



CHRIST AND THE EPIPHANY

VOLUME 25

November 2021



"This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine."

Dear Friends in Christ,

Do you remember singing this song when you were young while making hand motions, holding up your index finger to represent the light? I've always loved this song. I still do because it's got a timeless message for us in the church.

This year, our theme for our **Annual Pledge Campaign** is **"Shining our Light,"** and I can think of nothing more important for these days as our wider community and nation are in desperate need of healing and hope. This past year saw us living with isolation, fear, illness, and grief. As we emerge, we are still searching for what the new normal will become. But how can we search without light? How can our neighbors search without light?

Each of us is called individually and as a parish to let God's light shine through every part of our lives: our work, our worship, our service, our relationships, and our giving. We are called to be light bearers. It is indeed a powerful calling.

At Christ & The Epiphany, I have been very moved by the ways I've seen our parish be the light of Christ. Specifically, it is clear to me that one of the ways this parish shines Christ's light to the world is through our building. For example, while almost every parish in ECCT closed its doors during the pandemic, we kept them open explicitly for use by 12 Step Groups who needed the building as a healing and sustaining space. And we kept the building open for the Food Pantry so that our neighbors could be fed. What a witness to the love and light of our God this hospitality of our building continues to be!

Our building is a beacon of Christ's light in many other ways: through the Thrift Store and the hospitality of our parishioners who welcome shoppers, through our community events like Souperama Intl, the Harvest Fair, our Christmas Fair, and all of our worship services. And of course, each of these events is nothing without the welcome that every one of you offers as the light of Christ.

We want to be able to continue to bring Christ's light to the world, and we can't do this without your financial support. You already give much of your time and your talent! Now I ask you to

Upcoming Events

Every Sunday, 9:00 a.m., Sunday Service in-person and via Zoom

Every Sunday, 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m., Bible Study in Library (*except Sundays Nov 14 and 21*)

Sunday, November 7, 9:00 a.m., All Saint's Sunday

Tuesday, November 23, 7:00 p.m., Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service

Saturday, December 4, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., Christmas Fair

prayerfully reflect on the gifts you have been given and to consider how God is calling you to participate in keeping Christ's light shining in our lives and community. If you haven't given before, this is a good time to start. Even a small portion of your income is a gift to God. We will be mailing a Pledge Card in the next week.

I pray we will join together to give abundantly to bring light into our lives and the world around us. As the song says, "This little light of mine...hide it under a bushel tree... NO! I'm gonna let it shine!"

With gratitude for all of you,
Rev. Mary Anne



ALL SAINTS DAY is one of the principal feast days of our church year, the others being Christmas, Epiphany, Easter, and Pentecost.

Historically, the Church has confessed a belief in the "communion of the saints," which includes not only all living believers, but also all who have gone before us. When we celebrate Holy Communion, we experience the communion of saints, feasting with believers past, present and future. The author of Hebrews 12 reminds us that these saints, a "great cloud of witnesses," surround us and cheer us on.

YOUR PHOTOS NEEDED: On All Saints Day, we will remember and honor our loved ones who have died as part of our worship. We need your help to do this. Please call or email the names of those whom you'd like to remember in our prayers and please bring a photo (or photos) as visual reminders of our great cloud of witnesses.

Thrift Store Update

We have completed the seasonal switch from summer to winter clothing. Come checkout our Winter items and the seasonal Thanksgiving table. Also Carol is planning to continue Carol's Kitchen in the Thrift Store starting Nov 13th.



Christmas Fair!

The date of the Christmas Fair is Saturday December 4th. Our Fair organizer is the indomitable Carol Link-Ude. Please let her know if you can help out. And as usual all contributions such as baked goods, crafts, raffle baskets and homemade items are needed and appreciated.

We will once again be taking orders for holiday poinsettias which will be used as decoration at the Fair and then after the fair are for you to take home. Flowers cost \$12.00 and to order please either use the sign-up sheet in the Library or email Carol at cude@snet.net.



Yes, it's that time of year, to prayerfully consider who will lead our parish as a vestry member. Do you feel called to bring your love of God and your dedication to this parish into this role? Is there someone you think belongs in this ministry?

Regrettably, our Junior Warden Wendy Bellmore will be stepping down from the Vestry, so that position is open. Please bring your name or the name of another to Rev. Mary Anne or to one of the wardens.

