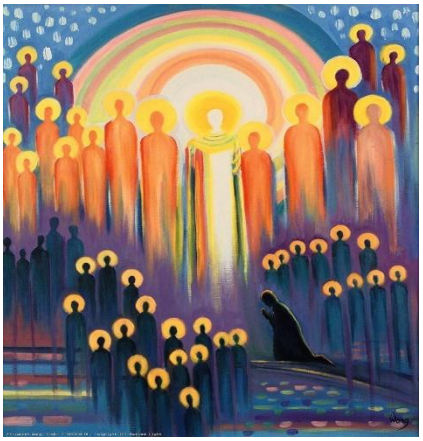
CHRIST AND THE EPIPHANY

VOLUME 30 November 2026



All Saints' Day

Father Phil Hooper Little, St. Anne Episcopal Church, OH

In the Christian tradition we have very particular name for following the long and twisting road towards love: we call it sainthood.

Sainthood, to be honest, has an unhelpful reputation. We too often associate it with the opposite of "real": plaster statues of seemingly perfect people, with their halos and their dreamlike gaze towards heaven. We might feel inspired by such figures, but we might also struggle to see how their seemingly exemplary lives bear any resemblance to our own imperfect ones.

But if you have ever felt that way, I have good news for you: the saints, even the most famous and revered ones, are far messier and more real than you might expect. If you have never done so, find a biography about one of them and read it. They struggled with doubts, despair, health conditions, and war. They fought with their colleagues. They ended up in prison and in exile. Some of them were beloved in their own time, many were not. In the end, the only thing consistently true about them is that they were dedicated to the vision of blessedness that Jesus elucidates in the Beatitudes: that God stands on the side of those who are vulnerable and trampled upon, that God does not forget those who pay the cost of caring deeply in a callous world.

God's mission in Christ is to make these things real and tangible, indeed, to make them inescapably present even as the forces of death and despair surround us—this is what we mean by the kingdom of God. And sainthood, far from being a holier-than-thou lifestyle choice, is simply what it looks like to participate as best we can in that kingdom, in the redemptive work of love in our lives, for as long as we can, until we burn, burn, burn brightly with the fearlessness, with the joy, with the reality of love. That is what a saint looks like. And, however imperfect our lives and our circumstances, that is what we have been invited into, from our baptism until now.

Worship Services

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

Tuesday Nov 24th, 7:00 p.m., Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service, in person and via Zoom

(Zoom connection information at the end of newsletter.)

Events

Wednesdays in Dec, 12:15 p.m., Ecumenical Advent Bible Study (see schedule for details)

And so this All Saints morning, we summon the memory of those whose stories have ended—those whom we love and see no longer and yet who are no less real simply because they are absent. We might say they are even more real now, blessed and at peace in the presence of the Living God.

Our beloved dead are so real now, that our limited senses cannot quite perceive them, except in our hearts - in those moments when we still feel the weight of our love for them, how it endures beyond all time.

Now here we find ourselves, beloved saints-in-progress, suspended on this November morning between life and death, between warmth and winter, between the promise of the future and the

tenderness of the past. Here we are, asking what is true and what is real and what is worth living and dying for, and knowing, in the end that the answer can only be love, that it can only be the name of love, which is Jesus.

Here we are longing for the Savior who will gather up our worn out bodies and call us blessed, who will make us whole and truly alive. Not perfect, plaster saints, but real ones: threadbare, wise, and full of grace.

Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service

This year's Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service will be held here Tuesday, November 24th at 7:00 p.m. Join us for this event in person or on Zoom and celebrate our community of faith. Pastor Lisanne Winslow of Old Stone Church will deliver the homily. Please consider donating baked goods for the reception in the Upper Hall following the service.

Advent Bible Study

Once again there will be an ecumenical bible study on <u>Wednesdays at 12:15 p.m.</u> during Advent. Come join us!

- December 2nd – Old Stone Church – Mark 1:1-8
- December 9th – Christ and The Epiphany Church – John 1:6-8, 19-28
- December 16th – St. Vincent's Church – Luke 1:26-38
- December 23rd – Old Stone Church – John 21:19b-24

Around the Church

Blessing of the Animals
Sunday Oct 4, 2026







Our first bird!



Christmas Fair

Mark your calendar for our annual Christmas Fair on **Saturday, December 5!**

This is the busy month when Fair preparation moves into full swing.

<u>How can you help?</u>

- Gather Gift Cards and Gift certificates from our local vendors for our lottery trees and give them to Kathy & Ken Dougherty.
- Make goodies for our bake sale and candy tables. Bring these to the church the week before the Fair.
- Continue to sew, knit, craft, etc. to provide items for our hand-crafts tables.
- Save bags (with handles)
- **Note something new this year!** We are going to offer gift wrapping service and would greatly appreciate donations of wrapping paper, tissue, ribbon, bows, gift bags, etc.
- And lastly, come work the day of the fair itself as we are down a few people so bring a friend!

