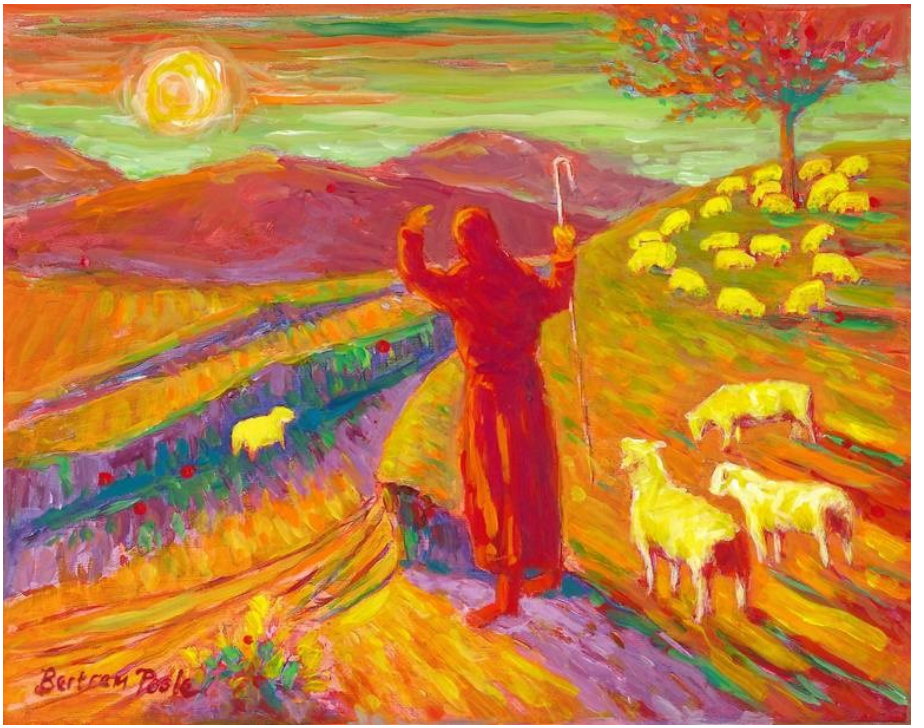
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 14, 2025



Artwork: The Lost Sheep Parable
Artist: Bertram Poole

The **9:30am** Service begins on **page 6**

Parish Notes begins on **page 16**

CHRIST CHURCH

5 Paterson Street, New Brunswick, New Jersey 08901
732.545-6262 • ChristChurchNewBrunswick.org

WELCOME TO CHRIST CHURCH, an Episcopal parish of the worldwide Anglican Communion. We are glad you are here, and we invite you to enter fully into worship this morning, and to receive Holy Communion or a blessing at the communion rail. We invite you to ask questions, explore, and to make yourself known to those around you. Please pick up any other information about the parish located on the table in the back of the church. Help us to make this a place where God's grace is freely shared by all.

CHILDREN ARE WELCOME AT ALL SERVICES. Changing stations are available in both rest rooms at the Paterson Street entrance; you can get there through the side door of the church.

WE REJOICE that you have chosen to worship here this Pentecost season. If you would like to learn more about our Parish, please phone the Parish Office at 732.545.6262. Many of our upcoming events are listed on our web site, christchurchnewbrunswick.org; we hope that you decide to join us.

ABOUT THE LITURGY

Inclusive Language in Worship: Because language has the power to shape our thinking about God and one another, Christ Church makes every effort to bring the language of worship in line with biblical theology that affirms that the personhood of God embraces all that is truly female and male, and that men and women are equals. In our liturgy some historical texts that are widely known and loved are left unchanged.

INTERCESSIONS

AT EVERY CELEBRATION OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST prayer is offered with intercession for the Universal Church, the nation, the welfare of the world, the concerns of this community, those who suffer and those in any trouble, and the departed. Please feel free to add your own petitions during the prayers, either silently or aloud. If you would like to add a name to the prayer list, you may also fill out the form in the Prayers of the People book in the back of the Church.

