



Mission Statement

The mission of Christ Episcopal Church, Somers Point is to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ.

We are a Christian Faith Community that seeks to develop a relationship with Jesus Christ, to worship him, and to love and serve in his name.

Our parish is part of the Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey and a member of the worldwide Anglican Communion.

About Us...

Christ Episcopal Church is located in the city of Somers Point, New Jersey. We currently have three services a week. A Wednesday healing service at 10:30 am which usually has an attendance of five people. A Saturday Evening service at 5:30 pm which usually has an attendance of about fifteen people. Our Sunday service is at 10:00 am and the usual attendance is approximately sixty people.





There are two buildings on the church property. The main building is comprised of the Sanctuary, with classrooms and meeting rooms underneath. There is a small Chapel adjacent to the Sanctuary. Beautiful stained-glass windows are featured throughout our church and chapel depicting the life of Jesus Christ and His Apostles. The converted mansion is connected by a breezeway, which houses our church office, rector's office, choir meeting room, and a large living room. Upstairs there is a conference room and a two-bedroom apartment. The apartment is currently occupied by our sexton. There is a large parish hall adjacent to the living room. The parish hall has a fully equipped kitchen and is used every Sunday for coffee hour after mass. The parish hall is also used as a meeting room and for other parish events.



The second building is the Rectory. It is located across the parking lot from the church. The Rectory has a living room with brick hearth fireplace, eat-in kitchen, dining room, three bedrooms, and two full bathrooms. There is also an attached one car garage.

The church has 52 pledging families. We are an active and living parish. Our Sunday service is celebrated with music from our wonderful choir, lead by our Director of Music, Doug Murdock.





The parish has an active chapter of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew. The chapter has 12 members. The chapter meets once a month for business and to set up outreach activities. There is also bible/faith study with the Rector. The Brotherhood currently supports multiple blood drives through the Red Cross, helps families with feeding their pets through Kibbles Korner and supports three local families at Christmas time with trees, gifts and a holiday meal. Throughout the year, the Brotherhood supports Adelaide's Place in Atlantic City which is a shelter for homeless mothers. Items that are distributed include toiletries, gift cards and other needs. The Brotherhood also hosts a coffee hour after mass on the fourth Sunday of the month.

The parish participates in the Grace Food Pantry. The pantry is located at Grace Lutheran Church across the street from Christ Church. The members of the parish donate food and money to the pantry and staff the pantry on Thursday mornings.



Memorial Hospital.

For the past two Christmas seasons, the parish has done Operation Bear Hug. The members of the parish donate new Teddy Bears to the project. Last year we gathered 130 bears. The youth of the parish label each bear with a tag and personal message. The parishioners then distribute the bears to folks that could use a little extra love. Last year, the bears went to Somers Place Assisted Living, United Methodist Communities at the Shore, Parishioners' homes, Adelaide's Place, the children of our "adopted families", and the Pediatric Unit of Shore

The parish has an active Alter Guild. There are seven members who work diligently to keep the altar and church prepared for services. They work extra hard during the Easter and Christmas season by decorating the church with flowers and extra candles.



The parish has two organized prayer groups. The Anglican Society of Mary which meet on the first Wednesday of the month at 9:45 am in the church. The Guild of All Souls meet on the second Wednesday of the month at 9:45 am in the church.

Each Sunday before mass, there is Sunday School for our younger children. There are currently three or four students each Sunday. There is also a youth forum held in the chapel for students from 6th grade and up. This is usually attended by ten students. Many of our youth also serve the church as Acolytes.



The church is the charter organization for Boy Scout Troop 55. The troop meets once a week in the basement of the church and is very active.

The parish hall is used by several twelve step groups during the week.