Please let Fair chairperson Kristina Langlan know how you can help!

Blessing of the Animals

On the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, Rev. Charles blessed close to forty pets, mostly dogs in person, and cats in photos. We also welcomed our very first bird! We collected an actual cars-worth of food, toys, and treat donations and more than $100 in cash for the East Haven Animal Shelter.

Christian Tradition - Happy New Year

On the first Sunday of Advent we begin a new year and move to Liturgical Year B for the Sunday readings. This year (B) focuses on the Gospel of Mark, the earliest Gospel. As Daniel J. Harrington puts it - Mark "has a stark and challenging portrait of Jesus' public ministry, that leads into a dramatic account of his passion and death. He presents Jesus as a wise teacher and a powerful and compassionate healer. But he also insists that this Jesus can be properly understood only when we confront the mystery of the cross and Jesus' identity as a suffering Messiah."

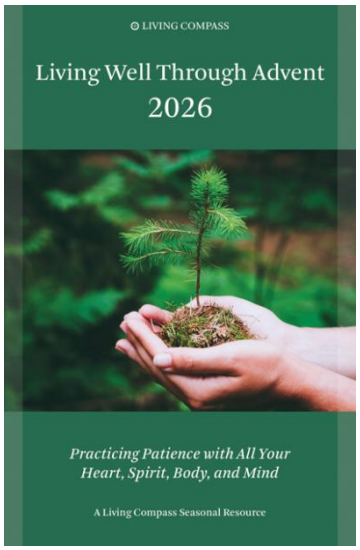
ECCT South Central Region Conversation

Following a joyful Regional gathering in October, the South Central Region is invited to continue the conversation!

Join us as we explore how we might deepen relationships among our parishes, strengthen connections across the Region, and imagine opportunities to gather again this spring.

On Zoom -Tuesday, November 17 at 6:30 p.m. Register for the conversation here: https://episcopalct.zoom.us/meeting/register/lcZC_obOTROJ3BucDG8qdQ

(*After registering you will receive the meeting link.)*



Living Well Through Advent 2026

The 2026 *Living Well Through Advent* devotional booklets from Living Compass are available in the thrift store, on the stair landings, and in the Narthex. This year's theme is **practicing patience with all your heart, spirit, body, and mind**. The booklet is also available in digital format and as a PDF document at livingcompass.org/Advent. Sadly, due to raising printing and shipping costs, it is no longer available in Spanish and this is the last Advent booklet that will be printed.



November 4 – James Reynolds
November 8 – Fred Walters
November 9 – Carol Link-Ude
November 10 – Ray Clearwater
November 11 – Anthony Reckart
November 13 – Andrew Osmun
November 24 – Lucas Sundwall
November 30 – Stephen Juhasz

Stewardship Month

November is stewardship month! As we begin planning C&E's 2027 budget, we invite everyone to reflect on the many ways we support our parish. As a small church community every contribution, large or small, makes a meaningful difference in sustaining our mission, caring for our buildings and serving our neighbors. Please look for a letter and pledge form from your Treasurer in November. We ask that you prayerfully consider how you can help C&E continue to thrive in the coming year.

Vestry

Next Meeting – The next Vestry meeting will be Sunday, November 15th after the 9:00 a.m. service in the library and via Zoom.

Senior Warden – Held the Blessing of the Animals and led a successful pop-up potholder creation event at coffee hour. Working on the Ecumenical Advent Bible Study.

Building & Grounds – Brad Conant, Steve Bowden & Michael Bowden cut down two large trees from the North side of 47 Park Place saving us $2,600. I am so grateful for our volunteers who give their time and talent for our benefit.

Steve Bowden is doing some much needed painting on the garage and 47 Park Place's back porch. We are hoping to get the house fully painted in the Spring.

Treasurer – The draft 2025 audit has been returned and is being reviewed. The Q2 contribution statements were sent out. Next up is to prepare next year's budget.

Hospitality & Fund Raising – We are all-hands on deck preparing for the Christmas Fair and Thanksgiving service reception. Everyone's help is needed! Carol Link-Ude has stepped back from her *Carol's Kitchen* so we are looking to see if there are any canners who want to rent a table at the Fair. Also Carol has transitioned the poinsettias to Kristina Langlan.

Thrift Store – The seasonal changeover to winter inventory went very well although still a lot of work! A number of cookbooks and hobby books were donated to the Branford library. The store is bursting at the seams so a small section of the chapel has been set up for storage space (separated by a divider).

