



November 2025

extraOrdinary Times

this month at Christ Church

November 2

Labyrinth | 9:00 a.m.

November 3

Requiem | 5:00 p.m.

November 5

Dinner Church | 5:45 p.m.

November 6

LGBTQ+ Theology & Faith | 7:30p.m.

November 9 | Sunday Forum

Update from the Inclusive Memorialization Committee

November 10

Monday Concert | 12:15 p.m.

November 11 - Veterans' Day

Offices Closed

November 16 | Guest Preacher

Very Rev. Canon Richard Sewell, Dean of St George's College in Jerusalem

November 18

Vestry Meeting | 7:00 p.m.

November 20

LGBTQ+ Theology & Faith | 7:30p.m.

November 22

Stewards of the Dirt | 9:00 a.m.

Thanksgiving Market

November 23

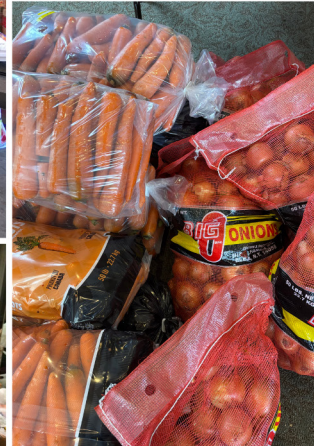
Gift Shop Christmas Market

November 27 & 28

Offices Closed

November 30

Bringing Advent Home | 9:00 a.m.



Giving Thanks, Sustaining Hope, and Preparing for Thanksgiving

We are living in extraordinary times. No matter your political perspective, we face some difficult truths. The administration announced it would not use any of the roughly \$6 billion in U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) funds to support the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Because of the government shutdown, states have run out of money to distribute benefits to more than forty-two million Americans who rely on SNAP to feed their families.

NPR's Jennifer Ludden reports that "about one of every eight Americans gets an average of \$187 a month in food assistance." Joel Berg, chief executive officer of Hunger Free America, told Ludden, "Most of those who benefit from SNAP are children,

older Americans, veterans, people with disabilities, and working people. If the SNAP program shuts down, we will see the most widespread hunger in America since the Great Depression."

Here in our community, the Capital Area Food Bank runs out of food every day while people wait for hours in their cars. Many have been fired, furloughed, or otherwise affected by the shutdown. There simply isn't enough food to meet the need, and some people leave empty-handed.

Sustaining hope right now is difficult. We expect more people to turn to our Lazarus Food Pantry in the coming weeks, and we're doing everything we can to prepare. We're deeply grateful for your regular donations and for

*Inside.....
Blessings On
Rites of Passage
October Happenings*

the incredible volunteers who make the pantry possible each week.

Christ Church has long maintained a strong Thanksgiving Ministry to support families in need. Over the years, we've adapted the program to meet changing circumstances in our community. This year, we plan to serve 225 families. To protect the health of those most vulnerable, we'll distribute Thanksgiving Packages in a new way. We're coordinating with Grace Episcopal, Casa Chirilagua, Tenants and Workers United, and ALIVE! to ensure every

family receives what they need safely.

We thank all of you—our parishioners—for your generous support, donations, and time. We offer special thanks to the Fraternal Order of Eagles 871 on Cameron Street for purchasing all perishable items for the 225 families—a truly generous gift. We're also grateful to The Falls Church for helping children in our Refugee Ministry celebrate Thanksgiving for the first time by creating handmade placemats. Rock Spring United Church of Christ is gifting each child a

Thanksgiving picture book, along with supplies and ideas for a craft or table decoration, plus a card for every family.

This spirit of collective care gives us hope. Together, we continue to love and serve our neighbors, no matter what challenges we face in the world around us.

-- *Melanie Gray, MSW*

Director of Outreach & Mission



Advent I is November 30!

The season is coming!
Details will be found on
our website, Parish Life,
and your inbox.