WEEKLY INTERCESSIONS

We remember in today's prayers:
The Sick and Others in Need— *Allen, Dennis, Edith, Erica, Florence, Georgia, Gordon, Hansford, Jean, Jeannine, Jefferson, Jesse, Jim, Joan, Julia, Kristen, Lori, Pam, Pat, Rose, Sarah, Stanford, Steve, Thalia, Theayer, Thelma, Timothy, Tisha, Valerie,*
Anglican Cycle *– we pray for The Anglican Church of South America*
Diocesan Cycle *– Church of the Holy Cross in North Plainfield*
Christ Church Ministry *– Laundry Love*
Birthdays this week *– Adrienne Agudosi, Ian Aubee, Wendy Benjamin, Veronica Kroon, Julie Lockwood, Emily Pelayo, Violet Thomas, Nicole Warren*
Memorial Flowers *– are given by Mrs. Curtis McCan in memory of Robert McCan, the Rydel Family in memory of Ernestine & Stephen Cutting, the Sullivan Family in memory of Frances Remsen and John Dennis Sullivan*

PASTORAL CARE

If you are in crisis, having surgery, are in the hospital and are in need of pastoral counseling from a clergy person, please do not hesitate to contact the Rev. Daphne Roberts—732.991.6733.

If you would like to schedule home communion, please contact Rev. Roberts and she will arrange for either herself, or a Lay Eucharistic Visitor to bring communion to you. Please do not hesitate to contact Rev. Roberts if you know of someone who is in need of care or counseling.

THE VESTRY

Meegan Adames, Rector's Warden
meegzy79@yahoo.com

Jonathan Gloster, People's Warden
jgloster73@gmail.com

John Ager, Treasurer
jager@optonline.net

Mark McMahon, Finance
markroy53@.me

Gordon Arsenoff, Music, Clerk
deep.friar@gmail.com

Jonathan Clark, Discipleship
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Eleanor Forbes, Outreach
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Debra Lowe, Personnel
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James Nichols, Property
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PARISH STAFF

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deacon@christchurchnewbrunswick.org

Suzanne Davis McDonald, *Director of Music and Organist*
music@christchurchnewbrunswick.org

Brittney Girault, *Parish Administrator*
admin@christchurchnewbrunswick.org

Elaine Winkler, *Bookkeeper*
bookkeeper@christchurchnewbrunswick.org

Carlos Garcia, *Sexton*


Worshipping God Serving God's People
Christ Church New Brunswick

September 14, 2025
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
9:30 AM
Presider: The Rev. Alistar So-Schoos



THE HOLY EUCHARIST

PRELUDE *Two Short Pieces* G.F. Handel

Please stand and sing at the Procession

ENTRANCE HYMN "Singing songs of expectation" **The Blue *Hymnal* 1982, # 527**

The Presider welcomes the people and says

Presider Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen**

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen

THE COLLECT

O God, because without you we are not able to please you mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Lesson: *Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28*

At that time it will be said to this people and to Jerusalem: A hot wind comes from me out of the bare heights in the desert toward my poor people, not to winnow or cleanse— a wind too strong for that. Now it is I who speak in judgment against them. "For my people are foolish, they do not know me; they are stupid children, they have no understanding. They are skilled in doing evil, but do not know how to do good." I looked on the earth, and lo, it was waste and void; and to the heavens, and they had no light. I looked on the mountains, and lo, they were quaking, and all the hills moved to and fro. I looked, and lo, there was no one at all, and all the birds of the air had fled. I looked, and lo, the fruitful land was a desert, and all its cities were laid in ruins before the Lord, before his fierce anger. For thus says the Lord: The whole land shall be a desolation; yet I will not make a full end. Because of this the earth shall mourn, and the heavens above grow black; for I have spoken, I have purposed; I have not relented nor will I turn back

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 14

1 The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God." *
All are corrupt and commit abominable acts;
there is none who does any good.
2 The Lord looks down from heaven upon us all, *
to see if there is any who is wise,
if there is one who seeks after God.
3 Every one has proved faithless;
all alike have turned bad; *
there is none who does good; no, not one.
4 Have they no knowledge, all those evildoers *
who eat up my people like bread
and do not call upon the Lord?
5 See how they tremble with fear, *
because God is in the company of the righteous.

