

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 X



October 2026



*Homecoming
Sunday, September 13th*

Dear Friends,

September gave us wonderful days of newness and growth! Our Sunday School classes started off with a joyful multitude in our classrooms, our Homecoming Brunch was abundant and delectable, our new Scripture Study has taken off (and headed in the direction of the Prophets!), and our 12:15 Wednesday service is peaceful and transformative.

But wait! There's more! October offers us even more opportunities to get to know God and each other in different ways. First up: our Blessing of the Animals on Sunday, October 4th, at 3 pm in the churchyard (or the Parish House if the weather's tricky). Bring your leashed, crated, aquarium-ed or caged pets of EVERY kind for a special blessing, with treats for them and their humans! (Photos of pets and pet ashes will also get blessed if you have them!)

Wednesday, October 7th, join us for our Monthly Contemplative Prayer at 7 pm in the church. This is a beautiful and peaceful candlelight service of guided meditation, prayer, and holy silence. All are welcome.

In addition to our prayer, worship, and study, I invite you to work with me on increasing our hands-on Outreach. On Sunday, October 11th, I ask that you stay with me after our Coffee Hour to prepare a meal to share with our friends at St. Mark's in Keansburg. A list of all of the supplies that we need will be in an article in this Crown newsletter. If you can't be with us on that day, I ask that you help to provide the ingredients that we'll need to feed the folks—and we'll need some folks to help drive it there on Monday morning.

When we have this much to offer, it's our call to share it. God asks us to do no less with the gifts we've been given. Can you spare an hour or two of your time on the 11th and/or the 12th to do Christ's work in our community?

I'm excited to be at work with all of you, and so grateful for everything we do together! May blessings abound in this season and always.

Susanna+

WEEKLY SERVICE TIMES

- ❖ Wednesdays at 12:15 pm
- ❖ Saturdays at 5 pm
- ❖ Sundays at 10 am

All are welcome!

OFFICE HOURS

Our parish office hours are Monday through Friday from 2:30 to 5:30 pm.

PARISH DIRECTORY

Please advise us of any changes in address, e-mail, or telephone number so we can keep our records up to date.

If you would like a copy of our directory, please send us an email or call the Church Office at 732-741-2220.

YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED

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

Ann, Beverly Ryser, Bill Balmer, Cassie Reagan, Chip, Connie Goddard, Denzel Donaldson, Elaine Feyereisen, Heather Forrest, Ingrid, Kristy, Libby Noell, Mignon Williams, MiMi Brown, Pam, Pat and Bill Jaeger, Paul Murgio, Robert Spencer, Rod Webster, Sam, Sandy, Sarah Schmid, Skylar, Tia LaPiana, Tom Cameron

May they be relieved of their distress.

BOSCOVS

This event is happening October 21. We have coupons are in the Parish House if you wish to purchase any. \$5.00 Best deal in town!

Mrs. Nap

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HAPPENINGS

Talk about starting the year off with a bang—we had a HUGE influx of children into the church school! God is good!! It was exciting and fun to meet and greet all newcomers as well as those children returning. We're continuing to use Weaving God's Promises as a curriculum. We've covered the Creation Story, and we'll be moving through the Old Testament during the Fall. Lots of craft activities on the way with those lessons so don't miss out, kids!

I'll be away on October 4 and October 11. Because there has to be another adult downstairs during class time, if anyone is free and can help out on either of those days, the teachers and I would appreciate it.

Faithfully, Mrs. Nap



COOKING FOR COMMUNITY! A NEW OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY

On Sunday, October 11th, join Mother Susanna in the Parish House kitchen to prepare LOTS of chili, garlic bread, salad, and dessert to share with the feeding ministry of St. Mark's in Keansburg! We'll be stirring up a delicious meal to help our neighbors in need. A generous parishioner has already stepped up to provide the beef for the chili, but we need the other ingredients to make it a complete (and delicious!) meal.

You can find the signup here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10Co448A9AC2FA4F8C61-66317751-stmarks>

Please use the link, or call/email the church to sign up to bring the ingredients.

If you can help us load and bring the food to St. Mark's on Monday the 12th, please call or email the church, or talk to Mother Susanna. We'll load up at Christ Church at 10:00 on Monday and drive over to St. Mark's to help unload and serve.

Our neighbors need us! Thank you for showing God's love to them however you can.

Sunday, October 11th
Monday, October 12th

Cooking For Community!

Help us cook up a big batch of chili to serve our friends and neighbors at St. Mark's in Keansburg!





ADULT INQUIRERS CLASS

LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR CHURCH AND OUR LIVES OF FAITH!

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25TH
FOLLOWING THE 10:00 SERVICE**

ALL ARE WELCOME!



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH CENTERING PRAYER

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7TH
7:00 PM





Faith ~ Food ~ Fellowship

The Men's Breakfast Group will hold its October 2026 meeting in the Parish House on
Saturday, October 17, 2026, from 8:30 to 10:00 am.