Encouraging Words

Audrey Sundwall

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures for ever.
---1 Chronicles 16:34

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.
---Psalm 95:1-4

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

Know that the Lord is God! It is he that has made us, and we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him, bless his name.
---Psalm 100:3-4

A Prayer for Thanksgiving Day

Edward Hays

Lord God,
Our hearts are crowded with gratitude as we celebrate the feast of Thanksgiving. We have come to this our feasting table with great joy and eagerness, for we are truly grateful to you, our God, for all that we have been given.

We pause now and, in silent prayer, do thank you for the great generosity of Your gifts. We also thank one another for gifts -especially for the gifts of love and affection that we have freely shared.

We are thankful for all who are present at this our feast as well as for all those who have labored in love in order to bring this dinner to our table.

May You, our God, bless this Thanksgiving feast and all of us who shall share it

in your holy name. Amen.

Intercessory Prayers

Aiden & the Guida Family, Alexis, Amanda, Amy, Andrew, Audrey Sundwall, Barbuschak Family, Beth Flynn, Brandon, Carm, Carol Ude, Cathy Topping, Charlie & Kris Langlan, Chris, Dana, David & Irene, Dawn, Diana, Diane Link, Debbie, Debbie Potrepka, Donna Hodge & Family, Dot Logan, Ed, Elaine, Elizabeth Mary Lalor, Erick Villano, Family in Ukraine, Francesca, Gail & Marnie, Geneva O'Donnell, Hal Levi, Holly Chickos, Holly, James Mancini, Jim R. & Family, Joan Shaffner, John & Nate & Typer McDonald, Judy C., Judy Herzman, Kathy, Kathy Guida, Kira, Korey Mollor, Kris, Larry L., Lauren, Levi-Verderame Family, Lucas Sundwall, Matt R., Maureen McPherson, Michael McPherson, Mike, Mila, Minogue Family, Fr. Moses Aderibole, Nicole C., Pat Walters, Paul Pera, Rachael, Regina Schwall, Richard, Richard Testa, Sallie Alexander, Sam W., Saylen Wilson, Tricia Clearwater, Turiano Family, Vinny

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.



ECCT 242 Annual Convention Report

Anthony Reckart & Diane Villano

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and the prayers. -- Acts 2:42

Anthony Reckart and Diane Villano (your elected delegates), and Rev. Charles Kamano attended the Episcopal Church in Connecticut's 2026 annual convention October 23 and 24 at the Bristol Event Center. A first-time delegate, Anthony commented: what stood out to him was the breadth of experience and knowledge everyone brought to each debate. It shows how much each and every person in the room was invested in the conversation and the future of our diocese.

All nine resolutions passed, some with extensive use of Robert's Rules of Order. One of the most intriguing resolution proposed the Establishment of a Diocesan Clean Energy Task Force, building on a resolution passed at the 83 rd General Convention of The Episcopal Church "calling on all congregations to achieve net zero emissions by 2030." The most thoroughly examined was Resolution 7, Standing in Solidarity with Palestine. The finalized resolutions will be posted soon to ECCT's website at episcopalct.org.

Diane was able to attend the (sold out) inaugural Bishops' Dinner on Friday night. It celebrated the conclusion of the Joining Jesus in the Missional Age initiative and began a new tradition of giving awards. St. Luke's Steel Drum Band and Liturgical Dancers of New Haven were presented with the ***Growing in Faith*** award. The ***Living in Hope*** award was given to St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Mystic and Mr. Duo Dickinson was given the ***Serving in Love*** award. The Rt. Rev. Ian T. Douglas was presented with the ***2026 Bishops' Dinner*** award.

Rt. Rev. Jeffrey W. Mello's address from the Convention's Saturday morning Eucharist is now available on YouTube: *2026 Bishops Address from the 242nd Annual Convention of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut*. His theme was "So, friends, let's get out of the boat, and let's try walking on water!"



SAFE CHURCH TRAINING SCHEDULE

Safe Church Certification is a requirement of The Episcopal Church for persons serving in various roles/areas. Comprehensive trainings take about five hours to complete and are done once. Recertification training is done every three years after the comprehensive training is completed.