6 Their aim is to confound the plans of the afflicted, *
but the Lord is their refuge.
7 Oh, that Israel's deliverance would come out of Zion! *
when the Lord restores the fortunes of his people,
Jacob will rejoice and Israel be glad.

THE EPISTLE *1 Timothy 1:12-17*

I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL HYMN "Bless the Lord, O my soul" **Red LEVAS *Hymnal* II, # 65**

THE GOSPEL *Luke 15:1-10*

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." So he told them this parable: "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. "Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I

had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

SERMON Rev. Alistair So-Schoos

All who are able please stand

THE NICENE CREED

ALL **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader Responding, "Hear our prayer," let us pray for our own needs and the needs of others.

The Leader requests the prayers of the People of God for the world, the mission of the Church, and for those individuals who have asked for or need our prayers. If you would like to add a name to the prayer list, please fill out the form in the Prayers of the People book in the back of the Church. After the last petition, the Presider adds a concluding Collect

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
People **Most merciful God,**
we confess that we have sinned against you

in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Presider: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. ***Amen.***

THE PEACE

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.
People **And also with you.**
Then the Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Presider Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

OFFERTORY HYMN "There's a wideness in god's mercy" **The Blue *Hymnal* 1982, # 469**

Scan this code to support Christ Church's ministries and outreach to the community.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *Eucharistic Prayer A, BCP, page 361*

The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Presider It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

The Presider continues with the Proper Preface of the Day.

Presider Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS

ALL **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,**
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues

Presider Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.
On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks

to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."
After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

Presider As our brother Christ taught us, we now pray,

ALL **Our Father in heaven,**
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those

who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Presider breaks the bread.

Presider Alleluia! Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

ALL T**herefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

INVITATION

Presider The gifts of God for the People of God.

The congregation may kneel or sit following the Invitation. All are most welcome to receive Communion. If you do not wish to receive communion this morning, you are cordially invited to come forward with your arms crossed to receive a blessing. Gluten-free wafers are available; please speak to the member of the clergy who is serving the bread.

The Bread and Cup are given to the Communicants with these words

Minister The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven.
Recipient **Amen.**
Minister The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.
Recipient **Amen.**

Spiritual Communion Prayer For Those Joining Us Online:

Gracious God, our sustainer and source of all good things in the universe. As we gather in community this day, we are mindful of those who through circumstance or conscience are unable to partake of the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation at this time. You are the source of the food and water which nourishes and sustains us. As we are the product of all we have partaken, we know that we are infused with your life-giving food and drink and that are never separated from you. Though we are many, we are joined in Christ. We are one Body, one Cup in the name of the One God. Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN "The king of love my shepherd is" **The Blue *Hymnal* 1982, # 645** v1-3

All who are able please stand

AFTER COMMUNION

Presider Let us pray.

People **Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen**

FINAL HYMN "Jesus, Lover of my Soul" **The Blue *Hymnal* 1982, #699**

BLESSING & DISMISSAL

The Presider blesses the people.

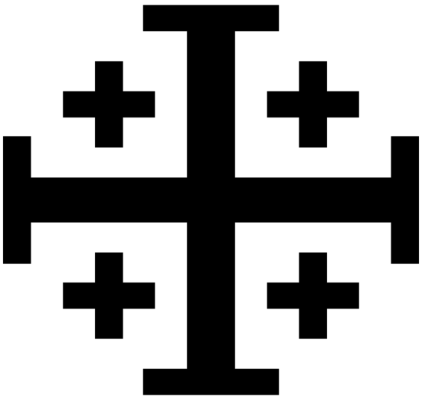
People **Amen.**

The Deacon dismisses the people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE *Trumpet Voluntary* J. Clarke

* Special thank you to Karen Colabaugh for playing the flute during today's service.



