

# Christ Episcopal Church

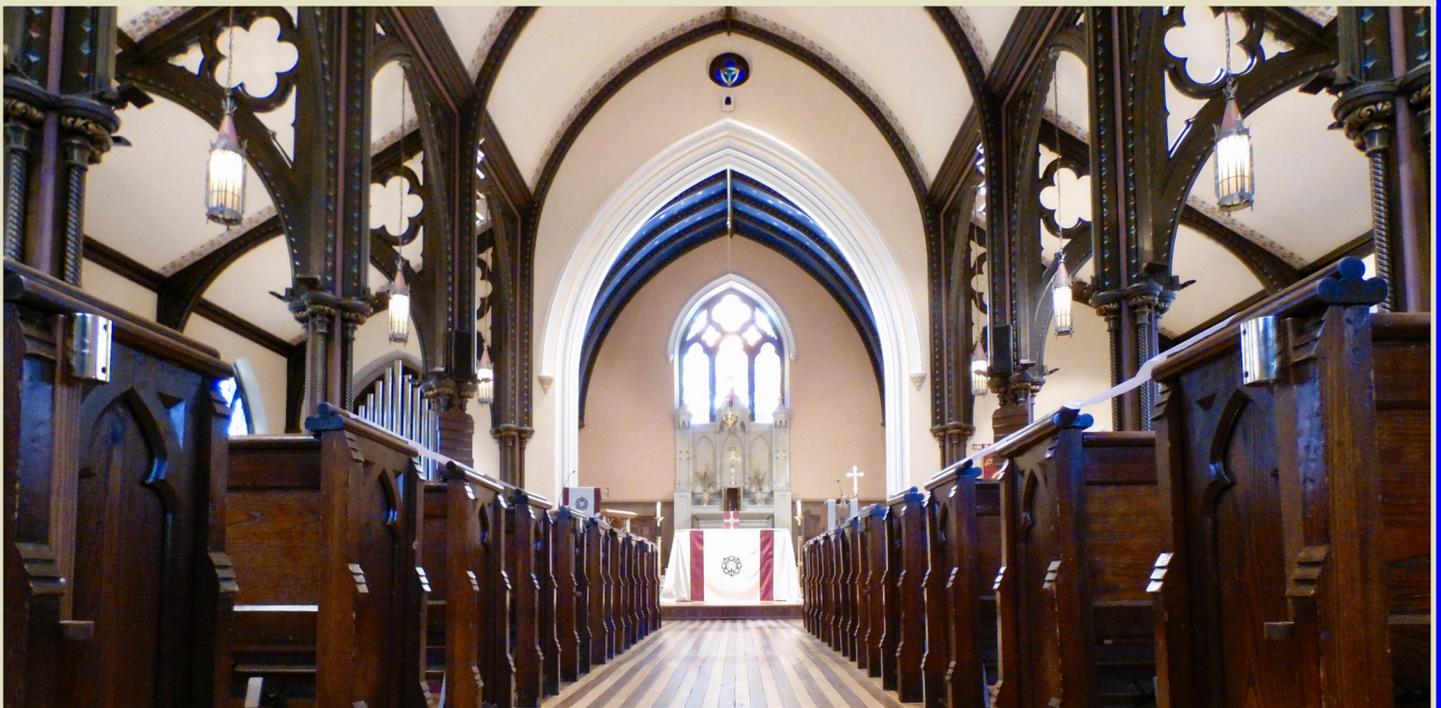
Newton, New Jersey



## Parish Profile, 2022

### *Executive Summary*

*"Let Mutual Love Continue"*



## Our Next Rector: Shepherding Us Into the Future



**Our ideal candidate will be a confident preacher and teacher. Music and liturgy are essential to our parish, as is the Rector's ability to interpret and instruct within an informed and cordial atmosphere. Equally important is the ability to be honest, enthusiastic, and socially warm in all endeavors.**

- ◆ **Biblically Grounded**
- ◆ **Preacher**
- ◆ **Passionate & Respectful**
- ◆ **Pastor**
- ◆ **Spiritual Guide**
- ◆ **Fiscally Responsible Manager**



**We are searching for someone who can support our commitment to a dynamic Christ-centric Trinitarian worship experience through preaching, music, and sacraments rooted in our Anglican tradition: A thoughtful leader who will shepherd us into the future.**



Every parish has a unique flavor and ours might aptly be summed up in one word: **Joy!** Though our opinions on some pressing matters may differ, our commitment to Christ enables us to worship, joyfully, as one—a community of unified members enjoying each other, sharing in the work of the Holy Spirit, and serving others out of a Jesus-centered mission-mindedness.

