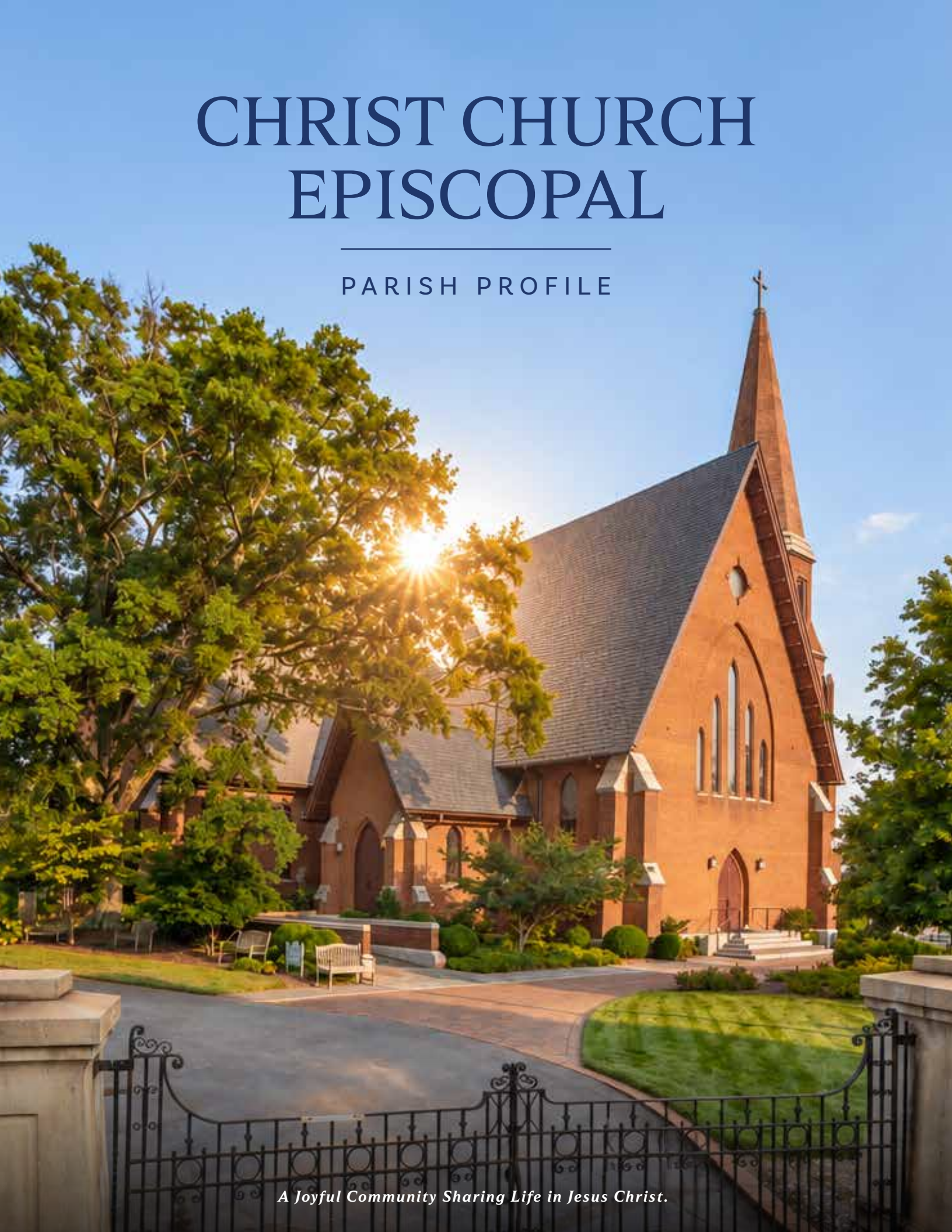
CHRIST CHURCH EPISCOPAL

PARISH PROFILE



A Joyful Community Sharing Life in Jesus Christ.

Welcome to Christ Church.

For over two centuries, Christ Church has been a place where people have gathered to worship, grow in faith, care for one another and serve the wider community. Rooted in the heart of Greenville, our parish is shaped by a rich history and an enduring commitment to sharing the life and love of Jesus Christ.

Today, Christ Church is a large and active parish with a vibrant worship life, strong ministries for people of all ages and a deep tradition of service beyond our walls. We are grateful for the generations who have built and sustained this community, even as we look with hope and energy toward what comes next.

