

Church Conference 2025
Christ Church United Methodist



For Such a Time as This

November, 3rd 2025

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State of the Church 2025

Simplified Accountability Structure Invitation

Lay Leader Report

Leadership Team/Covenant Council Annual Report 2025

Your Covenant Council consists of twenty-one members plus Pastor Beth Rambikur. There are eleven ministry areas represented and ten members at large. We held committee meetings by zoom in January, February, March, April, July, August and September. Each meeting begins with a devotion and prayer. We then have committee reports as needed from Finance, Trustees, SPRC, Outdoor Ministries, and any others that have business to present.

We hosted three potlucks this year, along with Outdoor Ministries. Our first potluck was held on Frontier Sunday on February 23. We held the next one on May 25. The third potluck was held in conjunction with the Clothing Boutique open house on September 28. All three potlucks were well attended. Everyone enjoyed the time for fellowship.

In May we held an in person retreat in Social Hall where we developed a proposed mission statement and vision statement, along with a list of values. This was followed by three listening sessions in August where we received input from the congregation. Using that input, we have proposed the following statements to be submitted to the all church conference for approval.

Proposed Amended Vision Statement: To welcome and serve all with courage following Christ's example through compassion, fellowship, and our faith.

Proposed Amended Mission Statement: We are a welcoming, inclusive faith community where all are invited to grow in faith and participate in ministry to the world.

Proposed Amended Values: As a United Methodist Church, we value: Grace/Love, Welcoming, Joyful Praise, Service, Openness, Prayerfulness, Selflessness, Honesty, Acceptance, and Spirit Filled Discipleship.

Motto: People Caring for People

Statement of who we are:

As a congregation of the United Methodist Church, we follow in the footsteps of Christ by engaging in ministry through: Missions, Music, Education, Prayer, Fellowship, Worship and Acts of Service.

If these statements are approved, this is what will appear on our website and any advertising that we distribute.

Next year we have plans to explore the Simplified Accountable Structure. This would streamline the four administrative boards of Covenant Council, Finance, Trustees, and SPRC into a single board consisting of nine members. If approved, there will be a period of several months of learning about this structure and discerning it's fit for our congregation. The entire congregation will be invited to participate in this learning process. This new structure would not be adopted until after the learning process and a time of discernment by the congregation. It must be voted on by the congregation before it can be adopted.

Covenant Council members work to represent the congregation in planning for the future of Christ Church. We gladly accept your feedback and recommendations on what you would like to see for our church. We want to make sure that we live into our vision statement, mission statement, values, and motto. It takes everyone to help carry out the mission of the church.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula Jameson
Chair, Covenant Council

Membership Report for Church Conference Period October 7th, 2024 – November 3rd, 2025

Updated October 21st by Pastor Beth Rambikur

Membership of Christ Church United Methodist

- **Red names** are new members since last church conference. Tod= by transfer from other denomination, PF= profession of faith, Confirmation, TUMC= transfer from another United Methodist Church, RJ-rejoined.
- **Name** indicates second year removal list, if we do not hear back by call, email, or card by December 30th of 2025, these members will be removed from membership by action of the church conference on November 3rd.
- **Name** indicates people on the first-year removal list if we do not hear back by call, email, or card by December 30th of 2025, these members will be added to the second-year removal list for action in 2026.
- Name** are people who have moved and have not yet indicated what they want us to do with their membership.
- After the members we have listed those who have died.
- We have included those who have left the church by various means.
- At the end of the report are those people who are in relationship with Christ Church but are not included in our membership report: such as regular participants (we have many!), children and youth, and clergy.

