### CHRIST CHURCH CHRISTIANA HUNDRED

### 2024 - 2025

# CHRIST CHURCH

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**CONCERTS • CHORAL EVENSONGS • SPECIAL CHORAL SERVICES** 

A SEASON OF

### WELCOME!



Ruth L. Beresford Rector



Bruce J. Barber, II Director of Music

Just for a moment, place yourself in a church full of music as the whole congregation heartily sings, "Praise my soul the king of heaven" with organ swelling and choir resounding its praise. The air shines with joy. These are moments when the profound and glorious combine in worship's music. At other times, the anthems and hymns comfort us—assuring us of God's everlasting care. Music becomes the instrument for the expression of our faith. It tells us the sacred story. Music is our prayer; it is the highest expression of our praise to God, resonating through and uniting the whole congregation as we rejoice.

In all our music and worship, I encourage you to join in the praise and thanksgiving we offer as we come to know the love of Jesus Christ, the inspiration of the Spirit, and the life-giving nature of God, who is swift to shower grace and favor to God's people in distress as well as in bliss. Join us for worship and for the special offerings of the Christ Church Choir as they lead us to sing the glory of God's praise.

It is a great honor and thrill to invite you to another year of spectacular music making and special liturgical services at Christ Church Christiana Hundred. In addition to welcoming back our friends from Piffaro and Tempesta di Mare, Professor James O'Donnell from the Yale School of Music and Institute of Sacred Music, former Master of Music at both Westminster Cathedral (Catholic) and Westminster Abbey (Anglican), returns as our Musician in Residence in March 2025. Also, we welcome renowned organist Christa Rakich from Oberlin Conservatory of Music to play a progressive organ recital on both the Fisk Opus 164 and the Brombaugh Opus 32.

This November, we welcome the Very Rev. Dr. Robert Willis, Dean Emeritus of Canterbury Cathedral, as our Theologian in Residence. The weekend will culminate in a concert offered by the Christ Church Choir and chamber ensemble of Philip Ledger's Requiem: A Thanksgiving for Life.

Information about these programs as well as special services of Choral Evensong and our series of Lessons & Carols services are found in the pages that follow. You are cordially invited and most welcome here for any and all of these offerings.

Soli Deo Gloria – To God alone be Glory.

# Theologian in Residence Program

Christ Church welcomes the Very Rev. Dr. Robert Willis, Dean Emeritus of Canterbury Cathedral, as our Theologian in Residence November 7-10. For 21 years, Robert served as Dean of Canterbury Cathedral, the mother church of the Anglican Communion and UNESCO world heritage site. He experienced newfound fame during the COVID-19 pandemic when his daily Morning Prayer YouTube videos became a lifeline to a world shut in and away from worship. His YouTube channel, affectionately known as the Garden Congregation, now publishes monthly videos to 64,000 subscribers.



Dean Willis joins our community in early-November, a time when Christians reflect on the spiritual bond between the living and the dead. As Christ Church's Theologian in Residence, he will lead us in conversations on remembrance, grieving, and the communion of saints and preach at 10:30 AM on November 10. The Christ Church Choir and chamber ensemble complete the residency with a Sunday concert: *Music in Memoriam*.



### SCHEDULE:

Thursday, November 7 7:00 PM Simple Dinner and Fireside Chat

Saturday, November 9 9:30 AM to 1:00 PM Retreat on Grief and Remembrance

Registration required for above events: www.christchurchde.org/adults

Sunday, November 10 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist with Dean Willis, guest preacher 4:00 PM Music in Memoriam concert, reflections, and reception (seating reservations and information in this brochure)

# Letty Downs **Musician in Residence Program**

The Letty Downs Musician in Residence program began in 1983 and brings a world-renowned musician to Christ Church each year. All have rehearsed and directed the Christ Church Choir; some have presented lectures, seminars, and organ recitals; and others have included a premiere or a commission. With great thanks to Letty Downs' vision, with the official endowment being established in 2011, and the generous support of the Letty Downs Musician in Residence Fund, we continue this tradition today.