Reminder - Available Bible Studies

We continue to have bible study in the Library after Coffee Hour on Sundays. The current topic is "The Parables of Jesus." No preparation is required. Note that there is no bible study on either Morning Prayer or Vestry Sundays.

Additionally, the multi-church Zoom bible study (hosted by Father Kevin Olds at Church of the Holy Spirit in West Haven) continues to meet Thursday nights from 7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Weekly link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87957853954?pwd=dm9yWlpFRjQ1Q3ZITC91RC9kRHd2dz09>



October Vestry Summary

Next Meeting - The next Vestry meeting will be Sunday, November 21st after the 9:00 a.m. service in the Library.

Priest-in-Charge - In some of the Bishop Listening sessions there was hope expressed for a bishop to focus on pastoral vs administrative responsibilities and who is concerned about parish development, especially in small parishes.

We will continue the after church bible study for now even though it is not heavily attended. Rev. Mary Anne will add a midweek Zoom book discussion during Advent.

Worship - On Nov 7 (All Saints) we will start using individual cups for communion wine. This year the Veteran's service will be at Old Stone.

2022 Vestry - Wendy will not run for Junior Warden in 2022. Time to start thinking about a Nominating Committee.

Around the Church

Halloween signs



Thrift Store Thanksgiving



Souparama October 24



Building Use - We need to consider investing in some infrastructure repairs on 47 Park Place. Wendy is researching if we should pursue creating a 501c(3) with the town for the Historic Society. Also waiting on the Historic Planning Architect review which is a required before you can apply for historic preservation grants.

East Haven United is looking at doing "takeout" options starting in Jan 2022.

Wendy completed the 5-year ServSafe certification.

Feast & Festivities - Consensus is that Coffee Hour is better in Upper Hall than Library (more distancing space). Research will be done about getting a cabinet in North Lounge for supplies as well as a better fridge.

Stewardship - To emphasize the missional importance of our building use, we hope to have two non-parishioners speak at a worship service about impact activities and meetings at the church have had on them.



November 4 - James Reynolds
 November 8 - Fred Walters
 November 9 - Carol Link-Ude
 November 10 - Ray Clearwater
 November 15 - Joyce Aurelius
 November 24 - Lucas Sundwall



ECCT South Central Region News

Convocation! Making Connections!

Do consider attending the free South Central Convocation on Saturday November 6th from 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. via Zoom. This is a great way to connect with our Episcopal neighbors and get involved in joint ministries.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sc-region-convocation-making-connections-do-small-things-with-great-love-tickets-180324464327>

Encouraging Words Audrey Sundwall

Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. - *1 Thessalonians 5:16-18*

Praise the Lord! O give thanks to the Lord for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever! - *Psalms 106:1*

Give thanks to the Lord, call upon his name; make known his deeds among the nations, proclaim that his name is exalted. - *Isaiah 12:4*

O come let us sing to the Lord; Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; Let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! - *Psalms 95:1-2*

Blessing of the Animals October 9



Episcopal Church in CT (ECCT)

Cathedral Music Video

Check out this magnificent music video of a composition written and played in our newly refurbished Hartford Cathedral:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/aggipg3f8k8e65z/Bridges%20F1NAL.mp4?dl=0#>

Bishop Search & Transition

Remember you can sign up for the Bishop Transition email newsletter and stay up to date with all search updates.

https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/1d41rLD/BTCeNews?source_id=ff679101-8fbf-43fd-8e36-4616c9d79a67&source_type=email&c=Urx82WXY_-l_lqEd6kS4saunCD1nTipXc6xAJaUY9DIVd-AGasaGJw==



Episcopal Peace Fellowship (EPF) Peacebuilding Online Project

The next monthly Zoom presentation will be on *Nonviolence and the New Story of Human Nature* on November 7 at 4:00 p.m.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/episcopal-peace-fellowship-peacebuilding-online-project-metta-center-tickets-154289599345?aff=erelexpmlt>

Baptism October 17



Let us welcome the newly baptized - Morgan!

The Episcopal Church

2020 Parochial Report Available

Check out some fascinating data about church attendance trends, the impact of COVID-19 and other metrics in the Episcopal church's 2020 Parochial Report!