Members

1. Rick Aaberg
2. Christina (Tina) Aaberg
3. Danial Abel
4. Janet Abel
5. Ellie Adams
6. Phyllis Allen
7. Linda Andersen
8. Linda Anthony
9. Andrew Ayres
10. Katie Ayers
11. Edith Bailey
12. Kathy Baish
13. Jacqueline Baldwin
14. Joseph Barkenbush
15. Mercedes (Peggy) Bartlett
16. Pierre Bashikire
17. Janet Bentley
18. Ric Biddlecome
19. Brad Biddlecome
20. Jane Bixler
21. John Blanchard^{nca}
22. Dorothy Boone
23. Doris Brown
24. Jamie Brown
25. Sharon Butler
26. Sara Jean Byers
27. Georgia Carmichael
28. Diana Cawelti
29. Jeff Clark
30. Lillian Cole
31. Tish Cox
32. Betty Crane-Rice
33. Ned Crary
34. Ruth Crary
35. Leanna Crosby
36. Carolyn "Boots" Cushing^{Tod}
37. Richard Dale
38. Jason Dale^{pf}
39. Peter Daniels
40. Michael Davis
41. Joe Delapast
42. Christa Downey
43. Dan Droski
44. Faye Droski
45. Bernice Edwards
46. Michael Edwards
47. Regina Edwards
48. James Entwistle
49. Louise Entwistle
50. Katherine Ferguson
51. Don Finch
52. Joanne Finch
53. Patricia Flanders
54. Mary Follet
55. James Force
56. Paul Ford
57. Kara Ford
58. Jane Furr
59. Serge Giboweiah
60. Helen Gilbert
61. Katherine Gilbert
62. Alice (Becky) Gooding
63. Christine Gorder
64. Ken Gray
65. Debra Haddock
66. Jane Carole Hammond
67. Don Harclerode
68. Cora Harkins
69. Frances Harper
70. Jeff Heath
71. John Hinton^{PF}
72. Jan Horton^{Tod}
73. Debbie Hoster
74. Richard Humphries
75. Kaden Hunter^{pf}
76. Leslie Hunter
77. Mary Beth Hunter
78. Joe Jameson
79. Paula Jameson
80. Gary Jay
81. Joandare Lovett-Jay
82. Dorothy Jensen
83. Marquita Jensen
84. Fred Jervis
85. Joan Jervis
86. Juan Jimenez^C
87. Edwin Jones
88. Elaine Jones
89. Linda Jones
90. Lynn (Ann) Kellison^{Tof}
91. Ronald Ray (Ron) Kellison^{Tod}
92. Carmen Kemery**
93. Hailey Kopac
94. Joyce Kunkel^{RJ}
95. Elizabeth Kuyper**
96. Don Laufenburger
97. Clarence Laughman
98. James Lear
99. Lisa Lear
100. Bernice Lenz
101. Beverly Lewis
102. Lillie Lingle
103. Gretchen Lofgren
104. Karl Lorenz
105. Sandra Lorenz
106. Kristal Lowe**
107. Freda McCabe
108. Bonnie McNeal
109. Ryan Mellgren
110. Bettina Mellgren
111. Thomas Messmore
112. Karen Messmore
113. Marie Metzler
114. Dean Miller
115. Kathryn Monier
116. Laura Monier

117. Bob Monier
 118. Barbara Morgan^{pf}
 119. Becky Moore
 120. Jack Moore
 121. Cynthia Moore
 122. Brian Murray**
 123. RosaLee Murray
 124. Ted Nanassy**
 125. John Neve
 126. Judy Obert
 127. Allen O'Dell
 128. Betsy O'Dell
 129. Tom O'Keefe ^{TUMC}
 130. Antonio Padilla
 131. Barbara Parkinson
 132. Henry Parra
 133. Sandra Parsons
 134. Barbara Perkins
 135. William (Bill) Polk
 136. Angela Powell
 137. Jo Ann Powell
 138. Cassandra Prescott
 139. Bob Ratledge
 140. Sherry Ratledge
 141. Kurt Reinke
 142. Cat Reinke
 143. Bob Rice
 144. Barbara Richardson
 145. Earlene Ridge
 146. Jabari Roberison^{pf}
 147. John Roberts
 148. Raynaldo Roman
 149. Lenora Rozelle
 150. Doris Russell
 151. Honey Sanchez
 152. Sandy Sargent
 153. Ralph H. Schild, Jr.
 ^{TUMC}
 154. Susan Schreiner
 155. Suzanne Shipley
 156. Tobin Sidles

157. Shawne Sidles
 158. Deanna Smith-Fagin
 159. Ed Smith-Fagin
 160. Patricia Spoonamore
 161. Harold Stites
 162. Sharon Stites
 163. Robert Stoebe
 164. Wally Suman ^{Tod}
 165. Carol Swango
 166. Daniel Swango
 167. Charles (Alan) Syers
 168. Janis Syers
 169. Claysue Tarley-Teah
 170. Donna Taylor
 171. John Tejada
 172. Michelle Tejada
 173. David Templin
 174. Beverly Thompson
 175. Don Thompson
 176. Robert Thompson
 177. Ron Thompson
 178. Carol Tilton
 179. Harold Tretbar
 180. Brian Trusty
 181. Renee Trusty
 182. Lynda Turrentine
 183. Rosemary Tweet
 184. Lyle Tweet
 185. Janet Ulery
 186. Robert Ursery
 187. Donald Van Horn
 188. Deanna Van Horn
 189. Pam Vondrak
 190. Terry Vondrak
 191. James Walker
 192. Donna Walker
 193. Iris Washburn
 194. Steve Washburn
 195. Don Waugaman
 196. Janet Waugaman
 197. Paul Waugaman

