



# Christ Church



UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST

## WORSHIP SERVICE

### SUNDAYS

9:30AM

### CHRIST CHURCH

915 E Oklahoma Ave  
Milwaukee, WI 53207  
414-481-3530  
office@uccmke.org  
www.uccmke.org

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THANK YOUS

BIRTHDAYS

GOD SO LOVED  
THE WORLD,  
THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY  
BEGOTTEN SON,  
THAT WHOSOEVER BELIEVETH  
IN HIM  
SHOULD NOT PERISH,  
BUT HAVE EVERLASTING  
LIFE

JOHN 3:16



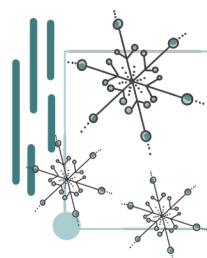
## Bible Quiz



The New Testament uses several Greek words to describe love. Which of the following best represents the **selfless, sacrificial love** that God shows to humanity?



- A) Eros
- B) Phileo
- C) Agape
- D) Storge



# HELLO december



# 2025

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	1	2 Movie & Lunch 11:30am 1:10pm	3 Choir, 7pm	4	5	6 Paws for the Season 11am-1pm 
7 Rev Sandy Graham Liturgist-Jill U Choir Ladies Brunch 	8	9 Quilting 9:30am 	10 Finance Meeting 11am Choir 7pm	11 Handbells 9:30am Divine Intervention 6pm	12	13
14 Rev. Debbie Payden Liturgist-Randene Choir Endowment 10:30am Christmas Flyers Caroling 2pm	15	16 Council Meeting 6 pm Blue Christmas Service 7pm at Emanuel United	17 Choir Practice 7pm	18 Handbells 9:30am All Church Christmas Dinner Gathering 5:30pm	19	20
21 Rev Tim Perkins Liturgist-Andy O Choir-Special Presentation 	22	23	24 Revs Sandy & John Christmas Eve Service 7pm Choir   Handbells 	25	26	27
28 Janet Key Lessons & Carols Liturgist-Julie O	29	30	31	Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you.... 		

Luke 2:11

# PEACE LOVE HOPE JESUS

## LITURGISTS

**Dec 7** Jill Unglaub  
**Dec 14** Randene Wick  
**Dec 21** Andy Oren  
**Dec 28** Julie Oren

## QUILTING

Tuesdays, **Dec 9**, 9:30AM–Noon

## CHOIR & HANDBELLS

### CHOIR

Wednesday, **Dec 3, 10 and 17** at 7pm  
Singing - **Dec 7, 14, 21 and 24**

### HANDBELLS

Thursdays, **Dec 11 and 18** at 9:30am  
Playing - Wednesday, **Dec 24**

## SUNDAY COUNTERS

**First Sunday** Janet Dietert, Mark Pfeifer  
**Second Sunday** Janet Key, Joyce Zieman  
**Third Sunday** Danette Volz / Renolle Volz  
**Fourth Sunday** Sara Rogers / Jill Unglaub  
**Fifth Sunday** Debbie Hansen, Doris Mayeshiba

## GREETERS

**Dec 7** Chuck Terlinden  
**Dec 14** Karen Nack, Sue Steinhauer  
**Dec 21** Joan Gaeth, Madeline Norton  
**Dec 24** The Blazaviers, Dick Gaeth  
**Dec 28** Joan Amich

## COFFEE HOUR

**Dec 7** Advent Brunch  
**Dec 14** Janet Dietert, Peggy Carew  
**Dec 21**  
**Dec 28**



## ALL CHURCH CHRISTMAS DINNER GATHERING

Social Gathering: Thursday, **Dec 18, 5:30pm**  
at Joe's K-Ranch, 4840 S Whitnall Ave, Cudahy, WI 53110

## PULPIT SUPPLY SCHEDULE

**Dec 7** Rev. Sandy Graham  
**Dec 14** Rev. Debbie Payden  
**Dec 21** Rev. Tim Perkins  
**Christmas Eve** Revs. Sandy Graham & John Helt  
**Dec 28** Janet Key (Lessons & Carols)

## ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Sunday, **Dec 14** at 10:30am

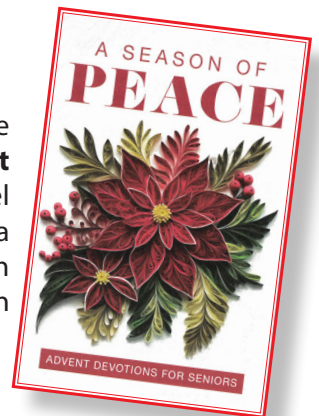
## COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, **Dec 16** at 6pm

## A SEASON OF PEACE

All of us would welcome some peace in our lives. We have **advent devotional booklets** in the chapel for you to pick up. They include a verse and a short message for each day of advent. Please join us in preparing for Christmas.