PARISH NOTES

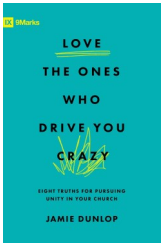
PARISH SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER 14– SEPTEMBER 20, 2025

Parish Office Hours This Week:
Tuesday & Thursday – 9:30am to 3:00pm, Friday – 9:30am to 1:00pm

Sunday **9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Sanctuary**
1:00 p.m. Cottage Meeting, Shannon Pullaro's house

Wednesday 12:00p.m. Noonday Prayer, Zoom
7:30 p.m. WomenSpirit, Zoom

*JOIN US AFTER THE 9:30 AM SERVICE FOR COFFEE HOUR IN THE NICHOLAS ROOM



The Tuesdayers' Next Book: "Love the Ones Who Drive You Crazy: Eight Truths for Pursuing Unity in Your Church"

Churches are full of differences. Those differences might be rooted in culture, personality, politics, or even musical style. Yet if a church is centered on Christ alone, then unity at church will sometimes require building genuine friendships that bridge across all those differences. How can Christians navigate those relationships? Can we really love people at church who sometimes drive us crazy? Jamie Dunlop offers a practical guide that explores eight truths from Romans 12–15 that show us how to find God-exalting unity at church with those we struggle to love. The Tuesdayers invite you to join our discussion, which will start on **September 16**. We meet over Zoom on Tuesdays (except the second of the month), 7:00-8:30 pm. For more information contact Jonathan Clark at im4canoes@yahoo.com.

Vestry Key Topics

1. The vestry approved a Mission Statement Update process to start soon! Look for opportunities to participate in shaping a new mission statement that will help guide us into the Fourth Century! This work will also support our upcoming development of a Parish Profile and our discernment around our path moving forward.

2. We reviewed the exciting work being done by the Stewardship Committee and encourage all members to attend cottage meetings in the next few weeks. As part of our efforts to promote sensible Stewardship of our resources, we voted to pledge about $60,000 towards our Marks of Mission contribution to the diocese. This is a decrease from this year while still meeting about 80% of our asking.

3. Jonathan Clark shared updates from the various Discipleship Ministries, many of which continue to function smoothly. He and Daphne will meet soon to plan the discipleship offering for Advent. Look for updates in future weeks! We encourage all parishioners to participate in one or more discipleship endeavors, especially in this time of transition and discernment

The Stewardship Committee is inviting you to join members at a Cottage Meeting.

Why should you attend a Tell Out My Soul Cottage Meeting?

During this time of transition at Christ Church, better knowing each other's stories will be crucial in determining, with God's help, how to move forward as a parish.

There are four opportunities to join a Cottage Meeting this September. Please plan to join one, if you are able.

September 14

At the home of Shannon Pullaro
56 Yorktown Road, East Brunswick, NJ 08816
1:00-2:30 pm

September 20

At the home of Sheila Cooper
6502 Schindler Drive S, Monmouth Junction, NJ 08852
11:00-12:30 pm

September 24 (via Zoom)

Facilitator Jonathan Gloster
6:00-7:30 pm

September 28

at the home of Mark McMahon
1 Spring Street Apt 1502, New Brunswick, NJ -one block away from church
11:30-1:00 pm. Please note-max 8 people for this session.

October 12

after the service (11 am) in the Ross Room. In case none of the other sessions fit your schedule. No RSVP needed for this session.

- Please note that all three hosts for the in-person session have pets, Shannon-dog (will be contained); Sheila-cats (mostly will hide); Mark-a cat and a dog

- Please RSVP if you plan to attend. Meetings with no attendees reserved will be canceled. RSVP for any of the meetings by Sep 10, 2025. Link to RSVP: https://forms.gle/N3FA6DxHMSxaXSnZ7



✨ Sparkle for a Cause! ✨

Get ready for a **shimmering fundraiser** at **Christ Church**!
Coming **NEXT Sunday, September 21st**, join us **after service** for a special event featuring **beautiful silver jewelry**, perfect for treating yourself or finding a meaningful gift.