Nov 7, 9:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m. – Comprehensive via In Person at Christ Church, Norwalk
Nov 15, 1:00 p.m.- 4:00 p.m. – Recertification via Zoom

Register online at https://www.episcopalct.org/safe-church/

ECCT 2025-2026 Prayer Cycle

EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN CONNECTICUT
PARTICIPATING IN GOD'S MISSION

November 1	**Parishes:** St. Paul's, Westbrook; Emmanuel, Weston; Christ & Holy Trinity, Westport **Additionally:** Persons employed by The Episcopal Church. For the Presiding Bishop & the President of the House of Deputies **Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America
November 8	**Parishes:** Trinity, Wethersfield; St. Paul's, Willimantic; St. Matthew's, Wilton **Additionally:** Military chaplains & all who serve this country **Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo
November 15	**Parishes:** St. Paul's, Windham; Grace Church, Windsor; St. James', Winsted **Additionally:** Ministries with older adults. For the Brotherhood of St. Andrew & the Daughters of the King **Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Iglesia Anglicana de Chile
November 22	**Parishes:** All Saints', Wolcott; St. Paul's, Woodbury; Grace, Yantic **Additionally:** Finance Committee & Property Working Group. For the Faith & Order Commission **Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Church of England
November 29	**Parishes:** Christ Church, Ansonia; St. Paul's Parish: St. Paul's Church with Christ Church Chapel, Bantam **Additionally:** Postulants & candidates for Holy Orders; the Commission on Ministry & its members **Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Anglican Church of Australia

Treasurer Report

Susan Shultz

	SEP	(UNDER)/OVER BUDGET	YTD	(UNDER)/OVER YTD BUDGET
INCOME	$ 8,275.46	($ 2,349.54)	$ 93,692.06	$ 7,522.06
EXPENSES	$ 8,772.87	($ 628.57)	$ 100,352.71	($ 5,317.02)
NET	($ 497.41)	($ 1,720.97)	($ 6,660.65)	$ $12,839.08

Notes: September was generally on track with our budget with a few minor differences mostly around timing. We did not make much progress on our deficit but we also didn't add to it. Pledges and Building Use were slightly down but are expected to catch up. As usual the Thrift Store beat the Sept budget projection. Groundskeeping was up because they hadn't been invoicing us. But overall nothing too concerning at this time.

Next Issue The deadline for the December issue is November 23rd. 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 or email christandtheepiphany@gmail.com.

Worship Schedule 9:00 a.m. (unless otherwise noted)

	November 1	November 8	November 15	November 22	November 24 Ecumenical	November 29
Service	Eucharist	Eucharist	Eucharist	Morning Prayer	Evening Prayer	Morning Prayer
Presider/ Officiant	Rev. Charles Kamano	Rev. Evelyn Wheeler	Rev. Charles Kamano	Anthony Reckart	Rev. Charles Kamano	Kristina langlan
Crucifer	Tricia O'Reilly	Kristina Langlan	George Coulombe			
Acolyte	Kristina Langlan	George Coulombe	Tricia O'Reilly			
Lay Reader	Wendy Bellmore	Brad Conant	Barbara Parsons	Terry Osmun		Pat Walters
Usher	Barbara Parsons	Diane Villano	Kristina Langlan	Pat Walters	Barbara Parsons & George Coulombe	Kathy & Ken Dougherty
Zoom Tech	Susan Shultz	Susan Shultz	Susan Shultz	Susan Shultz	Susan Shultz	Susan Shultz
Lead Counter	Susan Shultz	Astrid Swanson	George Coulombe	Pat Walters	George Coulombe	Astrid Swanson
Asst Counter	Pat Walters	Melanie Miller	Barbara Coulombe	Melanie Miller	Barbara Coulombe	Susan Shultz

Clergy, Vestry and Staff

Priest-in-charge	Rev. Charles L. Kamano
Senior Warden	Diane Villano (& Safe Church)
Junior Warden	Barbara Parsons (& Outreach)
Treasurer	Susan Shultz (& Technology)
Clerk	Isadora Wilkenfeld
Vestry Member	Ray Clearwater
Vestry Member	Astrid Swanson
Vestry Member	Pat Walters
Vestry Member	Brad Conant
Vestry Member	Beverly Yurgiewicz
Music Director	Barbara Coulombe
Parish Administrator	Diane Rowley
Worship Committee Chair	George Coulombe
Altar Guild Directress	Carol Link-Ude
Communications Chair	Audrey Sundwall
Hospitality Chair	Kristina Langlan

To connect by computer, enter: https://tinyurl.com/3kbvnbb4, or click on the link on our webpage: www.ChristandTheEpiphany.org
To join by phone call: 929-436-2866, Meeting ID = 993 303 0663, Password = **39**

Weekly bulletins are emailed out on Fridays. Zoom is opened around 8:45 a.m. on Sunday.
If you are not receiving the email bulletin, please contact Diane Rowley 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 203-589-1142 or sbshultz@gmail.com.

Christ and The Epiphany Church

39 Park Place
East Haven, CT 06512

Phone: 203-467-2310

Email: christandtheepiphany@gmail.com

Website: www.christandtheepiphany.org

Worship Schedule

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