As we begin the search for our next rector, we invite you to learn more about the people, ministries and community that make Christ Church who we are. In these pages, we hope you will find both an honest picture of our parish today and a sense of the possibilities we see for our future.

We are seeking a rector who will come to know this parish deeply, value what has shaped us and help us discern where God is calling Christ Church next. We look forward to this new chapter with gratitude, faith and expectation.

Nancy Kennedy
Senior Warden

Eliza Alderman
Search Committee Chair

Bruckner

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Christ Church at a Glance

A historic Episcopal parish in the heart of downtown Greenville, Christ Church is a large and active community centered in worship, formation, fellowship, care and service.

2025

BY THE NUMBERS

3,863
ACTIVE BAPTIZED MEMBERS

537
AVERAGE SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

692
CHILDREN & YOUTH IN PARISH DATABASE

70+
CHURCH & PRESCHOOL STAFF MEMBERS

$2.86M
PLEDGED

525
WEEKLY OUTREACH IMPACT

1,922
EASTER WORSHIPERS

2,327
CHRISTMAS WORSHIPERS

55 BAPTISMS

55 CONFIRMATIONS

31 BURIALS

Who We Are

A joyful community sharing life in Jesus Christ.

Christ Church Episcopal is a historic parish in the heart of downtown Greenville, rooted in the Episcopal tradition and committed to living out the Gospel through worship, growth, service and care. Our mission — "Embrace, Equip, and Empower Apostles to Serve Jesus Christ" — shapes our life together.

Though Christ Church is a large parish, relationships remain central. We seek to create a community where people are known, supported and invited to grow in faith and participate fully in the life of the Church.

Scripture, tradition and reason ground our faith, while gratitude, compassion and openness to others shape how we live it. Our parish includes people of different ages, backgrounds and experiences, united in a shared life in Christ.

For generations, Christ Church has been deeply connected to Greenville. As our community continues to grow and change, we seek to honor our history while remaining open to new opportunities for ministry and service.

OUR CORE VALUES

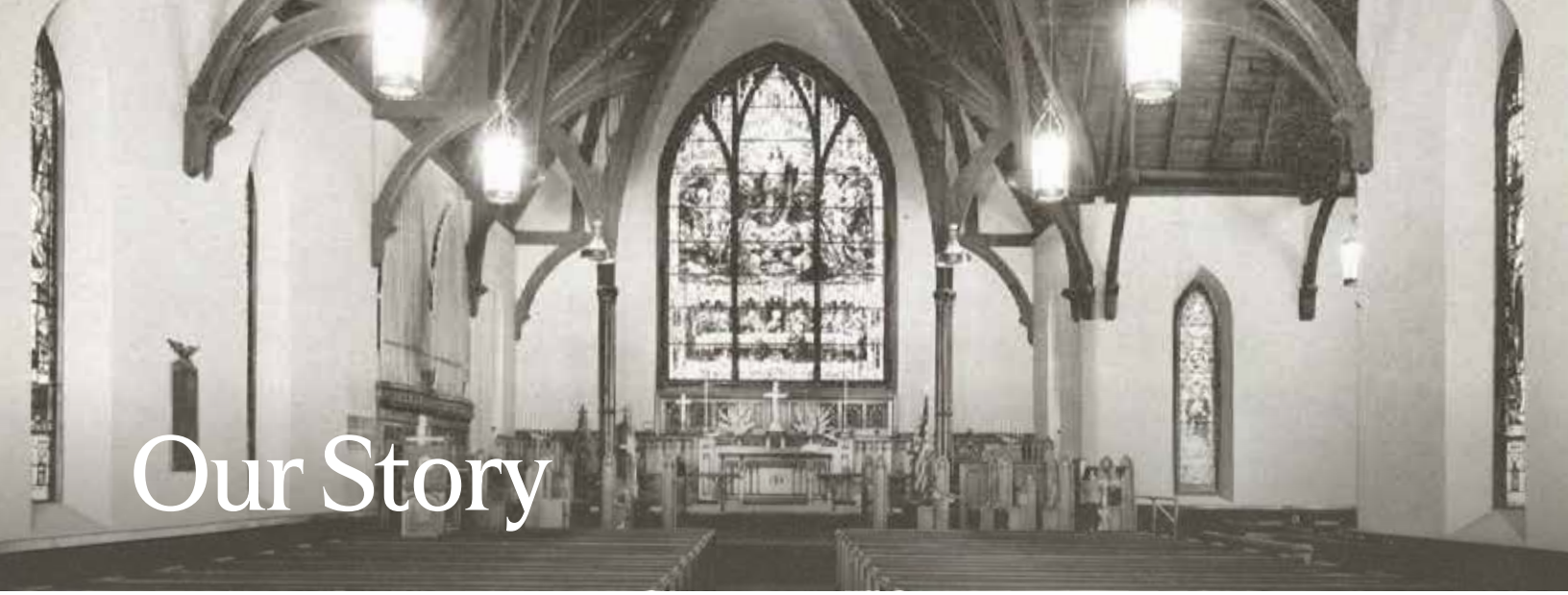
COMMUNITY
Nurture relationships within and beyond the parish.

