Our parishioners can view the plaques – there are 18 of them – by finding the graves, which are also marked with a second American flag, one supplementing the ones that are part of our Memorial Day celebration.

By Connie Goddard





The plaque at the grave of John Grimke, one of the more celebrated soldiers buried at Christ Church.



Don & Mary Lea Burden



Debbie & Carl Alfano



Judi & Stuart Buncher



Sue Napoletano, Nancy & Bob Stewart

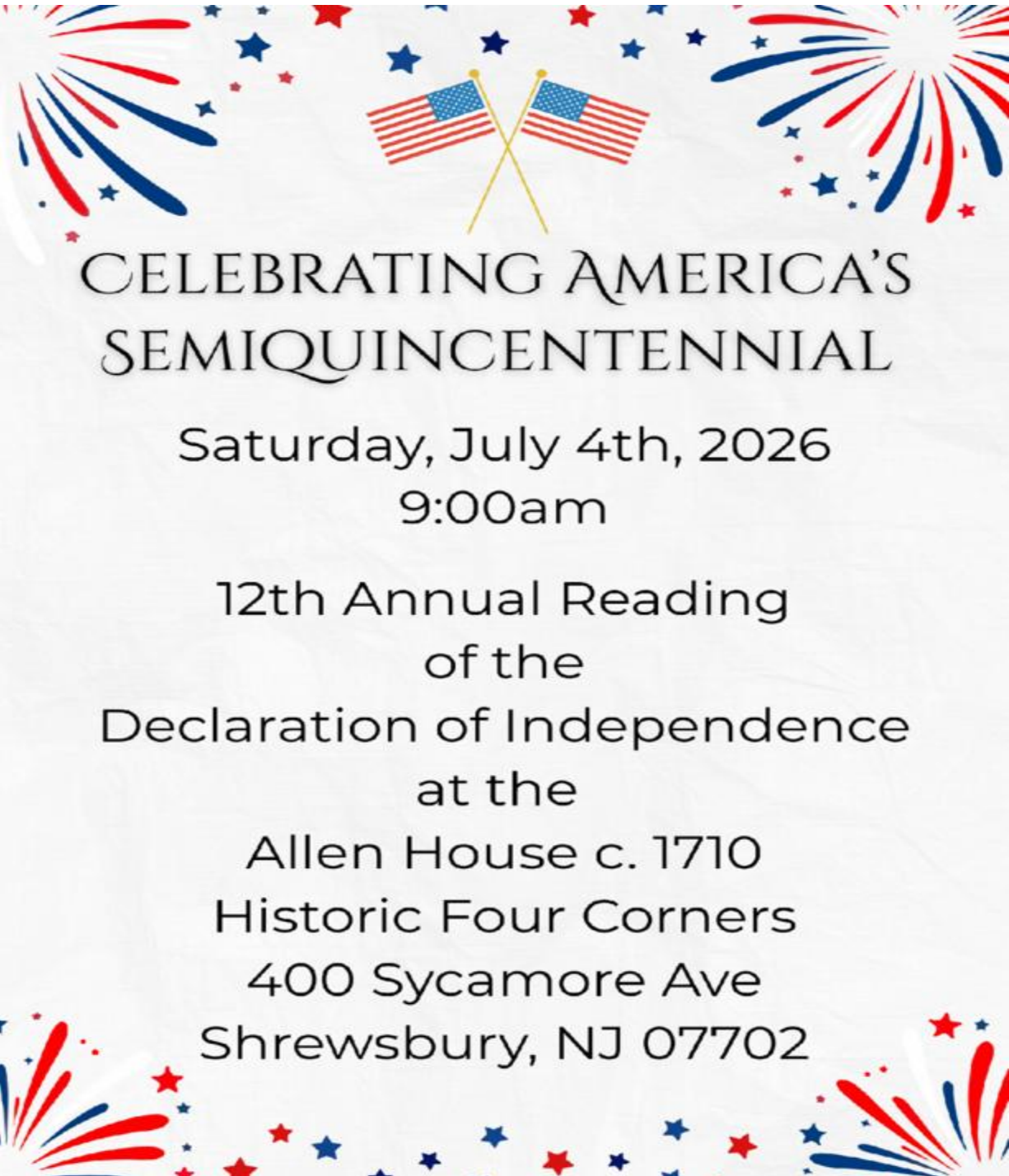


MONMOUTH COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

A non-profit organization

**Please join us for our 12th Annual Reading of
the Declaration of Independence
Celebrating America's Semiquincentennial!**

**Bring your chairs, fans, and waters:
it's looking to be a very bright and sunny morning!**



OUTREACH AT THE BEACH FOR YOUTH!

All kids aged 12-18 are encouraged to join our nearby youth groups at Trinity in Asbury Park on Tuesday, July 21st, from 9 am until 3 pm for outreach at their Food Pantry, followed by lunch and a fun excursion on the boardwalk and beach. There's a \$10 registration fee to cover lunch, but our beach badges are covered. Deadline to register is July 14th—to sign up, contact Mother Susanna OR use the QR code on the attached flyer.



OUTREACH = at the = BEACH

A YOUTH SERVICE DAY & SUMMER ADVENTURE



Serve at the Food Pantry
at Trinity Episcopal Church
in Asbury Park



Enjoy time at the
beach and
boardwalk



Share lunch
together
(provided)



**TUESDAY,
JULY 21**



**9:00 AM –
3:00 PM**



**TRINITY EPISCOPAL
CHURCH, ASBURY PARK**



OPEN TO
*all youth
and friends!*

BRING:

- Comfortable clothes for service
- Sneakers
- Beach towel & sunscreen
- Water bottle
- Money for boardwalk treats or games (optional)

\$10 FEE

Payable by
check or cash
on the day
of the event.