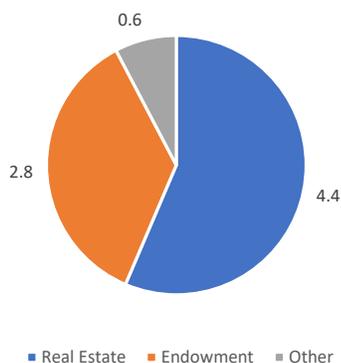


## Financially Sound

**At a time when many churches are struggling to maintain members and to remain financially solvent, Christ Church enjoys a strong financial position.**

- ◆ **Assets**, \$7.8 million
- ◆ **Liabilities**, \$9,722
- ◆ **Real estate**, \$4.4 million
- ◆ **Endowment**, \$2.8 million

Assets in Millions of Dollars



Despite the pandemic and other financial challenges over the past several years, **2022 pledges increased by approximately 7% versus 2021.**



Recent renovations and upgrades have been financed by capital campaigns and member bequests.

## Living Here

- ◆ Generous **clergy housing allowance** provided.
- ◆ All types of housing available in the area, from garden apartments to large, single-family homes.

**Newton is located in scenic Sussex County, NJ, 60 miles northwest of New York City.**



- ◆ Major employers
- ◆ State & National Parks
- ◆ Government offices
- ◆ Public & private schools
- ◆ Community college
- ◆ Minor-league baseball
- ◆ Newton Theatre
- ◆ Fine dining
- ◆ Shopping
- ◆ County fairgrounds

## Our Parish



The congregation of Christ Church is made up of a diverse group of parishioners, distinct in age, length of membership, socioeconomic status, and even political perspective.

**Registered members, 673**

**Active communicants, 614**

**Weekly attendance, 250**

**Parishioners hail from 25 towns in 5 counties**

**Members are invited to enjoy a wide range of activities that foster fellowship with the extended parish family.**



## Worship



### Sunday Services

Holy Eucharist, 8:00 am  
Choral Eucharist, 10:00 am



### Season of Lent

Palm Sunday–Daily Morning & Evening Prayer–  
Wednesday Holy Eucharist–Ash Wednesday–  
Maundy Thursday–Good Friday–Easter Vigil–  
Easter Sunday

### Season of Advent

Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols  
Christmas Eve Pageant

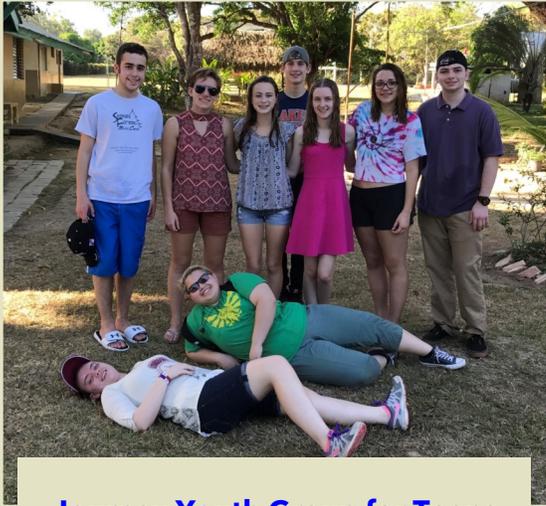
Blessing of the Animals in October

### Music

Senior Choir & Youth Choir



## Christian Education



**Journey Youth Group for Teens**



**Sunday School for Preschool through Sixth Grade**

The Rite of Confirmation has traditionally been followed by a Youth Group trip to the Diocese of Panama.



**Adult Education**

**Sunday Adult Bible Study**  
**Weekly Bible Study**  
**Lenten Education Series**

## Additional Support



**Annual Women's Retreat** provides opportunity for reflection, renewal and fellowship

**Faith Community Nurse/Health Partner Program** connects congregants with their spiritual leaders and provides emotional and health-related support.

