

Love AT CHRIST CHURCH

Caring Connections: Love in our church family

Christ Church Caring Connections is committed to spreading the love and compassion of Jesus through a dedicated team of clergy and over 200 trained lay volunteers. We provide support, encouragement, and celebration to parishioners during times of need and joy.

If you require assistance or are interested in joining us, please reach out to our ministry leaders, your Shepherd, or a member of our Caring Connections team. We believe that the transformative love of Jesus Christ is felt through the care and support we offer to one another.

CONTACTS:

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THE REV. AMY SLATER

Senior Associate Rector - Aslater@CCPVB.org

CARING CONNECTIONS MINISTRIES

Shepherd Ministry

If you need support or encouragement, the Shepherd Ministry can connect you with Christ Church's resources. Every parishioner at Christ Church has an assigned Shepherd whose role is to link those facing challenges and changes with relevant Caring Connection ministries that offer support and encouragement during difficult times. Shepherds have extensive training in pastoral care and observe absolute confidentiality. Contact: Wendy Waller at Shepherds@ccpvb.org

Caregiver Connect

Whether you're actively caregiving or caregiving from a distance, you are not alone. Join Caregivers Connect Group for support and spiritual rest with fellow journeyers. This gentle, non-lecturing space is designed to offer companionship and a place to seek refuge during these demanding times. Quarterly gatherings will be offered. Contact: Candice Tiner at Caregivers@ccpvb.org

Celebration Ministry

If you are planning a funeral or memorial service at Christ Church, the Celebration Ministry can provide receptions for your family and friends following the service.

Contact: Meg King at
Celebration@ccpvb.org

Christ Centered Advance Care Planning (CCACP)

Have you been pondering how best to prepare for your aging and end of life decisions? The CCACP workshop provides a framework to face uncertainties surrounding death, suggests how to deal with them proactively, and how to communicate your decisions to your loved ones. Contact: Brian Mickley at brianmickley@comcast.net

Eucharistic Visitors

If you are unable to visit campus to receive Communion, the Eucharistic Ministers are available to come to your location to offer you communion and information on that day's church service. Contact: Valerie Gambino at EVs@ccpvb.org

Flower Ministry

If you are celebrating or in need of cheer, the Flower Ministry may surprise you with a beautiful bouquet of flowers. The Flower Ministry rearranges the weekly altar flowers into smaller bouquets for delivery to hospitals, care facilities, or to private homes. Contact: Julie McAvity at Flowers@ccpvb.org

The Grands (Christ Church Grandparents Ministry)

If you have welcomed a new baby or child into your home and would appreciate the support from women ready to offer encouragement and kindness, please reach out to the Grands. These women are ready to step in if you are having a hard time or just need a little extra love. This ministry is all about kindness, encouragement, and building intergenerational connections. Contact: Deb Hardegree or Malinda Harris at TheGrands@ccpvb.org

Healing and Hope: Journeying Through Divorce – beginning Feb 24, 2026

Are you navigating the challenges of divorce or separation? This 6 week class offers a supportive space to process the emotions and thoughts that come with this life change. The class explores strategies for coping with grief, anger, and anxiety while also building self-compassion and resilience. Join a community to share experiences and find hope and strength together. Contact: Rev. Eric Kahl at Ekahl@ccpvb.org or Justin and Christina Udelhofen at DivorceSupport@ccpvb.org

Healing Prayer Ministry – beginning October 2025

Christ Church will offer healing prayer on the first Sunday of each month during the morning contemporary services and the 5:00pm contemplative service. Healing prayer is a sacred practice in the Episcopal tradition, rooted in the healing ministry of Jesus and embraced by the early Christians. If you are in need of physical, spiritual, or emotional healing for yourself or someone else, we invite you to come forward during the designated time of the service to receive prayer from a trained lay minister. If you are interested in joining this team contact: Emmie Chase at HealingPrayer@ccpvb.org

Intercessors

If you are need of prayer from afar, the Intercessors are a powerful network of parishioners who pray daily for the physical, emotional, and spiritual well-being of those who have requested their support. Contact: Deb Holton at Intercessors@ccpvb.org