COMPASSIONATE
Demonstrate God's love and mercy by caring for others.

FAITHFUL
Follow the witness of scripture, tradition and reason.

GRATEFUL
Celebrate that all we have is a gift from God.

INVITING TO ALL
Honor our differences while seeking our unity in Christ.



Our Story

Christ Church has been part of the Greenville community for more than 200 years. Our story began in 1820, when the Rev. Rodolphus Dickerson established St. James Mission in what was then the small village of Greenville Court House. Five years later, Vardry McBee donated four acres for an Episcopal church, and in 1826 the mission was received into the Diocese of South Carolina as Christ Church Parish.

As Greenville and the congregation grew, so did Christ Church. The Historic Church was consecrated in 1854 and expanded over subsequent generations. The campus continued to grow as new and renovated spaces made room for worship, formation, fellowship and service.

That growth has extended beyond the campus as well. Throughout its history, Christ Church has played a role in the wider Greenville community through education, outreach and service. Christ Church Episcopal School, founded by the rector and Vestry in 1959, is one example of that legacy and today operates independently on its own campus.

More than two centuries after its founding, Christ Church remains rooted at 10 North Church Street in the heart of Greenville. The city around us has changed dramatically, and Christ Church has grown and changed with it. Our location continues to shape our calling to worship faithfully, welcome generously and serve our neighbors from the heart of the city.

1820	*CHURCH FOUNDED*
1854	*HISTORIC CHURCH CONSECRATED*
1914	*ASCENSION WINDOW INSTALLED*
1968	*HISTORIC CHURCH EXPANDED*
2005	*ALL SAINTS CENTER OPENED*
2017	*HISTORIC CHURCH RENOVATION*

What We Heard

Listening to our parish

As Christ Church began preparing for the call of our next rector, parishioners were invited to participate in the Congregation Assessment Tool. Of the 2,986 people invited to participate, 730 responded, providing insight into how members experience Christ Church today and what they hope for its future. The assessment is intended not as the conclusion of the conversation, but as a starting point for continued discernment.

01

Strengthen stewardship

Develop the spirit of generosity of our people to financially support the ministry of the church.

02

Reach & welcome new people

Develop a strategy to reach new people and incorporate them into the life of Christ Church.

03

Deepen relationships

Create more opportunities for meaningful relationships through small groups, friendships and shared meals.

04

Engage families

Make necessary changes to attract families with children and youth to Christ Church.

Areas of particular importance

The assessment also identified several areas that have a strong relationship to parishioners' overall experience of Christ Church. Among them were the quality and spiritual content of worship, the pastoral care provided to members in times of need and confidence in parish leadership.

Compared with other congregations in the assessment, Christ Church also showed unusually strong interest in strengthening pastoral response and improving or expanding facilities to support ministry.