## Ministries

**We welcome all who worship with us—and, especially, to join us at the Lord's Table for Holy Communion each Sunday.**

Christ Church parishioners work together in service to each other and the community.



### Altar Ministries

Ushers—Lectors—Acolytes—Lay Eucharistic Ministers—Altar Guild—Flower Team

### Hospitality Ministries

Coffee Hour—Monthly Church Breakfasts—Easter Vigil Reception—Concert Receptions



Christ Church is known throughout the county for its exceptional hospitality ministries—not only for the generous, tasty food served but also for the welcoming way all are invited to partake. These hospitality ministries allow our parish to “break bread together” in the manner of Jesus and his disciples.

**The CCW's purpose is to provide fellowship with spiritual, devotional, and social activities for its members, the members of Christ Church, and the community at large.**

### Christ Church Women



- ◆ Monthly potluck luncheon and business meeting
- ◆ Regularly scheduled creative and interactive social gatherings
- ◆ Monthly prayer list
- ◆ Keeping in Touch card ministry
- ◆ Companion relationship with Mount Calvary Baptist Church
- ◆ Food assistance for those in need



## Ministries

### Sunday Brunch in a Bag

Bagged lunch for hungry individuals



### Christ Church in Stitches

Creating handcrafted items for individuals and organizations in our community



### Helping Hands

Household maintenance assistance for seniors in need



**Christ Church has partnered with the Diocese of Panama with the goal of creating mutual understanding and helping each other achieve our shared mission of being Christ's presence in our respective communities.**

Youth group trips  
Construction help  
Fundraising  
Mutual support



## Additional Parish Outreach & Activities

**Book Club**

**Welcome Gift Bags**

**Manna House**

**Bread of Life**

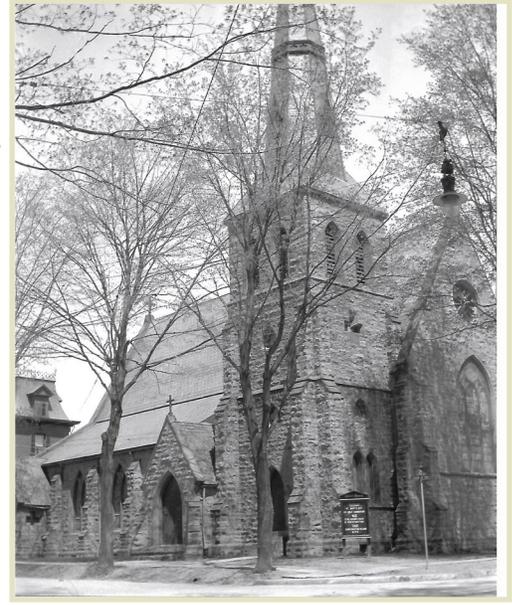
### Diocese of Panama



## Celebrating Our Past & Embracing Our Future

**Christ Church is the oldest church in Newton and the second oldest in the Diocese of Newark.** The parish traces its roots back to December 29, 1769, when a "Congregation in Communion with the Church of England" was organized in what was then called New Town. The parish was incorporated by royal charter signed on August 15, 1774, in the name of King George III.

**The parish takes pride in its history, which reflects its longstanding desire to be a beacon of Christian faith in the community.** Today, Christ Church is renowned for its beautiful architecture, sublime music program, lively children's activities, and community outreach. The congregation of the church is a uniquely harmonious blend of people from a broad spectrum of political beliefs, gender identities, ethnic groups, and socioeconomic backgrounds who work together to be Christ's presence in our community. Our congregation is growing every day.



**Christ Church has enjoyed many years of recent growth, attracting new members from across Sussex County, both those who were formerly unchurched and those seeking a new church home. At the same time, we have strengthened our financial position, despite the challenges of the coronavirus pandemic, and kept up our outreach ministries to a hurting world.**

**We want to continue the work that God is doing in this place and, as such, have identified four strategic goals for the future:**

- ◆ To present a meaningful worship experience to all people.
- ◆ To nurture and expand children and youth involvement in the life of the church.
- ◆ To expand our educational and outreach opportunities.
- ◆ To support our budget through pledged income.