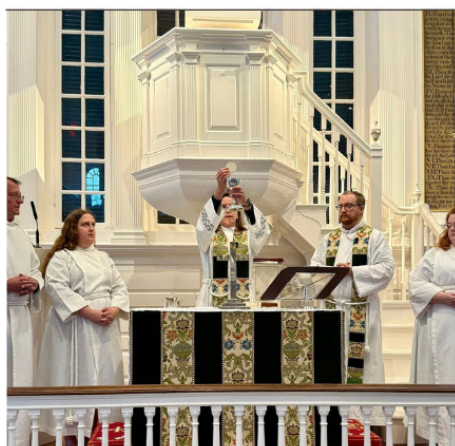
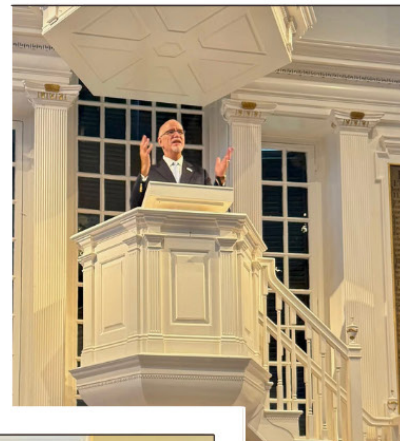
Blessings On...

- Janet Merrifield, Jay Merrifield, Sue Johnson, and the FAs for their hard work in preparing Sunday School classrooms and creating welcoming spaces for kids to encounter God.
- Amy Wilczynski for organizing our Sunday Memorial Flowers.
- Anneliese Gegenheimer, Margaret Zeigler, Jane Baird, Tom Suyday and Joel Bacon for selling Mengo Raffle Tickets on Sundy after the services.
- The Mengo Committee members and friends who sold tickets for the Mengo Raffle, Andrew and Gideon Floyd, Karen Hill, Bob Carpenter, Jim Cannon, Tom Suydam, Anneliese Gegenheimer, Joel Bacon, Jane Baird, Witney Schneidman, and Margaret Ziegler.
- The volunteers who shopped cooked and served dinner at the Carpenter's Shelter on October 3, Christin Jones, Elizabeth Mendel, Parks Gilbert, Bradley McAllister, Jessica Hughes, Rob Spiller and Barab Boehm.
- Anne Alfano, Cara Alfano, and Michele Smith for cooking and setting up dinner for Dinner Church last Wednesday and everyone who lent support.
- Those from Christ Church, Trinity Methodist Church, and Old Town Village and Condos for their participation in the semi-annual cleanup of the Christ Church, Douglas, St. Paul's Methodist, Trinity, and other Wilkes Street cemeteries.
- The volunteers who made lunches for Meade Memorial Bag Lunch, Mary Ann Jones, Elizabeth Olson, Amanda Blue, Claudia Ellet, Jane Baird, May and Jon Hobbie, Jessica Hughes, Emily Bryan, Karen Hill, Maude Williams, Emily Soapes, Elaine Wick, Claire Chow, Mary Dixon and Jach Hutcheson, and Anne Land.
- JoAnn Ackerman, Susan Anderson, Ruth Arnold, Jane Baird, Mary Hobbie, Jeanne Hoenicke, Liz Jones, Kirk Kitchen, Bob McIntyre, Michele Smith, Jon Smoot, Ann Spitler, Rusty Vellek, and Maude Williams for delivering Meals on Wheels on October 15.
- The volunteers who shopped, cooked, and served dinner at the Carpenter's Shelter last Friday night, Cornelia Horner, Bob Carpenter, Anne Shackleton, Robin Campbell, Barb Boehm, Michaela Shaughnessy, Lenny Marsico, and Brad McAllister.
- Peter and Joanna Reams for hosting the choir party at their home last Sunday.
- Alan Adenan, Cindi and Jay Bartol, Fran Usher, Tom Hahn, Tory and Freya Montes De Oca, Bethany and John Kucia, Trish Fineran, Bob Cady, Brian Butcher, Bill Wiley, Stratton and Sharmili Edwards and Mina, Thacher, and Asha Edwards, John Jex, and Julie and Evie Simonton.

Rites of Passage

Deaths

Jack Barr
Steve Rathjen
Christina Moore
Ken Barry
Helen Janine Wilson
Mehdi Meghdadian
Vicki Ratcliffe
Laila Hanna



OCTOBER CELEBRATIONS