Responses to the narrative questions were incorporated into an in-depth analysis - "The Church is Not a Building: Observations and Insights from Narrative Responses to the 2020 Parochial Report."

https://www.episcopalchurch.org/publicaffairs/episcopal-church-2020-parochial-report-data-now-available/?mc_cid=1d1e0161c4&mc_eid=93bfc08d12

Intercessory Prayers

Amanda, Andrew, Barbara Coulombe, Barbara R., Barbuschak Family, Beverly W., Brandon, Carol C., Carol Marra, Carol Ude, Charlie & Kris Langlan, Clearwater Family, Courtney, Craig, David, David C., David & Edward, David & Irene, Devin K., Diane,

Diane Link, Donna Hodge, Dot Tate, Doug, Ed, Eileen F., Elaine, Eleanor N., Faith, Father Eddie, Fran Zella, Francesca, Frank P., Frank, Fred & Judy Herzman, Fred Bowden, Gale, Geneva, Goodfellow Family, Greg T., Heather, Holly & Family, Ian, J.D., Jack K., Jack & Jan McDonald, Jacob, Jaime Aguayo, Jake Swanson, Officer James O'Donnell, Jared, Jay Medlyn, Jen & Tyler W., Jeremy Maldonado, Jesse, Jill, Jim C., Jim R. & Family, Joe Riccitelli, John A., John Guida, John M., John U., John & Vera DePalma, Joseph, Judy DeFeo, Julia, June W., Karen Dattilo & Family, Karl, Kathrine Burdick, Kate W., Katrina R., Ken, Leah S., Lisa H., Lucas Sundwall, Lynn Mead, Madeline, Mark Conti, Marcia Laroque, Marjorie Cowles, Martin Micheo, Marty, Matt, Matt R., Melissa D., Michael, Michelle C., Mitzi Parisi, Nancy S., Patty R., Paul Scungio, Rachael, Ray C., Ron C., Sallie Alexander, Stan R., Suzy Brown, Turiano Family, Wendy, Zach Schatz

To submit names for the Intercessory Prayers list please call or email the church office. Names will be kept on the list for three months unless longer time is requested.

Next issue

The deadline for the December issue is **November 24**. Submissions can be sent to newsletter.christandtheepiphany@gmail.com. For an update to the Intercessory Prayers, Birthday or Anniversary lists, please call the church office at 203-467-2310.

2021 Annual Convention

Barbara Coulombe & Astrid Swanson

On Saturday, October 23rd Astrid and I set up our computers side by side to take in the 237th Diocesan Convention as a team! We thoughtfully voted as we felt appropriate and shared our mutual concerns.

The Morning Prayer Service was filled with wonderful musical offerings of organ, Chamber music, liturgical dance, vocal solos and even Spanish guitars! All this took place in the sanctuary of our newly renovated Cathedral in Hartford. The new space was incredible to see- all open- and no pews!

Bishop Laura gave the sermon and shared the trauma of a terrible fall off her bike. She was thrown over the handlebars and suffered many bruises to her body and she needed stitches in her jaw. She said people all around reached out and offered to help her. She felt God's love in them. She said "*being* the Body of Christ is the greatest strengthener of the Body of Christ." Bishop Laura eventually healed enough so she could run a half marathon which took an hour longer than her usual time to finish the race. She received a medal which has printed on it "Run united". She said: "I need my community to run the race." Likewise, we all have a medal of the cross - our work is to witness to that love by sharing it with the world, and then we can build the beloved community God has called us to be.

Before Bishop Ian Douglas gave his report there was a wonderfully moving musical tribute honoring him which consisted of classic contemporary, bells from the belfry, and even the music of Reggae! Bishop Ian is retiring as of June 2022. Both Astrid and I were shocked to learn in the Bishop's report that out of 153 parishes in the state, only 57 have full-time priests!

Later, two congregations were accepted as Intentional Episcopal Communities in CT. They are The Chapel of All Saints in Cornwall and the Seabury Retirement Community.

The following Resolutions passed:

- #1- Budget of Convention
- #2- Clergy Compensation
- #3- Care for God's Creation and Creatures
- #4- Fostering Right Relationship/ Indigenous Episcopalians and Indigenous Neighbors
- #5- Sharing in the Work of Creating a Safe Church
- #6- Evangelism of and by Young Adults
- #7- Addressing Racism within Title IV Complaints and Processes

Bishop Ian's words at the close of Convention business were a powerful reminder of the work each of us is called to do in the world. "*God has had, and will continue to have, the Church that God needs to be about God's mission.*"

All ECCT Convention information including reports, resolutions, and the Bishop's address can be found here: <https://ecctconvention.org/>

"Wireless communication is nothing new, I've been praying for 75 years!"