For the 2024-25 season, Christ Church is delighted to welcome Professor James O'Donnell for his second appearance as our Musician in Residence. One of the most celebrated concert organists, choral conductors, and liturgical musicians of our time, James O'Donnell served for more than a decade as Master of Music at Westminster Cathedral and for more than two decades as Organist and Master of the Choristers at Westminster Abbey. During his tenure at Westminster, O'Donnell directed the music for many nationally and internationally significant occasions, most notably the Abbey's funeral service for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, the historic 2010 service attended by Pope Benedict XVI, and the 2011 wedding of Prince William and Catherine Middleton (Duke and Duchess of Cambridge), in addition to conducting the Choir of Westminster Abbey in many broadcasts, concerts, and tours. James currently serves as Professor in the Practice of Organ at Yale Institute of Sacred Music and the Yale School of Music, where he teaches graduate level organ majors and other students in sacred music and directs a newly established professional liturgical vocal ensemble.

Professor O'Donnell will direct the choir in services at Christ Church on Sunday, March 2, and a complete schedule for the weekend will be published early in 2025. Please join us!



Letty (Mrs. Robert N.) Downs



James O'Donnell Musician in Residence



**TENET** Vocal Artists

**SEATING RESERVATIONS & INFORMATION:** www.piffaro.org

**OCTOBER** 6 @ 4 PM in the Church

THE TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

### **Choral Evensong** with the Christ Church Choir & Clergy

3:30 Organ Prelude: Cameron Kuzepski Organ Scholar, Christ Church Christiana Hundred Peabody Conservatory of Music

### MUSIC WILL INCLUDE:

Martin MacDonald Martin Rheinberger

Phos hilaron Responses Evening Service in D (St. Paul's) Abendlied





Triomphi with **Piffaro**, the Renaissance Band & TENET Vocal Artists



OCTOBER 13 @ 3 PM in the Church

These two preeminent early music ensembles will honor the 650th anniversary of the death of Francesco Petrarch with a musical and visual exploration of his allegorical poems. The exquisite music of 15th century Italy will be enhanced by professionally designed projections of art and text. Don't miss this major undertaking before it travels to New York City!

This concert is supported by:

PAUL M. ANGELL FAMILY FOUNDATION

NOVEMBER **3** @ 4 PM in the Church

THE FEAST OF ALL SOULS

### **Choral Evensong**

**Remembrance of the Beloved Departed** with the Christ Church Choir & Clergy

3:30 Organ Prelude: Nathan Ringkamp Peabody Conservatory of Music

#### MUSIC WILL INCLUDE:

Phos hilaron Helvev Shepherd Responses Evening Service in E-flat Wood Funeral Anthems Lehman Lewis The Souls of the Righteous

www.christchurchde.org/concerts - A freewill offering will be received.





**SEATING RESERVATIONS & INFORMATION:** 

### **Music in Memoriam** with the Christ Church Choir

The Christ Church Choir brings to a musical close our Theologian in Residence weekend with the Very Rev. Dr. Robert Willis, Dean Emeritus of Canterbury Cathedral, UK. The Choir will be joined by a chamber ensemble and offer music from Philip Ledger's Requiem, written in memoriam of persons who have departed this mortal life and now abide in the larger life of the Saints in light.

# in the Church

NOVEMBER

N 10 @ 4 PM

**17** @ 4 PM o in the Chapel

THE TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



# NOVEMBER

### **Choral Evensong**

with the Christ Church Choristers & Clergy Jo Harney, director

#### MUSIC WILL INCLUDE:

Tallis Thiman Burnam

Phos hilaron Treble Service in G Major Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing



### **Advent Lessons & Carols** with the Christ Church Choir & Clergy

**DECEMBER N** 1@5PM o in the Church

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

#### MUSIC WILL INCLUDE:

Palestrina	Matin & Vesper Responsory
Willcocks	Come, Thou Redeemer of the Earth
Archer	Creator of the Stars of Night
R. V. Williams	The Truth from Above
Chilcott	Nova! Nova!
Cleobury	The Cherry Tree Carol
Wood	King Jesus Hath a Garden
MacMillan	O Radiant Dawn
Wood	O Thou, the Central Orb



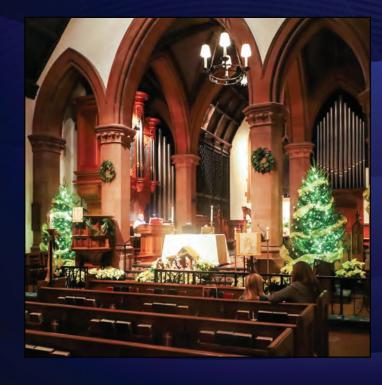
### **Neapolitan Christmas**

with Tempesta di Mare

Christmas cantatas and delicious seasonal music by Scarlatti, Falconieri, Mancini, and Marchitelli performed by Tempesta di Mare's chamber ensemble of recorder, violins, lute, harpsichord, and cello, with guest artist Rebecca Myers, soprano.