*Doris Mayeshiba*



... and you shall call his name

**Jesus** for he will save his people from their sins.

Matthew 1:21, ESV





# Pastor's Letter



Sandy Graham and I have appreciated the opportunity to lead worship and collaborate with one another in recent weeks. The Holy Spirit has removed us from our comfortable pews and revived some old vocational fires in our hearts. But we will be happy to return to those pews in the New Year, when we trust that the Holy Spirit will have called forth another leader for Christ Church.

The month of December is full of many things on top of "the holidays." I have a friend who likes to be the first to send out the yearend family letter. Last year we got his on Halloween! He says there is too much to do in December, and he wants to get that chore out of the way long before the month begins. I had kind of forgotten, during a decade of retirement, that worship leaders begin thinking about Advent and Christmas about the time merchants replace the skeletons with wreaths and garland. Say, around Labor Day?

This December at Christ Church, our Advent preparations for the birth of Christ will follow the traditional pattern during worship, moving from hope, to peace, joy and love. We will light the four candles and sing, "O Come, O Come, Emanuel," as we invite Christ to come among us yet again. Long ago, the brief season of Advent was known as a "little Lent." It had the same purple liturgical colors and its focus was penitential. Now, some churches have switched from purple to blue, trying to make the mood less somber and more joyful. But both are royal colors, symbolizing "the one who comes in the name of the Lord."

Advent asks us to focus on what is most important, even in the midst of all the many things to do. Let's celebrate the Coming One this year, then, with all the hope, peace, joy and love we can muster!

Peace and Good,

*Rev. John Helt*

**Rev. Sandy Graham** (414-943-6321 or [RevDrGraham@gmail.com](mailto:RevDrGraham@gmail.com)) and **Rev. John Helt** (262-622-3165 or [JohnCliffordHelt@gmail.com](mailto:JohnCliffordHelt@gmail.com)) are available for pastoral care.

## A Poem Song for Christmas Eve

*written by Sandra Graham*



SiLent night of wonder  
I wonder now tonight  
How within the darkness  
Is born the star so bright  
How within the siLence  
The inner voice is known  
How within the birthing  
We each become God's own

SiLent night of gLory  
Where gLory finds a home  
Here among the homeLess poor  
and those by power disowned  
Where power dweLLs in Loving  
The poor and dispossessed  
Like candleLight in darkness  
The heart can find its rest

SiLent night of stiLLness  
Surround my restLess heart  
Let peace reside within me  
Let peace be who we are  
The new birth that you offer  
Gives hope to weary souLs  
In wonder we now ponder  
The ways you've made us whole

SiLent night of wonder  
I wonder now tonight.

## DECEMBER MOVIE AND LUNCH

Movie: **Wicked for Good** Rated PG at South Shore Cinema

Date: **Tuesday, Dec 2**

Movie Time: **1:10pm** (runtime is 2 hours, 17 minutes)

Lunch: Honey Butter Cafe, 7221 S 76th Street, Franklin

Lunch time: **11:30am**

Sign up sheet is at the Lenox Street entrance. Everyone is welcome to join us for a fun filled time! Looking forward to seeing everyone!

*The Membership Committee*



## HOLIDAY GIFT PROGRAM

We will be partnering with the Milwaukee Rescue Mission to provide holiday gifts to those in need in our community. They are requesting the following gifts:

Classic board games, classic card games, character toys (age 8–12 boys), craft kits, art sets, drawing pads, Legos, sensory items (slime, playdough, kinetic sand), sports equipment and clothing (adult/child), headphones, bluetooth speakers, teen beauty kits, men's & women's bath sets, hat, scarf and glove sets, plush blankets, robes, pajamas, \$25 Amazon gift cards, assorted batteries

Donations are due by **Sunday, Dec 7**. If you have any questions, please contact a Social Concerns member: *Debbie H, Mallorie L, Mary Ann M, Jan N, Sara R, Randene*



## ADVENT BRUNCH

**Sunday, Dec 7 at 11am** in the Fellowship Hall

Join us for brunch as we take a sacred pause for connection during a busy season. There will be time for us to gather and socialize while eating a variety of foods and desserts. The name of our guest speaker will be forthcoming. We look forward to your participation, and as always, guests are welcome. A sign-up sheet to attend is on the Lenox Street bulletin board and donations toward the meal are welcome also. A separate sheet is posted for salad and dessert donations. All are welcome, including trans and non-binary people.