Our History

Beginning as a dream in the spring of 1961, a small group of Episcopalians led by Mrs. Thomas Daggett petitioned the Rt. Rev. Alfred I. Banyard, then Bishop of New Jersey, to establish a diocesan mission in Linwood or Somers Point. Following a canvass which produced a list of approximately fifty interested persons, Bishop Baynard directed the Archdeacon, the Ven, Samuel Steinmetz Jr. to work with the group and begin preparations for the organization of the mission. The group enthusiastically began to fulfill the canonical requirements by searching for a suitable property, led by Harold Appleyard, Thomas Daggett and Emerson Johnson.

The property finally acquired, was an old Tudor-style mansion on Shore Rd. in Somers Point, which had been vacant for many years and need a lot of work. Christ Church became a “house church” when a vicar was appointed by the Bishop and the Rev. Adolph W. Kahl took up residence in the apartment on the second floor of the mansion. The first service was held in the living room of the mansion on Christmas Eve of 1961.

Under the leadership of Rev. Kahl and his wife Marjorie, the church soon outgrew its worship space. In 1965, an addition on the north side of the mansion was completed and dedicated by Bishop Banyard. The mission became a parish in 1971. The addition became the parish hall when the new church building was constructed on the south side of the property in 1976.

In 1978, Canon Kahl retired and moved to Florida with his wife. He died in July of 1990 and was interred in a vault in the chapel, which has been dedicated to his memory. Upon his retirement, the Bishop of the Diocese, Bishop Van Duzer, appointed the Rev. Robert K. Thomas and interim until a new rector could be called. In March 1980, the Rev. Roger Hamilton was called from Christ Church, Woodbury New Jersey to become the second rector of Christ Church and served until 1999.

In 1999, the Rev. Geoffrey Collis came to Christ Church and served as interim rector until the Rev. Stephen Beatty was called from Warrensburg, Missouri in 2000 to be the next rector. Rev. Beatty served as rector until January 2008. Upon his leaving, the Rev. Douglas Eberly served as a supply priest until March 2008. On March 1, 2008, the Rev. Frederick Mill began serving as interim rector. In November of 2010, Rev. Justin Falciani became the rector of Christ Church. Easter Day of 2024 was Father Falciani's last service at Christ Church.



Our Community

Christ Church is located in Somers Point, Atlantic County, New Jersey. Somers Point is conveniently located just ninety minutes from Philadelphia and two hours from New York City. You can travel to Baltimore in about two hours and Washington, DC in three hours. We are located only eight miles from Atlantic City, just minutes



from the wonderful Atlantic Ocean beaches, and boardwalk of the well-known family resort of Ocean City.



Somers Point was founded in 1886 on the northern bank of the Great Egg Harbor River, when boating was a major local industry. The area continues to enjoy the benefits of a waterfront city with numerous docks for private boats, charters and commercial fishing. Local history includes many homes and settlements that date back to pre-revolution days when the British Navy and pirate ships sailed along the coast and into the bays.

Over the years, industry in the area has included ship building, glass works, farming, numerous family run business, wineries and Lenox China. Medicine also plays and import part in Somers Point today with Shore Memorial Hospital located just one mile from Christ Church. Many of the residents of Somers Point work in the casino industry in Atlantic City. Atlantic County also includes the FAA William J. Hughes Technical Center, our nation's premier air traffic R & D facility.



Education opportunities include excellent local public, parochial, and charter schools. The nearest high school, Mainland Regional, is located in Linwood which is not far from the church. Higher education is available at nearby Atlantic Cape Community College as well as the four-year Stockton University.

There are several churches of various denominations located in Somers Point. These include Lutheran, Methodist, Roman Catholic, and non-denominational community churches. Grace Lutheran is located across the street and St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church is located one mile south on Shore Rd.

Numerous civic organizations, senior citizen groups, Boy and Girl Scout Troops, a fine library, championship golf courses and many cultural, historical and recreational activities provide "big city amenities" without the big city hassle. Nearby Atlantic City offers a wide variety of entertainment, fine dining, and night life. The ethnically diverse population of Atlantic County is approximately 275,000 people. The community of Somers Point is comprised of approximately 10,400 people, but gets considerably larger in the summer.





One of Our Community members caught a nice fish!



Annual Somers Point Bayfest