### SEATING RESERVATIONS & INFORMATION: www.tempestadimare.org



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### **Christmas Lessons** & Carols

with the Christ Church Choir & Clergy

#### MUSIC WILL INCLUDE:

Archer Chilcott Cleobury Pearsall Rutter Rutter Sweelinck Creator of the Stars of Night Nova! Nova! The Cherry Tree Carol In dulci jubilo I Sing of a Maiden Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow Hodie, Christus natus est

N 24 @ 6 PM *in the Church* 

CHRISTMAS EVE

**N** 19 @ 4 PM o in the Chapel

THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY



# **JANUARY**

#### MUSIC WILL INCLUDE:

Jackson Weaver Archer Mendelssohn Eccard

Matin & Vesper Responsory Epiphany Alleluias Brightest and Best of the Stars How Lovely are the Messengers When to the Temple Mary Went

**Epiphany Lessons & Carols** 

with the Christ Church Choir & Clergy



### Ostinato with Tempesta di Mare

JANUARY 31 @ 7 PM in the Chapel

Chaconnes, bergamascas, follias, ciaccionas, romanescas, and other ground basses are brought to toe-tapping life by Tempesta di Mare's chamber players with works by Vivaldi, Purcell, Blow, Marais, and others. For two recorders, two violins, theorbo, and viola da gamba.

### SEATING RESERVATIONS & INFORMATION: www.tempestadimare.org

**I** FEBRUARY **2** @ 4 PM • in the Church 

THE FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION

### **Choral Evensong**

with the Parish Choir, Senior Choristers, & Clergy

3:30 PM Organ Prelude: David Schelat Market Street Music

#### MUSIC WILL INCLUDE:

rnatt	O Gracious Light
nith	Responses
umsion	Evening Service in G Major
eswick	Let the Peoples Praise You, O God





### **Music by Candlelight:** Rococo Dialogues with **Filament**

**I** FEBRUARY **N** 9 @ 4 PM o in the Chapel

Filament pays homage to 18th century invention in this program celebrating works for harpsichord with strings. This candlelight chamber music concert presents trios of Haydn alongside accompanied keyboard sonatas of Luigi Boccherini. Lesser-known gems, adapted and arranged by the ensemble, will complement this program full of discovery.

### SEATING RESERVATIONS & INFORMATION: www.christchurchde.org/concerts - A freewill offering will be received.

THE LAST SUNDAY AFTER THE **EPIPHANY** 

#### MUSIC WILL INCLUDE:

Lehman Shepherd Leighton Britten



SEATING RESERVATIONS & INFORMATION: www.christchurchde.org/concerts - A freewill offering will be received.

### **Choral Evensong** with the Christ Church Choir



Phos hilaron Responses Second Evening Service Te Deum

Dr. James O'Donnell **Musician in Residence** Yale University/Institute of Sacred Music Westminster Abbey (emeritus)



3:30 PM Organ **Prelude: David Hearn Christ Church Christiana** Hundred (retired)

### **Progressive Organ Recital**

with Christa Rakich **Oberlin College & Conservatory**  **MARCH N** 9 @ 4 PM • in the Chapel **N** and Church

Christa Rakich, Organ faculty member of the historic Oberlin Conservatory of Music in Ohio, will perform our second Progressive Organ Recital at Christ Church. The first half of the recital begins in the Chapel of the Christ Child on Fisk Opus 164, and the second half moves to the Church and Brombaugh Opus 32. Hear these two glorious instruments in one program!

MARCH 23 @ 3 PM in the Church

### All Excellent and Esteemed: The Bassano Family with Piffaro, The Renaissance Band

An Italian, and likely Jewish, family of wind musicians was invited to England by Henry VIII. There they thrived, pushing instrumental music into a new frontier. The wind players of Piffaro bring one of the most potent examples of musical immigration in 16th century Europe to life—the story of the Bassano family.



### APRIL 6 @ 4 PM in the Church

THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT



SEATING RESERVATIONS & INFORMATION: www.piffaro.org

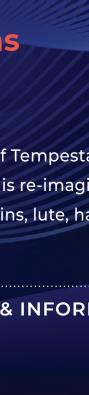


### Bach Trio Sonatas with Tempesta di Mare

APRIL A @ 7 PM in the Church

This live concert performance of Tempesta's 5-star recording of Bach's six organ trio sonatas is re-imagined for chamber ensemble of recorder, flute, violins, lute, harpsichord, viola da gamba, and cello.