Mark your calendars and stay tuned—**you won't want to miss it!**



Join members of Christ Church Next Sunday, September 21st after the 9:30am service for a "Packing Party"!

Supplies will be packed for the Choice Food and Resource Center during Coffee Hour.

Can't make it to the packing party, but want to help? Donations of diapers in sizes 4, 5, 6, and 7 as well as adult incontinence products in all sizes are in constant demand.

Donations can be made via Zelle or check please note "diaper donation" or "Choice Food and Resource Center in the subject line.



Music Ministry Resumes - All Welcome!

Fall is here and our choirs are back! We warmly invite anyone who loves to sing or play to join us.
Adult Choir resumes **Thursday, September 25th** at our **NEW TIME: 6:30 PM** in the choir room.
Joyful Noise (Children's Choir) starts Monday, September 22nd at 4:00 PM.

Open Choir meets every third Sunday - come 45 minutes before service to learn anthems with us.

Instrumentalists - we'd love to add you to our roster of musicians!

For details and more information, please reach out to Suzanne McDonald. Come make a joyful noise with us!



Blessing of the Animals St. Francis of Assisi Day

Bring your pet for a special blessing for the year!
We will also be blessing shelter animals.



Saturday, October 4
1:00 p.m.

Franklin Animal Shelter
475 DeMott Lane
Somerset NJ

(On the grassy area between the old school house and the shelter building)

Cat or dog food donations are greatly appreciated.

Second Chance For Animals Since 1998

The Franklin Township Animal Shelter was established more than 30 years ago to handle the animal control and sheltering needs of the municipality. Second Chance for Animals, a volunteer organization dedicated to improving the lives of animals in shelters, provides volunteers and support to the shelter. Puppies, dogs, kittens, and cats are available for adoption. More information on Second Chance for Animals can be found at http://secondchanceforanimals.org/.

CHRIST CHURCH
IN THE
CITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK

a parish of the Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey
5 Paterson Street • New Brunswick NJ 08901
732 545 6262 • ChristChurchNewBrunswick.org

We, the body of Christ Church, seek to share God's love through our relationships with each other and our extended communities.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME HERE

Like https://www.facebook.com/ChristChurchNB/



Wardens' Office Hours!

Have something to share with our wardens? Meegan Adames, Rector's Warden & Jonthan Gloster, People's Warden, will be holding office hours on the first Sunday of each month.
Next Meeting ***October 5th*** *- after the 9:30 service in the Ross Room.*

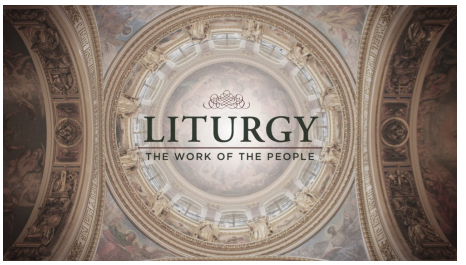
Save the following dates, with time and location to follow:
October 5th, November 2nd, December 7th

Join the Stewardship Committee for the upcoming meeting on October 13 at 5:30pm via Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83614393164?pwd=xqJ4SGkW45WMv19XTvJHSChlLlirXb.1

Meeting ID: 836 1439 3164
Passcode: 391883

One tap mobile
+13017158592,,83614393164#,,,,*391883# US (Washington DC)
+13052241968,,83614393164#,,,,*391883# US



Liturgical Ministers Needed!

The link is in the weekly email.

PLEASE consider signing up for one or more Sundays.