SCAN TO RSVP!



**PLEASE RSVP BY
MONDAY, JULY 14TH!**



QUESTIONS? Contact:



The Reverend Susanna Cates



rector@christchurchshrewsbury.org



732-741-2220

A vibrant, stylized illustration for a backyard BBQ. The background is a light cream color. At the top, a red bottle of ketchup is on the left and a pink watermelon slice is on the right. In the center, the text 'BACKYARD BBQ!' is written in large, bold, red capital letters. Below this, a horizontal line separates the title from the event details. The details are organized into three columns: 'Date' (July 31st, 2026), 'Time' (5-7 PM), and 'Location' (The Rectory, 329 Sycamore Ave). Below another horizontal line, the text 'We've got the burgers, chicken, and hot dogs--you bring a side dish or dessert to share! RSVP to the church or here: https://tinyurl.com/2rhjhefr' is centered. At the bottom, two people are cooking. A woman on the left, wearing a blue shirt and brown pants, is holding a green vegetable. A man on the right, wearing a brown vest over a yellow shirt and blue pants, is holding a pink spatula. They are standing in front of a large yellow grill. To their left and right are two smaller red grills, each with a hot dog cooking on it. Various food items like skewers, a watermelon slice, and a hot dog are floating around the people. The overall style is flat and colorful.

BACKYARD BBQ!

Date

July 31st,
2026

Time

5-7 PM

Location

The Rectory
329 Sycamore Ave

We've got the burgers, chicken, and hot dogs--you bring a side dish or dessert to share! RSVP to the church or here:
<https://tinyurl.com/2rhjhefr>

THOSE WHO SERVE JULY

July 5

Celebrant: The Reverend Susanna Cates
Deacon: Reverend William Balmer
Acolytes: Judi Buncher, Denzel Donaldson, Edgar John
Lectors: Carl Alfano, Elaine Feyereisen
Ushers: Peggy James, John Callaghan
Organist/Choirmaster: Fiona Smith Sutherland
Altar Guild: Madna Aubry
Iced Tea: Elaine Feyereisen

July 12

Celebrant: The Reverend Susanna Cates
Deacon: Reverend William Balmer
Acolytes: Dexter & Kodi Craven, Denzel Donaldson, Edgar John
Lectors: Tia LaPiana, Bob Van Valkenburgh
Ushers: Bramley Maber, Christine Maber
Organist/Choirmaster: Fiona Smith Sutherland
Altar Guild: Colleen & Mark Roth
Iced Tea: Denzel Donaldson

July 19

Celebrant: The Reverend Susanna Cates
Deacon: Reverend William Balmer
Acolytes: Denzel Donaldson, Tia LaPiana (CB), Cassandra Murphy
Lectors: Connie Goddard, Peggy James
Ushers: Walter Dein, George Edwards
Organist/Choirmaster: Fiona Smith Sutherland
Altar Guild: Cindy Webster
Iced Tea: Sue Sellers

July 26

Celebrant: The Reverend Susanna Cates
Deacon: Reverend William Balmer
Acolytes: Denzel Donaldson, Joshua & Matthew Dunford
Lectors: Dash Cassidy, Tara Dunford
Ushers: Elaine Feyereisen, Judi Buncher
Organist/Choirmaster: Fiona Smith Sutherland
Altar Guild: Judi Buncher & Tia LaPiana
Iced Tea: Host Needed!

JULY 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4 9 am Allen House Declaration Reading 5 pm Summertime Service
5 9 am Holy Eucharist	6	7	8	9 5:30 pm The Gathering	10	11 5 pm Summertime Service
12 9 am Holy Eucharist	13	14	15 11:30 am The Gathering	16	17	18 5 pm Summertime Service
19 9 am Holy Eucharist	20 7 pm Vestry Meeting	21 9 am – 3 pm Outreach at the Beach	22	23	24	25 5 pm Summertime Service
26 9 am Holy Eucharist	27	28	29	30	31 5 – 7 pm BBQ at the Rectory	

Christ Church Shrewsbury

380 Sycamore Avenue, Shrewsbury, NJ 07702

www.ChristChurchShrewsbury.org + theparish@christchurchshrewsbury.org + 732-741-2220

Follow our Social Accounts on:



"Be friends with Christ Church Shrewsbury" and then invite your friends to be our friend so we all can be informed and connected to events in our community.

**SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS CHRIST.
BRING SOMEONE TO CHURCH WITH YOU.**

The Reverend Susanna Cates, Priest-in-Charge
The Reverend William Balmer, Deacon
Denzel Donaldson, Seminarian
Fiona Smith Sutherland, Organist/Choirmaster
Francesca Parker, Office Administrator

VESTRY 2026

Elaine Feyereisen - Senior Warden
Peggy James - Junior Warden, Stewardship
Carl Alfano
Madna Aubry - Stewardship, GFS Representative
Julie Sinn Cassidy - Youth Ministries
Walter Dein - Property
Bramley Maber
Lisa Marino
Sue Napoletano - Church School
Susan Sellers - ECW Liaison
Robert Stewart - Historian & Graveyard

Nancy Stewart - Vestry Clerk

Stephen Craven - Treasurer
Lynn Marengo - Asst. Treasurer