Who We Seek

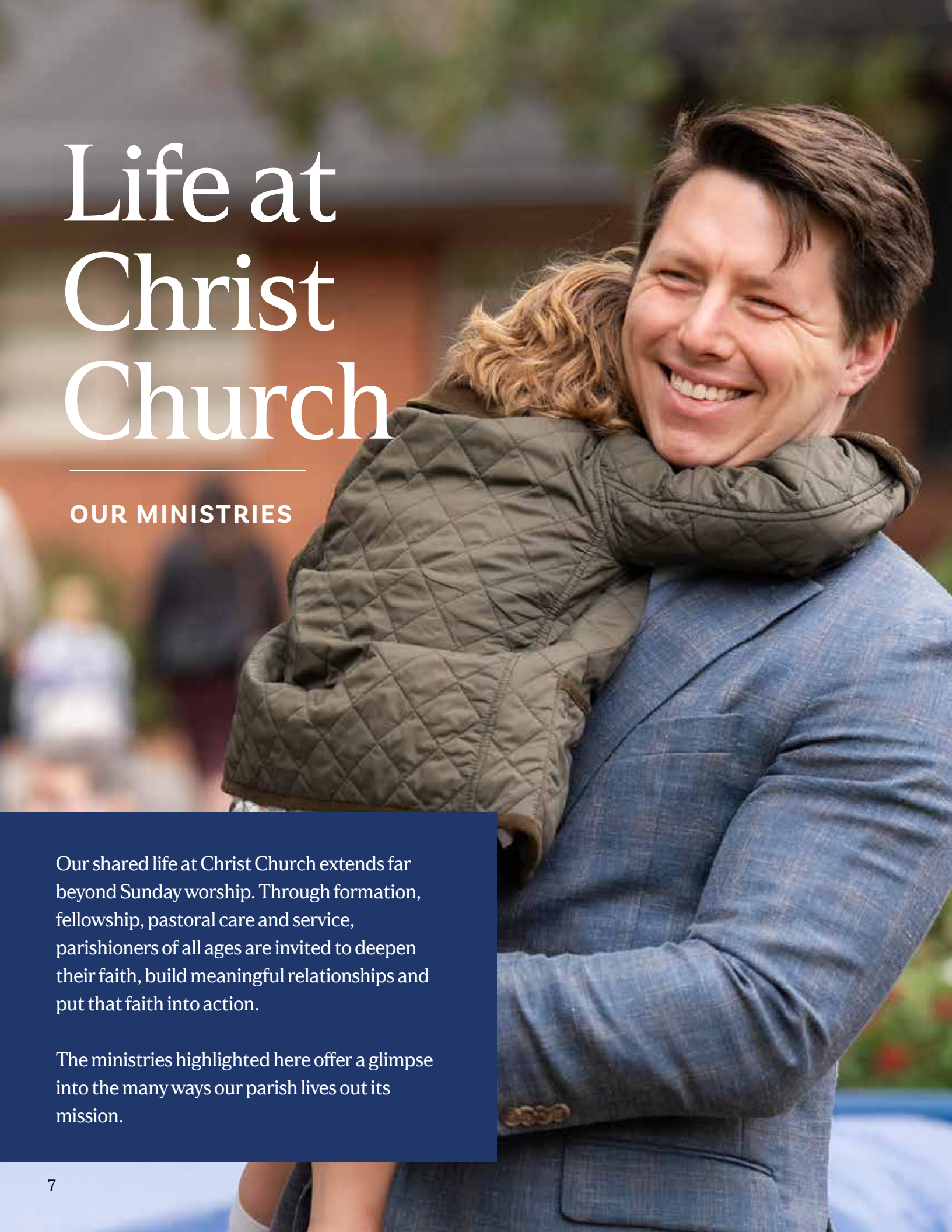
We seek a rector who will know and love this parish deeply.

Christ Church seeks a rector who will serve as a spiritual and theological leader for the parish — a gifted preacher and teacher grounded in the Episcopal tradition, with the pastoral presence, wisdom and humility to lead a large, active congregation.

Collaborative leadership will be essential. Our next rector should be comfortable sharing leadership with clergy, staff and lay leaders, developing the gifts of others and building trust through clear communication, thoughtful listening and transparency. The complexity of Christ Church also calls for strong organizational and strategic leadership.

We seek a rector who values the traditions and strengths of Christ Church while helping us discern where growth and change are needed. Building community, welcoming and engaging new people, strengthening ministry with children, youth and families and encouraging generosity will be important parts of the work ahead.

Above all, we seek a rector who will walk alongside this parish in worship, celebration, challenge and loss while helping Christ Church continue to grow as a joyful community sharing life in Jesus Christ.



Life at Christ Church

OUR MINISTRIES

Our shared life at Christ Church extends far beyond Sunday worship. Through formation, fellowship, pastoral care and service, parishioners of all ages are invited to deepen their faith, build meaningful relationships and put that faith into action.