SEPTEMBER 14, 2025
FOURTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

taking faith home

Rejoicing at the amazing grace of God.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	**Luke 15:1-10**	**The lost sheep and the lost coin**
Monday	**Exodus 32:7-14**	**Moses pleads for the people**
Tuesday	**1 Timothy 1:12-17**	**Gratitude for mercy**
Wednesday	**James 3:13-18**	**Two kinds of wisdom**
Thursday	**Acts 26:12-18**	**Paul's conversion**
Friday	**Ephesians 2:1-10**	**From death to life**
Saturday	**Psalm 51:1-10**	**A prayer for forgiveness**
Sunday	**Luke 16:1-13**	**Parable of the shrewd manager**

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

"Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents." **Luke 15:10 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:
Merciful God, we are thankful that you seek us out and renew our lives that we may know peace and joy through Christ Jesus, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:
Dear Lord, we thank you for feeding us with love, guidance, and this gift of food, examples of your care for us as the Good Shepherd. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:
May God fill you with joy and gladness. (Psalm 51:8)

MILESTONES MINISTRY

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SEPTEMBER 14, 2025

taking faith home

HYMN OF THE WEEK

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- When is a time you lost something valuable and then found it?
- Jesus told a parable about the lost sheep. How do people get "lost" from God?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Luke 15:1-10.

Jesus offers us easy images with which we can identify. Who hasn't been lost or felt lost in the jungles of self-doubt, hardship, fear, and confusion? And who hasn't lost something of value and upon finding it is filled with joy? On one level in this story, sinners and tax collectors are the ones lost and who have been found by a kind and merciful God. On another level, it is the religious leaders, those Pharisees and scribes who are truly lost. They are the ones far from understanding and enjoying the kindness and mercy of God for humanity. This is at the core of their own biblical faith. These religious folk have lost the life-giving power of rejoicing at the amazing grace of God that gives hope and changes everything. It brings beauty and love to a life often missing these essential ingredients. Whether it's lost sheep, missing coins, sinners, tax collectors, Pharisees, scribes, or even our own selves, there is rejoicing in this life because lives can repent and be found in the oceans of God's love and heavenly joy.

Discuss: When have you found yourself overcome with joy at God's amazing grace?

Pray: **Gracious God, help us to experience joy in your presence; help us to see in Jesus your desire to find us, renew us, and bless us with your abundant love and mercy. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, who do you know that may feel lost and need some support?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

In Luke 15:1-10 Jesus tells parables about the lost being found. Our sin is a condition of being lost and apart from God. God rejoices when, through faith in Christ, we, as the lost, are found, forgiven, and restored to a relationship with God. Hide chocolate coins or other candies and have others find them. After the treats are found, talk about the joy of finding them and then about God's joy at searching for and finding us.

Pray: **Thank you, God, for searching for us when we stray from you. Thank you for finding us and forgiving us. Amen.**

MILESTONES MINISTRY

In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: **www.milestonesministry.org**

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

	September 14	**September 21**
Presider	Rev. Alistair So-Schoos	Rev. Alistair So-Schoos
Preacher	Rev. Alistair So-Schoos	Rev. Alistair So-Schoos
Deacon		Rev. Daphne Roberts
Organist	Suzanne McDonald	Suzanne McDonald
	9:30 A.M.	**9:30 A.M.**
Lector & Intercessor	Doreen Sirjue	Debra Lowe
LEM *LEM will read the Epistle*	Sheila Cooper	Mel Garber
Acolyte / Server		
Vestry Announce-ments	Jonathan Gloster	Debra Lowe
Usher		
Production Minister	Steve Caruso	Steve Caruso
Altar Guild	Mervis Johnson Margaret Brown-Stansbury	Nancy Walworth Sheila Cooper
Coffee Hour		

CHRIST CHURCH IN THE CITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK
a parish of the Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey
WORSHIPPING GOD, SERVING GOD'S PEOPLE

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PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

Historic Christ Church is a mutually supportive Christian community worshiping in the living Anglican tradition of beauty in liturgy and music. Christ Church bears witness to the love of Christ in prayer, service and fellowship.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME HERE.

5 Paterson Street ▪ New Brunswick NJ 08901
732.545.6262 ▪ christchurchnewbrunswick.org



The Reverend Daphne Roberts, *Deacon*
Suzanne McDonald, *Music Director and Organist*
Brittney Girault, *Parish Administrator*
Elaine Winkler, *Bookkeeper*
Carlos Garcia, *Sexton*

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