SEATING RESERVATIONS & INFORMATION: www.tempestadimare.org





### A Lenten Service of Readings & Music with the Christ Church Choir

### 3:30 Organ Prelude: Cameron Kuzepski

Organ Scholar, Christ Church Christiana Hundred Peabody Conservatory of Music

#### MUSIC WILL INCLUDE:

Byrd	Miserere mei
Gibbons	The Secret Sins
Oldroyd	Prayer to Jesus
Proulx	We Adore You, O Christ



MAY
N 11 @ 4 PM
in the Church

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MUSIC WILL INCLUDE:

ck	An Easter Carillon
ndl	Haec est Dies
sus	Surrexit pastor bonus
bulx	Jesu, the Very Thought of Thee
and	Greater Love Hath No Man
inton	And I Saw a New Heaven
nford	Ye Choirs of New Jerusalem



### **LO** JUNE **N** 1@4PM in the Church $\mathbf{N}$

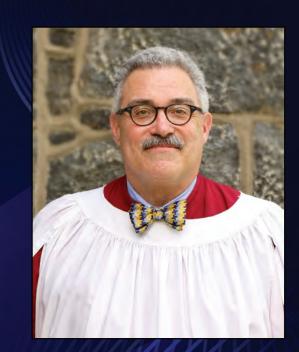
THE SUNDAY AFTER THE ASCENSION

### **Choral Evensong** with the Christ Church Choir

3:30 Organ Prelude: Bruce Barber Christ Church Christiana Hundred

#### MUSIC WILL INCLUDE:

lelvey	Phos hilaron
lacDonald	Responses
ackson	Evening Service in G Major
hillips	Who Has Made This World



## THE 2025 CHRIST CHURCH CHOIR RESIDENCY York Minster, York, UK July 21-27

For over a thousand years, York Minster's magnificent spaces have resounded with choral music. The Christ Church Choir will join that tradition as a visiting choir in July 2025. Led by our director of music, Bruce Barber, the choir will sing at the daily worship and Sunday services in the Minister. This is the third residency our choir has made in England and builds on the choir's ministry in the Anglican choral music tradition, developed over 110 years of Christ Church's worship.



The choral pilgrimage is open to all adults with a maximum of 30 pilgrims accompanying the choir. A \$500 reservation deposit is fully refundable until December 1, 2024 and secures your place as a pilgrim. Visit www.christchurchde.org/choral-pilgrimage for additional details or contact Bruce Barber or Ruth Beresford with questions.









## JOIN THE CHORAL PILGRIMAGE in Northern England July 23-August 4

The 11th English Choral Pilgrimage sponsored by Christ Church Christiana Hundred offers a rich experience in music, history, and Celtic spirituality. Pilgrims will join in daily worship with the Christ Church Choir in York, while exploring the ancient history of the Minster, Ripon Cathedral, and Fountains Abbey from July 24-27. Then the pilgrims continue their spiritual journey with six additional days in Durham and Northumbria, including Lindisfarne (Holy Island). This 13-day pilgrimage is led by the Rev. Ruth Beresford, the Rev. David Beresford, and Bruce Barber for the choir's residency.

# SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE

### **OCTOBER**

6	3:30 PM	Organ Prelude: Cameron Kuzepski
	4:00 PM	Choral Evensong
13	3:00 PM	Triomphi: Piffaro, the Renaissance Band

& TENET Vocal Artists

### NOVEMBER

3	3:30 PM	Organ Prelude: Nathan Ringkamp
	4:00 PM	Choral Evensong: Remembrance of
		Beloved Departed
7-10		Theologian in Residence Weekend
		Robert Willis
10	4:00 PM	Music in Memoriam:
		The Christ Church Choir
17	4:00 PM	Choral Evensong
28		THANKSGIVING DAY
	10:00 AM	Holy Eucharist

### DECEMBER

1	5:00 PM	Advent Lessons & Carols
13	7:00 PM	Neapolitan Christmas:
		Tempesta di Mare
24		CHRISTMAS EVE
	2:00 PM	Children's Christmas Pageant
	4:00 PM	Holy Eucharist (Church)
	4:00 PM	Candlelight, Communion,
		& Carols (Chapel)
	6:00 PM	Christmas Lessons & Carols
		(non-communion liturgy)
	10:00 PM	Choral Eucharist
25		CHRISTMAS DAY
	10.00 AM	Holy Eucharist