The ministries highlighted here offer a glimpse into the many ways our parish lives out its mission.

Worship

Worship is at the center of life at Christ Church. Rooted in the Episcopal tradition, the parish gathers throughout the week for Holy Eucharist, prayer and music in both the Historic Church and Markley Chapel.

A rich and varied worship life

Sunday worship includes Rite I and Rite II Eucharists, traditional Anglican choral worship in the Historic Church and a more contemporary musical setting in Markley Chapel. Choral Evensong, weekday Eucharists, healing services and seasonal liturgies further shape the worship life of the parish.

Participating in worship

Lay people serve throughout worship as acolytes, lectors, Eucharistic ministers, ushers and in other roles, reflecting a parish in which worship is supported by the active participation of the congregation.

Music

Music is an integral part of worship at Christ Church, with a strong Anglican choral tradition complemented by opportunities for musicians and singers of different ages.

A strong choral tradition

The Christ Church Parish Choir, made up primarily of parishioners alongside professional section leaders, provides musical leadership for worship with repertoire spanning centuries of sacred music. The Historic Church is also home to a Goulding & Wood pipe organ, installed in 2001 to support liturgy, congregational singing and choral music.

Music across generations

Children and youth participate through Children's Sabbath, St. Cecilia Choir and the Church Street Choral Academy, developing musical skills while taking an active role in worship. Music in Markley Chapel provides another expression of the parish's musical life through an ensemble of singers and instrumentalists.

Formation Across Generations

Formation at Christ Church is a lifelong journey. From a child's earliest experiences of church through youth and adulthood, parishioners are invited to deepen their understanding of faith, explore questions and grow in relationship with God and one another.

Children & Families

Children are welcomed as full participants in parish life through Sunday School, Children's Church and opportunities to learn, worship and serve. Annual traditions include Vacation Bible School, Communion Class and the Christmas Pageant. Our inter-church basketball program welcomes children and youth from 5K through 12th grade from the parish and wider community.

Youth

Middle and high school students gather for formation, fellowship and service through Sunday School and EYC, along with Confirmation preparation, retreats, trips and hands-on service in the wider community.

Adult Formation

Adults continue exploring their faith through Sunday formation, Bible and book studies, small groups and programs such as Education for Ministry (EfM), the Alpha curriculum and Episcopal 101.

Formation Together

Intergenerational opportunities bring the parish together for shared meals, learning and seasonal traditions, creating space for parishioners of different ages to grow in faith alongside one another.

RMEF

Community & Parish Life

Life at Christ Church is shaped not only by the ways we worship and learn together, but by the relationships formed around tables, at retreats and through shared traditions. In a parish of our size, creating opportunities for meaningful connection is an important part of our life together.

Traditions that bring us together

Parish-wide traditions create opportunities to celebrate and connect across generations. BBQ & Bluegrass, Palm Sunday festivities and gatherings surrounding Pentecost, Advent and Christmas are among the traditions that mark the church year, while retreats, meals and other events create space for fellowship throughout the year.

Building community within a large parish

Smaller gatherings, like Sunday Suppers, help parishioners form deeper relationships. Women's Ministry, Men's Ministry, Senior Adult Ministry, young adult gatherings and groups organized around shared interests provide additional opportunities for fellowship, formation and service throughout the year.

Welcoming & Engagement

Greeters and other lay volunteers help welcome people into the life of Christ Church. Discovery Sunday introduces those discerning membership to the parish, its clergy and ministries, while Episcopal 101 offers an introduction to Episcopal traditions and supports those preparing for confirmation, reception and reaffirmation.

Care & Support

Caring for one another is an important part of life at Christ Church. Through clergy and lay-led ministries, the parish walks alongside people through illness, grief, transition and other seasons of need while supporting well-being and connection throughout parish life.

Walking alongside one another

Clergy and the Pastoral Care team provide prayer, presence and support through hospital and home visits, grief and loss, family challenges and other difficult seasons. Lay Eucharistic Visitors bring Holy Communion to those unable to attend worship, while volunteers maintain relationships with parishioners who are homebound or living in care facilities.

