

ANNUAL GIVING 2027 CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH NEWTON, NEW JERSEY

The Episcopal Church in the Heart of Sussex County



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**You can develop a healthy, robust community
that lives right with God and enjoy its results
only if you do the hard work of getting along with each other,
treating each other with dignity and honor.**

James 3:18 (MSG) – 2027 Annual Giving Guiding Verse

Dear family and friends of Christ Church,

I have often relied on the biblical book of James as a guidepost during our season of annual giving. James 1:17 reminds us that “every generous act of giving and every perfect gift” comes from God. Using this theological underpinning, the book goes on to explore how we might mirror the kingdom of heaven here on earth by building up communities of faith rooted in the teachings of Christ. I offer the verse above (*James 3:18*) as a guide for us this year.

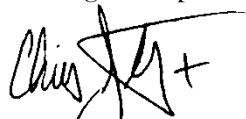
From its earliest days, the Church of Christ has been charged with doing the hard, holy work of reconciling – that is, reconnecting – ourselves to God and to one another. From its inception just before the Revolutionary War, our beloved Christ Church, Newton, has taken the ministry of reconciliation seriously. This work was critically important at the birth of our faith tradition, it was critically important at the birth of this parish, and it is critically important as we enter our **258th year** of service in Christ’s name.

We work hard at Christ Church to create opportunities and space for faith to develop and offer pathways for increased connectivity. The succeeding page lists some of the many varied and vibrant ministries that fall under our parish umbrella. Some are fairly evident: the hundreds of worship experiences we offer annually or the dozens of long-standing groups that meet regularly for study, service and fellowship. Some are less evident: the host of local, non-profit groups that call our space home or the near-daily, unscheduled requests for counseling, prayer and support.

On behalf of the Wardens and Vestry of this parish, I ask you to join us in making a pledge of financial commitment for 2027. Prayerfully consider how God has blessed you in abundance, and respond with genuine gratitude and generosity. Your support will strengthen our church to move forward with the vitality and resources we need to preach the Good News of Christ to a world in need.

In an increasingly polarized world, this community needs Christ Church. Thank you for the ways you contribute to the mission and ministries of this special place. I look to the next year with the excitement, anticipation, and joy that comes when we make Christ the center of our lives.

Blessings and peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Streeter", with a stylized cross or plus sign at the end.

The Rev. Chris Streeter, Rector



PRAYER & WORSHIP

- Sunday Holy Eucharist: 8 & 10 am
- Livestreaming of Services
- Holy Week
Daily Services; Overnight Watch
Holy Week Family Service; Easter Vigil
- Christmas
Service of Lessons & Carols
- Thursday Morning Worship: 10 am
- Weddings & Funerals
- Baptisms & Confirmations
- Evensongs
- Services for Healing & Recovery
- Contemplative Prayer Group
- Special Days
St. Francis – Blessing of the Animals
All Souls' Requiem Mass
Thanksgiving Day

All events are assisted by groups including:

- Adult & Junior Choirs
- Altar Guild, Acolytes & Ushers
- Lay Eucharistic Ministers & Lectors

LIFE IN COMMUNITY

- Sunday Morning Fellowship
 - Newsletter, Website & Social Media
 - Journey Youth Group Events
 - Monthly Parish Breakfasts
 - Christ Church Women's Group
 - Stewardship Dinner
 - Christ Church in Stitches Group
 - Pastoral Counseling
 - Home & Hospital Visits
 - Concerts & Recitals
 - Christ Church @ Skylands Stadium
- Local Groups we support include:
- Norwescap
 - Family Promise
 - Sussex County Oratorio Society
 - Sussex County Youth Symphony
 - Literacy NJ
 - Center for Prevention
 - Twelve Step Recovery Groups
 - Sussex County Gardening Club
 - Local Scout Troops



ACTION & SERVICE

- Sunday Brunch in a Bag
- Norwescap & Manna House Meals
- College Care Packages
- Thursday New Beginnings Breakfast
- Paterson Park Cleanup
- Prayer Shawl Ministry
- Property Committee
- Parish Governance (Vestry)

STUDY & LEARNING

- Sunday Mornings
Sunday School & Summer Workshops
- Bible Study: Sundays & Thursdays
- Adult Formation Forums
- Women's Retreat
- New Member & Confirmation Classes
- Premarital & Baptism Preparation
- Book Club



Your strong financial commitment in 2027 is needed to ensure that we continue to operate from a place of vitality and strength, increasing our missional outreach to this community.

Please join with us in making your pledge to support
Christ Church financially in the coming year.

Stewardship Dinner – Friday, November 20 at 5:30 pm
Ingathering Sunday – Sunday, November 22
We ask that you please return your 2027 pledge by 11/22.