**Please sign up by Sunday, November 30.**

*The Social Concerns Committee*



## CHRISTMAS EVE FLYER DISTRIBUTION

**Sunday, Dec 14**

If you enjoy a walk on a cool, hopefully sunny day, please join us in distributing invitation flyers for our Christmas Eve Service. Following the church service on Sunday, Dec 14, meet in the Chapel to pick up the flyers with your assigned area. Another option would be to take the flyers with you and deliver them at your convenience during the week of Dec 14.

If you are interested, please sign up on the sheet on the Lenox Street bulletin board. Thank you.

Submitted by: *Joan Gaeth, Membership Committee*



## PAWS FOR THE SEASON

**Saturday, Dec 6 | 11am-1pm**

We will be hosting a pet blessing and holiday photo op for the community and church members. We would appreciate your donations to make this event a success. Please sign-up for the items needed by Sunday, **Nov 30**. Hot chocolate packets, hot apple cider packets, cookies, puppy chow mix (people snack). Volunteers to host and to help with set-up are also needed.

**Invite your friends, family, and neighbors to this fun event!**  
**Activities will take place at the Lenox Street entrance.**

*The Membership Committee*

## HAT AND MITTEN COLLECTION

We will again be collecting hats and mittens to donate to our local schools. Any handmade or purchased items would be welcomed. You may place your donations on the tree in the chapel by Dec 21. Thanks for helping to keep our local children warm this winter.

*Thanks, The Social Concerns Committee*

## DIVINE INTERVENTION

On **Thursday, Dec 11**, Christ Church volunteers will be serving a meal at Divine Intervention for about 25 guests and staff. This site is located at Tippecanoe Presbyterian Church for those seeking shelter during the cold months of December through March. Each month we will serve a meal with a different theme. For the month of December, we will have tacos and all the fixings.

The sign-up sheet is located at the Lenox Street bulletin board. Items needed: Taco meat, shredded cheese, diced tomatoes, salsa, tortillas, tortilla chips, salad and dressing, dessert, milk, and at least 2 people to serve the meal. Food must be delivered by **6pm** on the Thursday we serve.

Questions: Contact *Jim or Randene Wick* at 414-614-2622

## BVCC FOOD DONATIONS

We are continuing our monthly donation of food for the BVCC food pantry. Please bring your items to church the **first Sunday of each month**. Donations can be placed in the grocery cart located in the chapel. Thank you for helping provide for those families in our community in need! Any donations are greatly appreciated, or a financial contribution can be made directly to the BVCC. *BVCC thanks you for supporting your neighbors in need!*

**Needed items:** canned vegetables and fruit, peanut butter and jelly/jam, rice and beans, breakfast cereals, oatmeal, shelf-stable milk, canned tuna or chicken, cooking oil, personal hygiene products (toothpaste, soap, shampoo)



### Paws for the Season

**Saturday, December 6**  
**11AM-1PM**

Please join us for  
**Photos** of your pet and/or your family  
(taken with your phone camera)