A community of care

Care takes many forms throughout the parish, from the Prayer Chain, Prayer Shawl and Flower Delivery ministries to programs supporting emotional, spiritual and physical well-being. Through its Wellness Ministry, Christ Church also offers groups, educational programs and opportunities that strengthen connection and support parishioners through different seasons of life.

Faith in Action

Service beyond our walls is central to life at Christ Church. Through Faith in Action, parishioners work alongside community partners in Greenville, the Upstate and beyond, putting faith into practice through service, relationship and partnership.

Serving our neighbors

Christ Church responds to needs ranging from hunger and housing to education and family support. Parishioners prepare and deliver meals, mentor students at Legacy Early College, work alongside Rebuild Upstate and participate in partnerships within the Sterling community. Our kitchen also serves as a hub for outreach, with staff and volunteers preparing meals that care for neighbors and bring people together.

Serving together

Parish-wide projects provide opportunities to serve on a larger scale. In 2026, 170 volunteers packed 35,000 meals for Rise Against Hunger, while the annual Angel Tree Store brings parishioners together with families from Legacy Early College at Christmas. Through Greenville Organized for Accountable Leadership (GOAL), Christ Church also joins other congregations in addressing community issues.

A legacy of service

Christ Church's commitment to Greenville extends across generations. Parishioners have helped establish or support initiatives that grew into independent organizations, including Project Host, the Greenville Free Medical Clinic and Jasmine Road — a legacy of service that continues through the parish's partnerships today.

Christ Church Episcopal Preschool

CCEP is a vibrant ministry of Christ Church, nurturing young children in a loving Christian environment while building meaningful connections with families throughout the wider Greenville community.

Growing in faith and learning

Since 1986, Christ Church Episcopal Preschool has provided early childhood education for infants through K4 in a Christian environment that is loving and secure. The preschool nurtures the intellectual, physical, social, emotional and spiritual development of each child.

Serving children and families

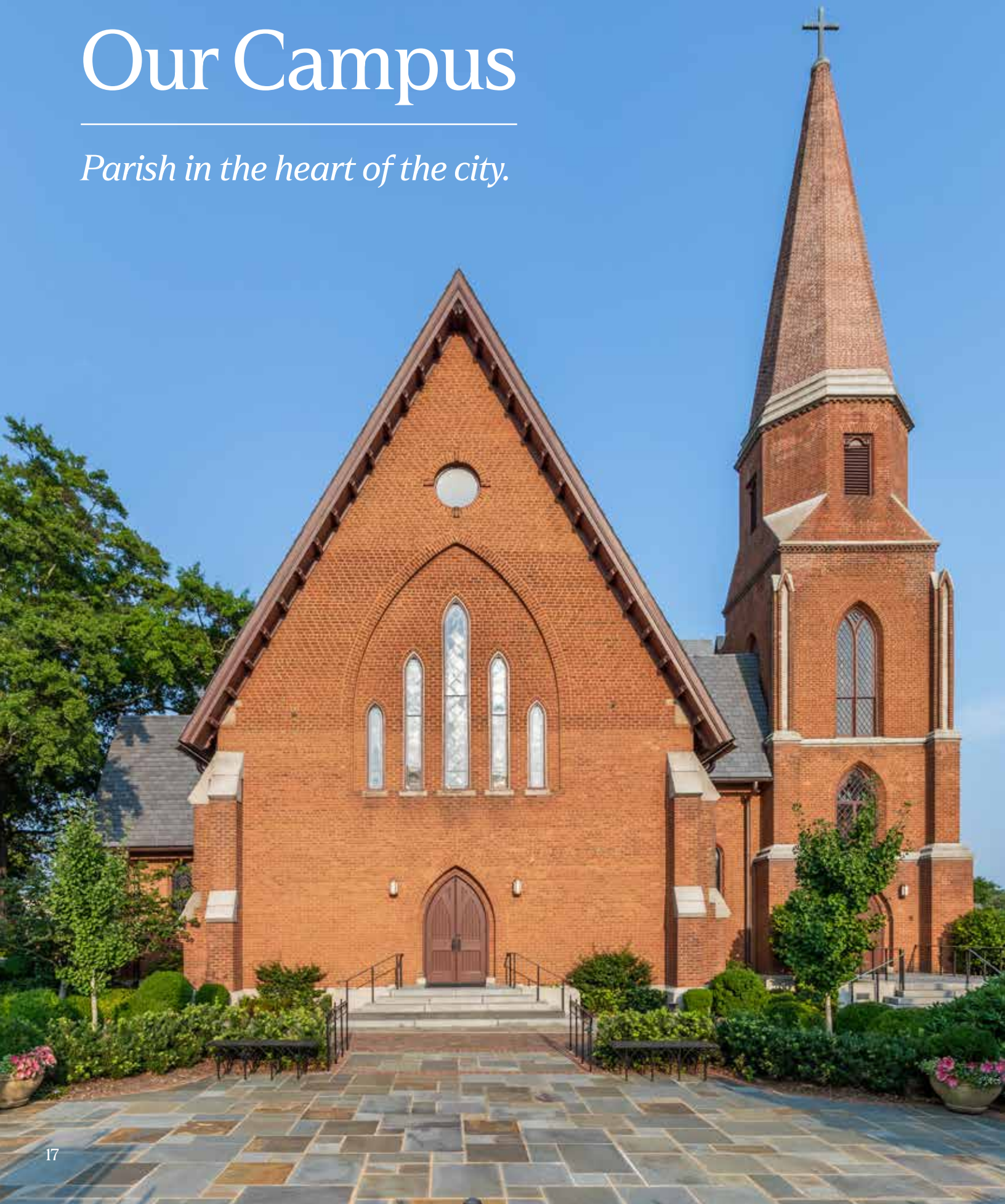
Today, CCEP is the parish's largest ministry, serving approximately 175 children supported by about 40 teachers and staff. Each weekday, the preschool brings children and families onto the Christ Church campus, making it an active part of parish life throughout the week.