Our gatherings provide a welcoming atmosphere where men of all ages can share their journeys, ask challenging questions, and find encouragement for everyday life. Together, we aim to uplift one another, serve our church family, and be a visible testament to Christ's transforming power in our community and the world.

Don't miss this opportunity to connect with others!

Please call the Parish Office at (732) 741-2220 by Thursday, October 15th, to register!

THE SOUNDS OF SERENITY: HEALING SERVICE

We are so excited to bring the healing power of singing bowls and prayer to Christ Church! On Saturday, October 17th, join us at 7 pm for a special service of healing and song in the sanctuary. We'll be joined by our parishioner Courtney McDonnell, Reiki master and energy worker, along with musician Fiona Sutherland, for a unique blend of prayer, song, and blessings. Come and rest in the beautiful healing sounds and songs, receive anointing and prayers for healing, and go on your way refreshed and blessed. All are welcome!



The Sounds of Serenity:
Sound Bath Healing

Saturday, October 17th
7 pm
Christ Church, Shrewsbury
380 Sycamore Avenue

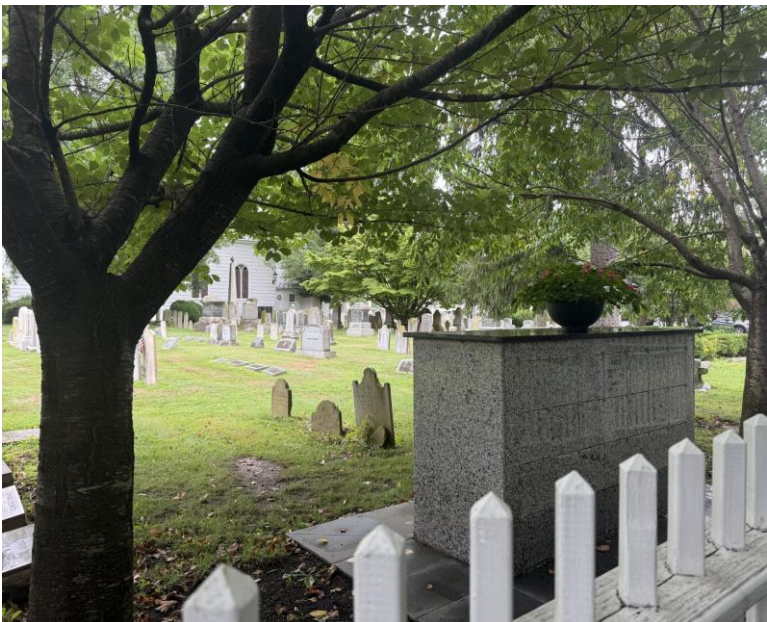
*Songs, prayers, and anointing
for healing*

All are welcome

Featuring Reiki Master and Energy Worker
Courtney McDonnell

COLUMBARIUM

"Teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom" - Psalm 90:12



There is great wisdom in planning ahead. Most of us don't want to think about our passing or our loved ones leaving us but it's a certain reality. Being prepared in advance is important.

Several years ago, Christ Church made a wise commitment to build a columbarium in our beautiful historic graveyard. The columbarium niches are available to parishioners and members of the community. Each niche holds two sets of human remains with a front plaque with engraved names and dates on them.

If you would like more information, contact:

Kim Roberts (Honecker)
kimroberts05@gmail.com 732 513-3048



CHRIST CHURCH
— SHREWSBURY —

We Need Your Help!

DONATIONS

FOR THE

Basket Raffle

AT THE

ANNUAL HOLIDAY BAZAAR

EACH BASKET SHOULD RETAIL FOR
APPROXIMATELY \$100–\$150



IDEAS FOR DONATIONS INCLUDE:

- Bottles of Wine
- Children's Games and Toys
- Gift Cards to Local Restaurants & Stores
- Lottery Tickets
- Household & Kitchen Items
- Cosmetics & Hair Products
- Designer Bags & Accessories
- Hand Crafted Items (Scarves, etc.)
- Baby Clothes and Toys
- Sporting Goods & Collectables
- ...and more!



**BRING DONATIONS
TO THE PARISH HOUSE.**



PLEASE LABEL DONATIONS WITH:

A LIST OF WHAT IS INCLUDED
AND A DOLLAR AMOUNT
THEY ARE WORTH.

DONATIONS FOR BASKETS ARE DUE BY NOVEMBER 1!

ANNUAL HOLIDAY BAZAAR



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2026
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2026

Questions? Email Kristen at KristenDowns110@gmail.com

"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**

Dear Christ Church Family,

Hello! It's Julien. I hope you are all doing well. I am so happy to be in my final year of college. It feels like only a few months ago that I began, and now I am nearly finished. Throughout every challenge, your church family has supported and encouraged me. Thank you so much. I am deeply grateful for your kindness and generosity. Recently, I had a problem with my academic records and thought I might have to repeat a subject. I was very upset and did not know what to do, so I reached out to my friend Walter. After I explained the situation, he immediately offered to help. I thank God for him and for all of you. I know this support came from the church, and I am sincerely grateful to everyone who made it possible. Because of your help, I will not have to repeat the subject. Thank you to every member and family of Christ Church.