Joyful Friends 75+

Are you a mature parishioner looking for opportunities for fellowship, to learn about new topics, and to receive a delicious free lunch? The Joyful Friends ministry is here to literally serve you! We meet 4 times a year and we can connect you with new and old friends in our church community. Contact: Lois Ann Bumgarner or Heather Fouts at JoyfulFriends@ccpvb.org

Journey with a Fellow Struggler: Living and Growing through Grief

This ministry is dedicated to supporting parents who are grieving the loss of a child. It provides a safe and understanding space for parents to share their grief, find hope, and connect with a parishioner who has also experienced the loss of a child. For more information, please contact Liz McCarthy at lmccarthy@ccpvb.org.

Lay Visitors

Could you use a “friendly face” to pay you a visit at home? The Lay Visitors are available to homebound members who desire anything from a warm conversation, help with a puzzle, or even to just share cup of tea/coffee. We are eager to spend some intentional time with you!

Contact: Valerie Gambino at

Visitors@ccpvb.org

Recovery

If you are seeking support as you or a family member struggles with addiction, please reach out to the Recovery Ministry. As

representatives of the recovery community (AA, Alanon, Alateen, and ACOA), we provide knowledgeable and considerate support to families navigating the challenges of addiction. We facilitate connections to treatment centers, qualified counselors, and dedicated peer support groups that prioritize compassion and effective recovery. All assistance is provided in strict confidence. Contact: The Rev. Deacon Priscilla Wodehouse at pdwodehouse@icloud.com

Sage Seniors – beginning

October 2025

A ministry for Christ Church Seniors 70+ to enjoy the benefits of technology, and for our youth to be able to share their technological skills intergenerationally. On the third Sunday of each month starting in October, we will have slots available for adults to request that two youth accompanied by an adult sign up and

come to their house to troubleshoot with and teach about technology at your home! Contact: Sergey Corey at SageSeniors@ccpvb.org

Savvy Job Hunters

Has the changing job market created obstacles for you in your job search? The Savvy Job Hunters Ministry strives to inspire hope and help the unemployed by offering free workshops that include employment subject-matter experts, job search presentations, networking opportunities and resources necessary to conduct an effective job search. Contact: Pam Ottesen at SavvyJobs@ccpvb.org

Soup for the Soul

If your daily struggles are making it hard to find time to get a hot home cooked meal on your table each night, the Soup for the Soul Ministry can help. This ministry makes soup in the church kitchen which can be shared with those seeking the comfort of a home cooked meal.

Contact: Maura Waller

Soup@ccpvb.org

Stephen Ministers

If you are feeling burdened or overwhelmed, the Stephen Ministry is here to help you. A Stephen Minister is a trained lay person who is always available for you in times of illness, grief, or crisis. In one-on-one meetings they will listen confidentially, offer resources as needed, and pray for you offering Christian love and support. Contact: Mary Ann Reynolds and Kathy Lowery at

StephenMinisters@ccpvb.org

Stitchers of Love

If you seek some tangible comfort during a time of grief or illness, the Stitchers of Love Ministry is ready to serve. Crafty parishioners create and distribute hand sewn, crocheted, or knitted items as tangible reminders of prayers prayed and love offered. Contact: Helen Tucker at

Stitchers@ccpvb.org

Transportation

If you need transportation assistance, please reach out to Beaches Dial A Ride for help with transportation needs (904-246-1477 x1). St. John's Council on Aging can also help with transportation as well as handyman needs. (904-209-3700)

Walking the Mourner's Path

If you have lost a loved one and seek support while you process the realities of your loss, the Walking the Mourner's Path program can help. It is a Christ centered bereavement and grief support program designed to transform your grief into joyful living by offering the outstretched hand of Christ during mourning. This group meets 90 minutes once per week for 8 weeks. Contact: Leila Quinlan at

Leila@ccpvb.org

Wedding Guild

If you plan to hold a wedding at Christ Church, our wedding coordinator can be at your service. Our wedding coordinator will work with church staff and clergy to make sure wedding day goes smoothly. Contact: Heather Fouts at

Weddings@ccpvb.org