Looking toward the future

As Christ Church looks ahead, ministry with children and families remains an important priority. The preschool is a significant part of that work, helping Christ Church nurture the next generation while strengthening its connection with families in the community.

Our Campus

Parish in the heart of the city.



Located in the heart of downtown Greenville, Christ Church's 13-acre campus encompasses eight buildings, connecting more than two centuries of parish history with the active life of the church today.

Worship, formation, fellowship, outreach and care take place across a campus that has grown and changed alongside the parish it serves.

Historic Church
Consecrated in 1854, the Historic Church remains at the center of Christ Church's worshipping life. Its Victorian Gothic architecture, stained glass and pipe organ reflect generations of worship and stewardship.

Parish House & All Saints Center
These spaces support much of parish life beyond worship, including formation, meetings, offices, fellowship and parish-wide gatherings. The Parish House is also home to Christ Church Episcopal Preschool.

Markley Chapel
Markley Chapel provides a more intimate setting for Sunday and weekday Eucharists, healing services and other forms of worship.

The Churchyard
Surrounding the Historic Church, the churchyard tells part of the story of both Christ Church and Greenville. Its graves include generations of parishioners as well as figures significant to the city's and state's history.

Stewardship & Resources

Generosity makes the worship, ministry and service of Christ Church possible.

$2.86M
PLEDGED IN 2025

$24.1M
ENDOWED INVESTMENTS THROUGH Q2 2026

717
CONFIRMED PLEDGES

$0
OUTSTANDING DEBT

Through annual giving, designated gifts and the careful stewardship of resources entrusted to the parish over generations, Christ Church is able to support a broad range of ministries within the parish and throughout the wider community.

Annual Giving
Annual pledges provide significant support for the ongoing ministry and operations of Christ Church. In 2025, the parish received 717 confirmed pledges totaling $2,855,426.

Stewarding resources for the future
Generations of parishioners have provided Christ Church with significant resources to support its mission. As of the end of the second quarter of 2026, the parish reported approximately $24.1 million in investments, with the large majority held in restricted endowment funds. Christ Church also reported no outstanding debt and owns its buildings and land.

These resources provide both opportunity and responsibility as Christ Church seeks to sustain its current ministries, care for its historic campus and respond faithfully to future capital needs.

Leadership & Staff

Christ Church is led by a dedicated vestry, clergy and staff who together guide and support the life and ministry of the parish.

Vestry leadership

Lay leadership is central to the life of Christ Church, with parishioners sharing responsibility for ministry, formation, care, service and governance alongside clergy and staff. The elected Vestry works in partnership with clergy and staff to provide leadership and oversight for the parish.