Forever thankful,
Julien

Dear Shrewsbury Church Family,

Good day to all of you. Recently we had our examinations at school, followed by our Intramural program. I decided to participate in badminton because it is one of the sports I enjoy and it gave me an opportunity to spend time with my classmates while doing something I love. During my free time especially on weekends, I have also been working on a DIY project at home. I am currently making my own cabinet although it is still a work in progress. My mother used to enjoy woodworking and when I was younger, I would often assist her and because of those experiences I gradually developed an interest in woodworking as well. Although I am still learning and not yet very skilled, I genuinely enjoy the process and am happy to improve little by little.

I also know that Walter often does woodworking and other practical work at the church which has inspired me to continue developing this skill. I hope that in the future, I will become skilled enough to use what I have learned to help and serve the church in my own way. It would be a privilege for me to contribute through something I enjoy and have learned from my mother. Thank you very much for your continued love, prayers, kindness and support. I am truly grateful to be part of the Shrewsbury church family, and I deeply appreciate everything you have done for us.

With love and gratitude,
Phoenix

THOSE WHO SERVE OCTOBER

October 4

Celebrant: The Reverend Susanna Cates
Deacon: Reverend William Balmer
Acolytes: Dexter & Kodi Craven, Denzel Donaldson, Edgar John
Lectors: Dash Cassidy, Connie Goddard
Ushers: Elaine Feyereisen, Judi Buncher
Interim Organist: David Citron
Altar Guild: Colleen & Mark Roth
Coffee Hour: Serve Yourself Sunday

October 11

Celebrant: The Reverend Susanna Cates
Deacon: Reverend William Balmer
Acolytes: Denzel Donaldson, Tia LaPiana (CB), Cassandra Murphy
Lectors: Laura Stroebe, Peggy James
Ushers: Bramley Maber, Christine Maber
Interim Organist: David Citron
Altar Guild: Cindy Webster
Coffee Hour: Victoria Perrine

October 18

Celebrant: The Reverend Susanna Cates
Deacon: Reverend William Balmer
Acolytes: Denzel Donaldson, Joshua & Matthew Dunford
Lectors: Kodi Craven, Tara Dunford
Ushers: Walter Dein, George Edwards
Interim Organist: David Citron
Altar Guild: Judi Buncher, Tia LaPiana
Coffee Hour: The Wicklund Family

October 25

Celebrant: The Reverend Susanna Cates
Deacon: Reverend William Balmer
Acolytes: Judi Buncher, Denzel Donaldson, Edgar John
Lectors: Tia LaPiana, Bob Van Valkenburgh
Ushers: Elaine Feyereisen, George Edwards
Interim Organist: David Citron
Altar Guild: Madna Aubry
Coffee Hour: The Beights Family

OCTOBER 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 <u>12:00</u> Brown Bag Bible Study <u>2 – 4 pm</u> Mahjongg Class	2	3 <u>5 pm</u> Evening Prayer
4 <u>10 am</u> Holy Eucharist <u>3 pm</u> Blessing of the Animals	5	6	7 <u>11 am</u> Peak in the Week <u>12:15 pm</u> Holy Eucharist <u>7 pm</u> Centering Prayer	8 <u>12:00</u> Brown Bag Bible Study <u>2 – 4 pm</u> Mahjongg Class	9	10 <u>5 pm</u> Holy Eucharist
11 <u>10 am</u> Holy Eucharist <u>1:00 pm</u> The Gathering	12	13	14 <u>11 am</u> Peak in the Week <u>12:15 pm</u> Holy Eucharist	15 <u>12:00</u> Brown Bag Bible Study <u>2 – 4 pm</u> Mahjongg Class	16	17 <u>8:30 – 10 am</u> Men's Breakfast <u>7 pm</u> Sound Bath Healing
18 <u>10 am</u> Holy Eucharist	19 <u>7 pm</u> Vestry Meeting	20	21 <u>11 am</u> Peak in the Week <u>11:30 am</u> The Gathering <u>12:15 pm</u> Holy Eucharist	22 <u>12:00</u> Brown Bag Bible Study <u>2 – 4 pm</u> Mahjongg Class	23	24 <u>5 pm</u> Holy Eucharist
25 <u>10 am</u> Holy Eucharist <u>11 am</u> Adult Inquirers' Class	26	27	28 <u>11 am</u> Peak in the Week <u>12:15 pm</u> Holy Eucharist	29 <u>12:00</u> Brown Bag Bible Study	30	31 <u>5 pm</u> Holy Eucharist

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
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