### JANUARY

19	4:00 PM	Epiphany Lessons & Carols
31	7:00 PM	Ostinato: Tempesta di Mare

### **FEBRUARY**

3:30 PM	Organ Prelude: David Schelat
4:00 PM	Choral Evensong
4:00 PM	Music by Candlelight
	- Rococo Dialogues: Filament

### MARCH

	Musician in Residence Weekend:
	James O'Donnell
3:30 PM	Organ Prelude: David Hearn
4:00 PM	Choral Evensong
	ASH WEDNESDAY
7:00 PM	Holy Eucharist with the
	Imposition of Ashes
4:00 PM	Progressive Organ Recital:
	Christa Rakich
3:00 PM	All Excellent and Esteemed
	- The Bassano Family:
	Piffaro, the Renaissance Band



### APRIL

7:00 PM	Bach Trio Sonatas: Tempesta di Mare
3:30 PM	Organ Prelude: Cameron Kuzepski
4:00 PM	A Lenten Service of Readings & Music
	PALM SUNDAY
	Holy Eucharist (8, 9, & 10:30 AM)
	MAUNDY THURSDAY
7:00 PM	Holy Eucharist
	GOOD FRIDAY
7:00 PM	Tenebrae Service
	EASTER DAY
	Holy Eucharist (6, 8, 9, & 11 AM)

### MAY

Easter Lessons & Carols 11 4:00 PM

### JUNE

3:30 PM Organ Prelude: Bruce Barber Choral Evensong 4:00 PM



### Schedule begins September 15

### **SATURDAYS**

5:00 PM Contemporary Holy Eucharist in the Chapel - a "come as you are" service led by our worship band

### SUNDAYS

9:00 AM Holy Eucharist in the Chapel: "The ARK" - a formative 30-minute liturgy supporting families with young children

**10:30 AM** Holy Eucharist in the Church - the principal parish liturgy with choral leadership by our choirs and livestreamed to our website

# **CHRIST CHURCH SERVICE SCHEDULE**

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I in the Church - a brief spoken liturgy using traditional language

9:00 AM Holy Eucharist in the Church: "SANCTUARY" - a 40-minute service engaging people of all ages

4:00 PM Choral Evensong in either the Church or Chapel, as scheduled

- a service of prayer, scripture, and song in the Anglican choral tradition

### FOR DETAILS, PLEASE VISIT www.christchurchde.org/services

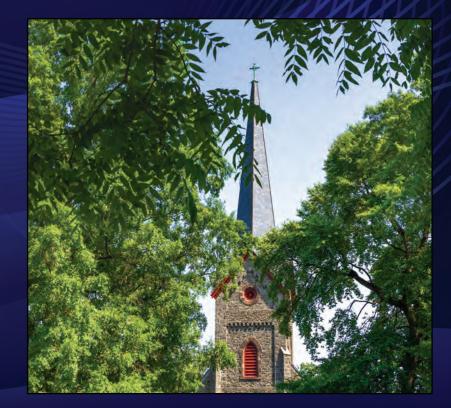
#### WEDNESDAYS

**12:00 PM** Holy Eucharist with prayers for Healing in the Chapel

### THURSDAYS

6:30 AM Holy Eucharist in the Chapel

**SUNDAYS - FRIDAYS** 5:00 PM Evening Prayer in the Chapel



### **ABOUT THE CHRIST CHURCH CHOIR**

### 1850s

Records date back to this time with Joanna Smith (Mrs. Alexis du Pont) playing the newly procured organ

### 1890-96

Rev. Hamilton M. Bartlett (Rector 1890-96) took an active interest in the choir and increased its volunteers from 5 to 21

### 1913

The Choir Fund was listed on Christ Church pledge cards

### 1919

The choir was enlarged to 10 paid singers

### 1980

The choir was enlarged to 18 paid singers

### 2014

Christ Church Choir begins singing monthly services of Choral Evensong

### 2018

Christ Church Choir makes its first pilgrimage / residencies to England singing at Bristol Cathedral and Westminster Abbey

### 1894

Regular entries in the church's ledger reflect a paid organ boy whose job it was to operate the bellows for the service His annual salary was \$20

### 1899

1914

There were about 20 people in the choir, including a paid quartet

The Choir Fund was established (Henry Francis du Pont, Treasurer) and the Christ Church Choir became a fully professional ensemble

> 1943 The Vestry voted to

### 201

Created the Letty Downs Musician in Residence Fund to sustain program founded by her in 1983

enlarge the choir by three

### 2016

2022

The Joe Thompson Choral Scholar position was created

> Christ Church Choir in residence at St. Paul's Cathedral, London

Throughout its 109-year history, the Christ Church Choir has been at the center of the worship life of Christ Church. Whether in liturgy, concert, small ensemble, or full choir, the work of these talented musicians has been widely recognized for its excellence and beauty.