Current Wardens

Nancy Kennedy, Senior Warden
Chan Boyd, Junior Warden

Rector Search Committee

The Rector Search Committee guides the parish through the discernment and search process in partnership with the Vestry and the Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina.

Our staff

Christ Church is supported by clergy, professional staff and lay leaders who share responsibility for the worship, ministry, administration and stewardship of a large and active parish. Our Preschool is led by its own director and staff.

Meet Our Leadership

Clergy & Staff → Meet the people who serve and lead Christ Church.

Vestry → Meet our elected lay leadership.

Search Committee → Meet those guiding the search for our next rector.

Greenville & the Upstate

Christ Church sits in the heart of downtown Greenville, a growing city in the Upstate region of South Carolina.

Greenville combines the amenities of a thriving urban center with easy access to the mountains, lakes and outdoor recreation of the Carolinas, creating a community that continues to attract new residents and businesses.

A growing community

Greenville County's population reached an estimated 583,125 in 2025, an increase of approximately 11% since 2020. That growth is changing the community Christ Church serves and creating new opportunities to welcome people into parish life.

The Upstate has a diverse economy spanning healthcare, advanced manufacturing, education and technology, with major employers including BMW Manufacturing, Michelin North America, Prisma Health and GE Vernova. The region is also home to a number of colleges and universities and a strong network of healthcare providers.

Life in the heart of Greenville

Downtown Greenville centers on a walkable Main Street and the Reedy River, with restaurants, shops, performing arts and public spaces throughout downtown. Falls Park on the Reedy and the Peace Center are among its best-known destinations.

Christ Church's location at 10 North Church Street places the parish within this active downtown community and gives it a visible presence in the heart of the city.

Beyond downtown

The Upstate offers easy access to outdoor recreation, including the Prisma Health Swamp Rabbit Trail, more than 50 county parks, a state park and the nearby Blue Ridge Mountains. Greenville's location also provides convenient access to destinations throughout the Carolinas and Georgia.

GREENVILLE AT A GLANCE

583,125
GREENVILLE COUNTY POPULATION, 2025

11%
POPULATION GROWTH SINCE 2020

32+
MILES OF SWAMP RABBIT TRAIL NETWORK

50+
COUNTY PARKS & RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

windstream

Our Next Chapter

Christ Church enters its next chapter from a place of deep history, active ministry and significant opportunity.

The parish is supported by committed lay leadership, an experienced staff, substantial financial resources and a congregation deeply invested in its life and future.

As Christ Church looks ahead, several priorities are coming into focus. We seek to strengthen engagement, helping people build deeper relationships, discover their gifts and participate more fully in parish life. We are also considering how our property and facilities can best support ministry and how stewardship and resource development can sustain the work entrusted to us.

These priorities reflect what we heard through the parish survey: a desire to reach and welcome new people, deepen relationships, engage children and families and strengthen generosity.

The next rector will enter a parish that values its traditions while recognizing the need for thoughtful change. Listening, communication and relationship-building will be essential as clergy, staff and lay leaders discern together what should be preserved, what can grow and where new approaches may be needed.

An Invitation to Discern

Thank you for taking the time to learn about Christ Church Episcopal.

We are a parish with deep roots and a living faith. We treasure the beauty of our worship, the traditions that have shaped generations and the relationships that make this community a place of belonging. We are grateful for the gifts God has entrusted to us, and we believe those gifts call us to serve Christ and the world around us with generosity and joy.

As we look toward the future, we do so with humility and hope. We recognize the places where we need to grow, while trusting in the gifts, energy and leadership already present among us. We seek to deepen our relationships, welcome others more fully and remain faithful to our calling in the heart of Greenville.

We hope for a rector who will take the time to know us and listen with care, honoring what is precious while helping us recognize the possibilities God is placing before us. In return, we offer a congregation ready to grow, serve and walk faithfully alongside its next spiritual leader.

As you consider this invitation, we encourage you to make room for prayer and discernment. Come and discover whether God may be calling you to share in this life with us as we look forward to learning more about you, too.

We look forward to discerning what God may do through our shared life in Christ.
The Christ Church Rector Search Committee

Interested in discerning a call to Christ Church?

Visit our *Rector Search webpage* to learn more about Christ Church and our search.

View the official position listing on the *Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina employment page*.

Ready to apply? Visit *Vocation Hub* for additional information and to submit application materials.