Treasurer Report

Susan Shultz

	SEP	(UNDER)/OVER BUDGET	YTD	(UNDER)/OVER YTD BUDGET
INCOME	\$6,472.01	(\$455.49)	\$64,334.01	(\$173.49)
EXPENSES	\$8,096.89	(\$1,150.14)	\$76,821.04	(\$2,282.82)
NET	(\$1,624.88)	(\$694.65)	(\$12,487.03)	(\$2,109.33)

Notes: While overall we are near budget we have not been as “on target” within individual areas. Pledges and building use are under budget but Junk in the Trunk income and special gifts are over budget causing a wash effect.

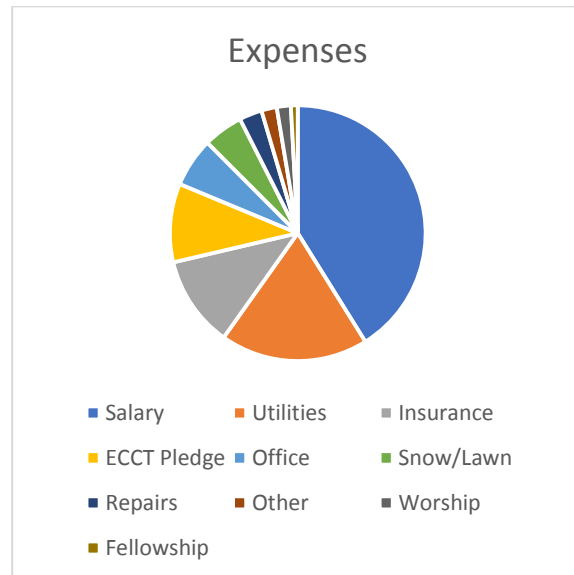
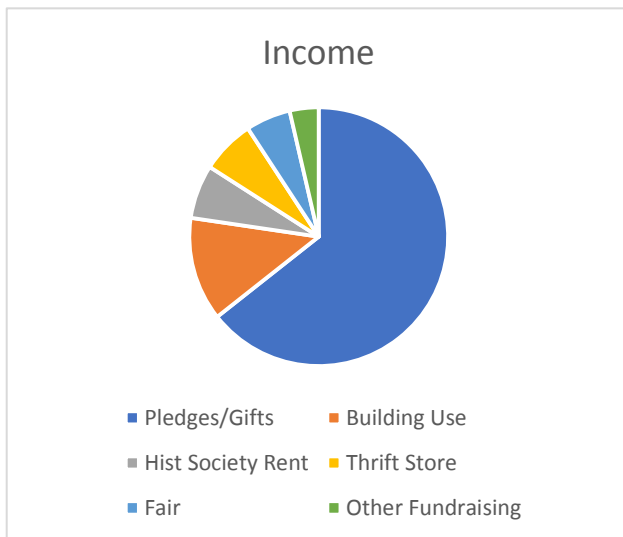
Our 2021 annual budget is about \$89,000 income and \$104,000 expenses. Here is a rough breakdown.

Income

Pledges/Gifts	64%
Building Use/Rent	13%
Hist Society Rent	7%
Thrift Store	7%
Fair	6%
Other	3%

Expenses

Salary	41%	Snow/Lawn	5%
Utilities	19%	Repairs	3%
Insurance	12%	Other	2%
ECCT Pledge	10%	Worship	1%
Office	6%	Fellowship	1%



From ECCT: A Prayer for the Election of our XVI Diocesan Bishop

God our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer, without you nothing can be done. Send your Holy Spirit to guide the Episcopal Church of CT, especially the Bishop Transition Committee, during this time of transition. Bless and continue the good work begun in your name. Open the committee’s ears to the hurts and hopes expressed to them and broaden our vision to see where you lead. Enliven their hearts with honesty and compassion to do the work that lies ahead, within our church and beyond its walls. Grant us the gifts of wisdom, humility, and empathy. Guide the committee as they discern your will for a new shepherd, inspirational leader, and willing advocate as we further your work in the Episcopal Church of CT. Bless and be with our Bishop Ian as he transitions to a new life serving you. Bless our candidates. Bestow them with the abilities to lead and serve. Let us learn from them and they from us, so we may live your word serving all. All this we pray through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God now and forever. *Amen.*

Parishioner Spotlight - Susan Shultz

Tell us about your immediate family and pets

I am married to Tom Shultz who I met at work back when I worked in an office. While only married in 2005, we have been together for 30 years. At the moment we are critter-less, having lost our last cat this past February. However, we are looking to get some new fur babies in the next month or so which will be a delight. I have two younger brothers (Boston and NC). Through Tom I have two stepchildren and six stepgrandchildren - all of whom live far away (San Diego CA and Germany).