This amazing group of people comes together, away from their "day jobs" as music teachers, voice coaches, choral/ instrumental conductors, piano teachers, bankers, medical professionals, etc., to create this marvelous instrument known as the Christ Church Choir.

The Choir offers some of the finest music in the Anglican tradition, both in liturgy and in concert, and it continues to serve as one of Christ Church's most important and dynamic evangelistic and outreach tools. Through the work of this choir. Christ Church reaches out to the wider Wilmington community and even across the Atlantic to the great homeland of our faith tradition, England.

### **Known Organists and Choirmasters** of Christ Church Christiana Hundred

Georae Powick Leslie Cook 1902 - 1905 Horace Harrison 1906 – 1924 Choirmaster Elizabeth Wilson 1906 – 1924 Oraanist

1890 – 1902 Firmin Swinnen 1925 – 1956 Clarence Snyder 1956 – 1983 William Owen, III 1983 – 2014 Bruce Barber, II 2015 -





Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, Christ Church welcomes you into a loving and joyful community that serves others and seeks to grow deeper in relationship with God through Jesus Christ. This wonderful beloved community we know as Christ Church Christiana Hundred has been a place of belonging and community since its founding 176 years ago along the storied banks of the Brandywine River. Her rich musical heritage, continuing to this day, is marked by glorious singing of congregation and choirs, offerings by various instruments in liturgy, and by presentation of magnificent concerts throughout the year. In worship and in concert, our music making is rooted in the Anglican tradition and continues to grow and expand as a gift to our surrounding community and region. Christ Church is a place where a real sense of the beloved community pervades everything we do, and YOU are invited to find your place of belonging here!

We are grateful for the support for this living musical tradition. Touching those who have gone before us whose gifts help sustain it and those who currently engage in this ministry, the great musical tradition of Christ Church Christiana Hundred

### /// for your support!

gladdens the hearts of the people of Christ Church as well as invites visitors and friends to be nourished by God's own bounty. For this support, we give thanks.

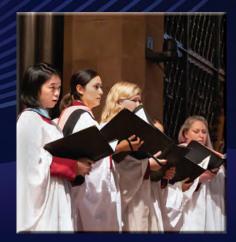
You are invited to be a Friend of Music at Christ Church by supporting the 2024-25 Christ Church Concert season. To make a direct contribution, visit www.christchurchde.org/music-contributions or send a check in the envelope included with this brochure. Unless otherwise indicated, contributions will be listed in appropriate concert programs. Thank you to our parishioners for their pledges and contributions to the parish, which support our programs as well.

We want you to know that you are welcome here for all of the events and services listed in this brochure. Bring your friends, neighbors, and families. Celebrate and rejoice with us in the beauty of God's gift of music and find your place of belonging at Christ Church.

If you have questions regarding support of the Concert Series through the Friends of Music, please contact our director of music, Bruce Barber, at 302-655-3379 or bbarber@christchurchde.org.





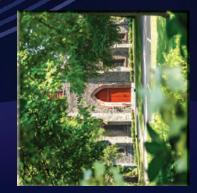




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# CHRIST CHURCH CHRISTIANA HUNDRED

from all three counties in Delaware and across the Eastern border of Pennsylvania Christ Church Christiana Hundred is an Episcopal Parish with members attending into the Kennett Square, Avon Grove, and Glen Mills areas. We have a beautiful 22-acre wooded campus near the Brandywine in Greenville, Delaware, located just down Buck Road next to Hagley Museum.

The Parish was founded in 1848, and the present Church building was completed in 1856. It has long been a center of religious life for thousands of communicants, many of whom have been dedicated contributors to the life of our Christ Church community and the needs of our local community. Sacred music has historically continues today. Please join us for any and all of these beautiful celebrations been of special importance in the worship of the parish, and that tradition our doors are open to all!

imagination, and life to everything) ves a soul to the universe, to the mind, flight to the