**Pet Blessings**  
**Hot Chocolate and Holiday Snacks**

Christ Church  
915 E Oklahoma Ave  
Activities at the Lenox Street Entrance







## ALL CHURCH CAROLING

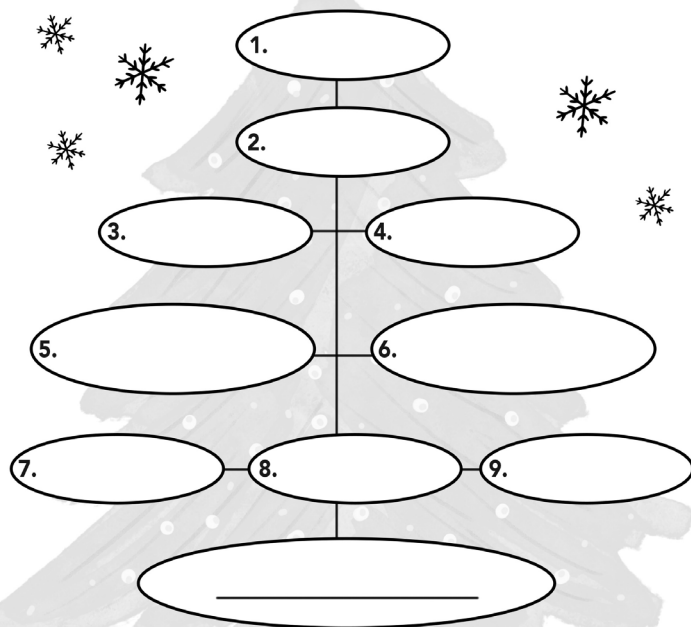
**Dec 14 at 2pm** | We'll meet briefly at the Lenox Street door and hand out our route maps and then go caroling to some of our Share and Care members.

There will be a  
**SPECIAL CHOIR PRESENTATION**  
**SUNDAY SERVICE, DEC 21**



# Puzzle!

Write the answer to each clue in the correct circle.  
Then jot down the first letter of each answer  
and unscramble those letters to form a word about this  
season. Write that answer at the bottom of the tree.



### CLUES

1. You trim this at Christmas.
2. One who governs
3. The first word of a popular carol, it means "Listen!"
4. You burn this to make the air sweet.
5. "For unto us is born this day a \_\_\_\_\_ ..."
6. She was betrothed to Joseph.
7. Shepherds heard them sing.
8. A Christmas song
9. 'Tis the \_\_\_\_\_ to be jolly!"

Answers: 1. tree, 2. ruler, 3. hark, 4. incense, 5. Savior, 6. Mary, 7. angels, 8. carol, 9. season; Christmas

## GREETERS, THANK YOU!!

Thank you to everyone who greets on Sunday mornings—your role shapes our newcomers' first impressions.

Our church layout can be confusing with its steps and hallways. Greeters help visitors find the sanctuary, restrooms, and fellowship hall.

If you'd like to help, sign up on the "Greeter Sheet" at the Lenox Street Entrance.

Key reminders:

- ▶ *Wear your name tag.*
- ▶ *Arrive by 8:55 a.m.*
- ▶ *Welcome everyone with a smile.*
- ▶ *Assist newcomers and guide them to the sanctuary, restrooms, and cloak room.*
- ▶ *Help anyone needing the elevator reach the sanctuary level.*
- ▶ *Stay until 9:35 a.m. for late arrivals.*
- ▶ *Ushers distribute bulletins.*

If you can't greet as scheduled, please ask another greeter to substitute.

Thank you for making our congregation, newcomers, and visitors feel welcome.

Any questions? Contact *Andy Oren* or *Joan Gaeth*

## COUNCIL CORNER

IT STARTED AS ONE PERSON'S SIMPLE SUGGESTION...

The Christ Church Annual Meeting concluded in a profoundly meaningful way that unexpectedly touched all who were present. Rather than closing with the usual Lord's Prayer, a video presentation of the song "Here I Am Lord" was viewed on the monitors. The emotional response moved everyone to stand and join in singing the final verses of this hymn. My expectation of the change to the customary closing of the annual meeting was that it would merely generate some comments about how that is not how we traditionally close the meeting.

**Instead, something extraordinary occurred:**

- ▶ Anyone present experienced the **Holy Spirit moving** within the gathered members.
- ▶ Not all changes work out this way, but this was one of those **very special spiritual moments** in the life of this congregation.

The close of the Annual Meeting stands as a moving testament to the fact that **God's Spirit can work in new and surprising ways** within our community.

The power of the Holy Spirit during the closing of the Annual Meeting carries profound significance for the Christ Church congregation, transforming a routine event into a milestone.