What brought you to Christ and The Epiphany?

Although I spent time at C&E in my childhood when my mother was the office administrator, I only joined in 2009 when my parents and I left St. James Episcopal church in New Haven. We came as a “package deal” and were looking for a more inclusive spiritual family which we definitely have found here!

In what ways do you serve your church family or community?

I have sung in the Choir and been a Lay Reader since joining. After a few years as Clerk, I took on the Treasurer role when my dad wanted to retire from that position (although he still helps as bookkeeper!). Since the pandemic I have also been spending time working in the Thrift Store.

What is your occupation?

For 30 years I worked at Tickets.com providing software support to ticketing clients such as the Bushnell and Wolftrap as well as MLB teams like the Red Sox. Unfortunately, during the pandemic my position was eliminated. The good news is that I have just recently taken a similar position with a different ticketing company called SeatGeek. I continue to work from home and am now involved with clients around the world.

What’s your favorite pastime?

I love to read, watch movies (and a little too much TV), hear live music and travel. I sing with and serve on the board of the Greater New Haven Community Chorus.

What’s one thing about you that no one knows?

When I was young I was featured in the Joanne Fabric employee newsletter one month for counting all the bolts of fabric in the store (Mom was busy planning patterns for school clothes)!

What is your fondest childhood memory?

One Christmas my dad sneakily hid a live tape recorder in the middle of the presents. You can hear my brothers and I in the middle of the night discussing the different presents and trying to guess what was in them. I also enjoyed performing marionette shows with my mom at church functions and schools.

What brightens your day?

The unconditional love of a pet is extraordinarily special. I’m grateful I was able to spend 18 years with our two cats and look forward to adopting some new ones. And a really good chocolate truffle or cake will always make my day!

Do you have any favorite psalms, Bible passages, or inspirational sources?

Most of my favorite sources are songs as I find the combination of music and words to be incredibly uplifting and powerful. Two of my favorites are “Lord of the Dance” and “Hear I Am Lord”.

Worship Schedule (9:00 a.m.)

	<u>Nov 7</u>	<u>Nov 14</u>	<u>Nov 21</u>	<u>Nov 28</u>
Ushers	Melanie Miller Diane Villano	Pat Walters Mary Claire Peach-Keyes	Barbara Parsons Astrid Swanson	Audrey Sundwall Melanie Miller
Lay Reader	Richard Mead	Audrey Sundwall	Diane Villano	Gail Beck
Crucifer	George Coulombe	George Coulombe	George Coulombe	George Coulombe
Acolyte	Audrey Sundwall	George Coulombe	Audrey Sundwall	George Coulombe
Morning Prayer Officiant	n/a	Barbara Parsons	n/a	n/a
Lead Counter	Susan Shultz	Astrid Swanson	Pat Walters	George Coulombe
Asst Counter	Richard Mead	Fred Bowden	Mary Claire Peach-Keyes	Audrey Sundwall

Zoom Worship Connection Information

To connect by computer click:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7639094733?pwd=WkR1ZHBNYTNKWmJqM2NvTkRjZ09hdz09>

To join by phone call:

929-436-2866

Meeting ID = 763 909 4733

Password = 39

Weekly bulletins are emailed out on Fridays. Zoom is opened around 8:45 a.m. on Sunday.

Past sermons are available on the *Christ and The Epiphany* YouTube channel here:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChGs9WC8ug7syl9n0kHkRaA>.

If you are not receiving the email bulletin please contact Diane in the office at 203-467-2310 or christandtheepiphany@gmail.com.

If you want or need any help getting connected on Zoom please reach out any time to Susan Shultz at 860-669-1104 or sbshultz@gmail.com.

Christ and The Epiphany Church

39 Park Place

East Haven, CT 06512

Phone: 203-467-2310

E-mail: christandtheepiphany@gmail.com

Website: christandtheepiphany.org

Worship Schedule

Sunday 9:00 a.m. In-Person & Online Zoom Worship

In-person with masks and social distancing

(See the newsletter, our website, or Facebook page for

Zoom connection information details.

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