



## Christ Episcopal Church

*Laurie Varley, Sunday School Director*

11 Park Street, P.O. Box 574  
Guilford, CT 06437-0574  
(203) 453-2279

**Sunday School e-mail:** [CEC.SundaySchool@snet.net](mailto:CEC.SundaySchool@snet.net)

**Website:** [www.ChristChurchGuilford.org](http://www.ChristChurchGuilford.org)

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/cecguilford/>

## Christ Church Sunday School and Faith Formation Information

Newcomers are welcome to attend Christ Episcopal anytime!

### **Infants – 3 years of age**

Nursery care is provided for infants through 3 years of age, each Sunday 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. The nursery is located downstairs. Our nursery care staff are Safe Church Trained.

### **Kindergarten – 5<sup>th</sup> grade**

Each Sunday, from 9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m., children meet with Laurie Varley, Sunday School Director, in the 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> grade classroom downstairs, for Chapel Time. We introduce the Bible story for that particular Sunday, have a group craft and share our Prayers and Praises. At 10:00 a.m., children go to their individual classrooms based on the grade they are in. At 10:35 a.m., children meet with Mark Sullivan, Christ Church Music Director, for music time. We practice and learn new songs which we often share with the parish during worship services. Children then join their parents at the Peace.

### **Middle School – 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade**

Page Pelphrey leads the Middle School Program. Her class meets upstairs, near the Parish Hall.

### **High School – 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade**

Graham Marsh, our seminarian, leads the High School class. This class meets downstairs.

Our faith formation program has numerous activities throughout the year such as: Vacation Bible School, Christmas Eve Pageant, mission opportunities, Good Shepherd Sunday skit, confirmation classes, acolytes and gathering donations for those in need.

# Children and Youth Faith Formation

## Infants – 3 years of age

- Nursery available every Sunday 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.
- Weekly music program with Church Music Director
- Participation in the Christmas pageant (Christmas Eve)
- Vacation Bible School (beginning pre-k one week each summer)

## Elementary – Pre-k/Kindergarten to 5<sup>th</sup> grade

- Chapel Time and Sunday School (meet weekly based on Sunday school calendar)
- Participation in the Christmas Eve pageant and Epiphany services
- Weekly music program with Church Music Director
- Yearly Haiti fundraisers to benefit St. Luke School and Church Matel (typically February)
- Vacation Bible School (one week each summer)
- Participation in the Acolyte program (beginning in 4<sup>th</sup> grade) – see below

## Middle School – 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grade

- Middle School Class (weekly based on Sunday school calendar)
- Participation in the Acolyte program
  - National Acolyte Festival Washington DC (~every three years on Columbus Day Weekend)
  - Carwash fundraiser (typically end of August)
- Decorated wreaths and hot chocolate sale (2<sup>nd</sup> Friday after Thanksgiving– tree lighting on the Green)
- Trip to Camp Incarnation, Essex, Connecticut (typically May daytrip or overnight)
- Spaghetti supper fundraiser (typically Sunday evening - end of April)
  - dessert baking in Sue's gourmet kitchen (Saturday prior)
- Participation in the Christmas Eve pageant, Epiphany and Tenebrae youth run services
- Teen gatherings (movies, games, etc.) - organized throughout the church school year
- Participation in **The Big Sleep-Out** – a program to raise awareness, activism, and funds through an overnight, supervised sleep-out on the Green. (Middle and High School age students) – Spring timeframe

## High School – 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade

- High School Class (weekly based on Sunday school calendar)
- Participation in the Acolyte program (see above)
- Youth Confirmation – annual/biennial for those nearly age 16 and older
  - Preparation includes:
    - meetings with the Rector, dinner with our Bishops, pilgrimage day or overnight to NYC (e.g. St. John the Divine, Nightwatch, Ground Zero, Cloisters)
- Participation in mission trips:
  - Dominican Republic (locally Christ Church organized, community supported)
    - Assist with VBS programs in DR (typically end of June)
  - Pilgrim Fellowship (Congregational Church organized, Christ Church supported)
    - Building projects in rural Eastern US region (typically spring break)
    - Urban mission trip (summer timeframe)

**On-going:** Christ Episcopal Church values the importance of outreach. We feel it is important for the kids to be in service to others and continually seek ways to serve communities both near and far.