- ▶ The collective sensing of the Holy Spirit's presence created a **wonderful moment of unity** that transcended any minor differences or procedural debates from the meeting.
- ▶ It provided a strong affirmation that **God's presence is active and real in the life of this church**. It reinforces the idea that the congregation is doing God's work.
- ▶ The fact that the change in the closing format—expected to cause some concern—was instead met with a response suggesting that the **Holy Spirit is guiding the congregation toward new ways of worship and expression**.
- ▶ It emphasizes that **spiritual vitality is more important than strict adherence to tradition** when the Spirit chooses to move powerfully among us. It is a reminder to remain open and flexible to God's leading.
- ▶ Such a shared experience often acts as a **catalyst for renewed dedication** to ministry, outreach, and communal life.
- ▶ For those present, it likely served to **deepen personal faith**, offering a tangible experience of the divine that encourages spiritual growth and trust.

*Jim Wick, Council President*

## STEWARDSHIP SNIPPET

Monthly Activity	October	YTD
Contributions	\$7,977	\$104,544
Other Income	\$16,174	\$58,983
Total Income	\$24,151	\$163,307
Expenses	\$13,392	\$164,441
Budgeted Amount	\$14,867	\$ 148,666 \$

## CHRISTMAS FUND OFFERING SUNDAY, DEC 21



## ENDOWMENT GRANTS

The Endowment Committee is again receiving service outreach grant requests for 2025. Please fill out a Grant Request form. The forms have been placed in the holders between the chapel and lounge, near the handicap restroom, and in the church office. **The application deadline is December 7, 2025.** Please ask any member of the Endowment Committee if you have questions: *Tom Dohoney, Joan Gaeth, Mary Ann Mowery, Jill Unglaub, Randene Wick*





# THANK YOU AND WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH LEADERSHIP

The Church Council and congregation extend their **deepest gratitude** and appreciation to those who have recently concluded their terms, and we offer a warm welcome to our newly elected members!

## A Fond Farewell and Heartfelt Thanks

We thank **Chuck Terlinden** for his dedicated tenure on the Church Council. His service was invaluable, especially in his roles as Recording Secretary and as the Chairperson of the Property Committee.

Likewise, we extend our sincere appreciation to **Mary Ann Mowery** and **Jill Unglaub** for their excellent service on the Endowment Committee.

Finally, we thank **Joan Gaeth** for her untiring efforts as she recently stepped down as Co-Chair of the Membership Committee. Her commitment in that area has been a blessing to our church community.

## Welcoming Our Newly Elected Leaders

We are excited to welcome the following newly elected members to the Church Council:

**Janet Key**

**Pam Kothrade**

**Doris Mayeshiba**

We congratulate **Joe Rogge** on his election for a second term on the Church Council.

We also welcome the newly elected members of the **Endowment Committee**:

**Jackie Blazavier**

**Sara Rogers**

We congratulate **Joan Gaeth** on her election for a second term on the Endowment Committee.

## Continuing Our Support

We are grateful that **Dean Mowery** continues to serve our church as our Auditor.



## 2026 CHRIST CHURCH COUNCIL OFFICERS

**James Wick, President**

| Long Range Planning | Legal

**Sue Pfeifer, Vice President**

| Membership | PPPR

**Janet Key, Recording Secretary**

**Julie Oren, Treasurer**

| Finance | Memorial | Property | Insurance

**Sue Cribb, Financial Secretary**

**Pam Kothrade**

| Music & Worship | Stewardship

**Doris Mayeshiba**

| Christian Education

**Jan Naefken**

| Social Concerns | Share & Care

**Joe Rogge**

| Ushers

## Endowment Committee

**Jackie Blazavier**

**Tom Dohoney**

**Joan Gaeth**

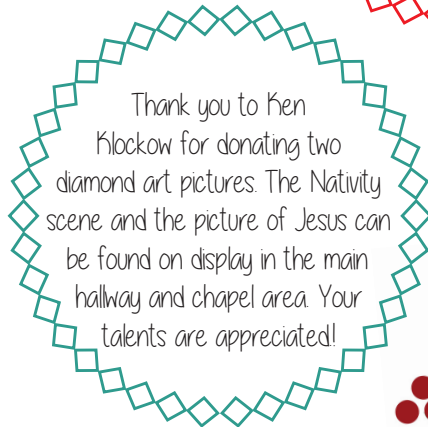
**Sara Rogers**

**Randene Wick**

**AUDITOR:** Dean Mowery

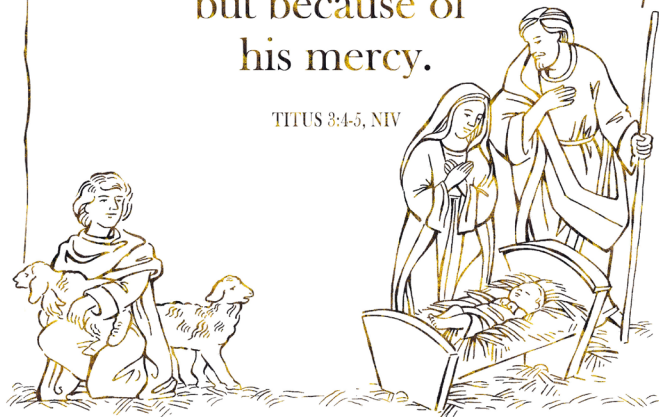


# Thank You!



But when the kindness  
and love of  
**GOD**  
our  
**SAVIOR**  
appeared, he saved us,  
not because of righteous  
things we had done,  
but because of  
his mercy.

TITUS 3:4-5, NIV



**Happy birthday blessings to YOU!**

**BLAKE BLAZAVIER - 1**

**SUSAN CRIBB - 4**

**JOHN HELT - 5**

**JOYCE NEUMANN - 8**

**JANET DIETERT - 9**

**PAUL WICK - 13**

**KRISTEN WICK - 14**

**JEFF CROUSE - 16**

**VICKI TEAL LOVELY - 17**

**EMMALYN SMITH - 18**

**DORIS MAYESIBA - 24**

**JACQUELYN STRUCK - 24**

**HARRISON TREMARELLO - 30**



# JOIN US CHRISTMAS EVE FOR A CANDLELIGHT SERVICE AT 7PM



Today in the  
town of David a  
Savior has been  
born to you;  
he is Christ  
the Lord.

Luke 2:11



Dear friends at Christ Church of Milwaukee, Wisconsin,  
Grace and peace to you!

On behalf of the Open and Affirming Coalition of the United Church of Christ, I want to thank you for your faithful work and the care you've put into developing your Open and Affirming Covenant. Your words beautifully reflect the inclusive love of Christ and your congregation's deep commitment to affirmation.

After reviewing your revised covenant, we are delighted to let you know that your statement fully meets the Open and Affirming standard. With joy and gratitude, we are pleased to approve Christ Church of Milwaukee as an Open and Affirming congregation in the United Church of Christ!

We celebrate this important milestone with you and give thanks for your public witness to God's affirming love for all people. Your covenant strengthens our wider church and offers hope and belonging to those seeking a spiritual home where they can be fully seen, valued, and embraced.

Please know that we will be adding your congregation to the ONA list and map in the coming days, and we encourage you to share this wonderful news with your community.

Thank you again for your dedication and your ministry of affirmation. We look forward to continuing to partner with you in the ongoing work of justice, inclusion, and love.

With gratitude and joy,  
*Rev. Derek A. Terry, Acting Executive Director*  
*The Open and Affirming Coalition*

**Everyone is Welcome!**

**Blue Christmas Service**  
**Tuesday, December 16 @ 7:00pm**

**Emanuel United Church of Christ**  
**10627 West Forest Home Ave.**  
**Hales Corners, WI**



For those grieving, wrestling with life issues, feeling loneliness or disheartened by the chaos in the world. For those who may have little heart for the cheer and bustle of the Advent and Christmas seasons in December. This quiet worship recognizes the emotional struggles we sometimes face during the holiday season.

It offers comfort, healing, hope,  
and the knowledge we are not alone.

**JOIN US AND INVITE OTHERS**



## CHRIST CHURCH

United Church of Christ

915 East Oklahoma Avenue

Milwaukee, WI 53207

Place  
Stamp  
Here

ADDRESS SERVICE  
REQUESTED

# THE CHRONICLES

## December 2025



### GET CONNECTED

If you want to know more about the happenings at Christ Church, visit our website at [www.uccmke.org](http://www.uccmke.org)

Like us on facebook at [www.facebook.com/christchurchbayview](https://www.facebook.com/christchurchbayview)

Subscribe to our YouTube channel and watch the weekly worship services: [www.youtube.com/@ChristChurchUCCBayViewWI/streams](https://www.youtube.com/@ChristChurchUCCBayViewWI/streams)

### Donate Now

It's as easy as clicking the donate button here!

Or, go to the church website and click on the donate button at [www.uccmke.org/donate](http://www.uccmke.org/donate)

**DONATE NOW**

**Thank You!**