198. Dot Waugaman
 199. Alisa Weems
 200. Linda Weems
 201. Wendy West
 202. Mary Williams
 203. Rachel Williams
 204. Freida Wright
 205. Hui-Ling Yu (Helen)^{Tod}
 206. Marie Zoellner

New Members:

15

Those who have died: 8

1. Clarine Haslag
11/30/25
2. Evelyn Stevenson
1/11/25
3. Audrey Ricker 2/14/25
4. Sandy Padilla 4/16/25
5. Ned Adams 6/27/25
*not a member death
6. Joyce Seitz 7/19/25
7. Barbara Haller 8/10/25
8. Kay Hendricks 9/11/25

Transfers: 1

Cindy Rinehart FUMC

Moves: 0

Mistakes made in 2024: 2

Bob Christian – he was listed as a member and he is deceased
 Janet Tolman is a participant not a member

Clergy who hold membership in a conference:

Robert (Bob) Kuyper
 Joyce Thornton

Beth Rambikur
Ed Denham

Affiliate Members: 1

1. Valerie Hammons

Baptisms: 0

Confirmations: 1

Juan Jiminez 5/18/2025

Children/Youth

1. Vanessa (Ash) Edwards
2. Virginia Gilbert
3. Elizabeth Gilbert
4. Amelia George
5. Jet Carrillo
6. Sophia Pasquariello
7. Dylan Richardson Guyer
8. Emil (?)
9. Tira (?)
10. Matthew Morgan
11. Leah Morgan
12. Abigail Finch
13. Anabell Finch Yu
14. Eden Erskine
15. Lily Erskine
16. Tayla Foard
17. Jackson Clark (?)
18. Talia May Mellgren

Participants

1. Noella Amyot
2. Donna Ashley
3. Rosanna Borst
4. Enid Bos
5. Susan Brodhagen

6. Mary Kay Bush
7. Brian Carter
8. Linda Carter
9. Mary Chartos
10. Carolyn Davis
11. Dennis Bert
12. Jan Bert
13. Jane Denham
14. James Eggert
15. Roger Erikson
16. Chinwe Ezeakunne
17. Jesse Finch
18. Curtis Foster
19. Lillian Fox
20. Gregory Frey-Torres
21. Omaris Frey-Torres
22. Alex George
23. Stephanie Hartung
24. Susan Harwood
25. Tom Haslag
26. Christine Harper
27. Susie Hathaway
28. Cosie Hathway
29. Bev Herman
30. Janet Jirak/Garriock?
31. Howard Jarret
32. Victoria Lofgren
33. Karen Lucas
34. Kathy Martinez
35. Rudy Martinez
36. Meghan McGovern
37. Doris Meunier
38. Linda Midock
39. Julie Moffet
40. Concepcion Murray
41. Pamela Norman
42. Carol Norton
43. Tina Nusbaum

44. Claire Olsen
45. Adeola Oyewole
46. Jackie Pittman
47. Peggy Rambikur
48. Sinamar Respicio
49. Marie Roberts
50. Michael Salley
51. Susan Schild
52. Sue Schmelz
53. Shelley Shelton
54. Janice Slokum
55. Kathryn Snodgrass
56. Kenny Sonnah
57. Lynn Speight-Clark
58. Genie Stoker
59. David Stoker
60. Christian Teah
61. Mitch (Mitchel) Timinsky
62. Ann Thornes
63. Janet Tolman
64. Oksana Usachova
65. Susan Williams
66. Steven Williams
67. Claudia

**Removed by action of
Church Conference 2024**

1. Eric Moore
2. Ida (Ki) Moore
3. Louis Rojo
4. Jean Rojo
5. Paul Saul
6. Jim Wheelock
7. Martha Williams

Nominations Report 2025

Compiled by Pastor Beth Rambikur

Nothing happens in a church without God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. And God depends on those who say yes to create change in the world.

Reported below are:

- 1) Those we must thank for saying yes for a season to do the work they were called to do and now are experiencing a change of ministry, or position.
- 2) Those we must thank for saying yes to the upcoming season of leadership at Christ Church United Methodist.
- 3) Vacancies we have not yet filled for 2026 **highlighted in green** – if God is calling you to say “yes” to one of these let me know at pastor@ccumtucson.org or 520-327-1116
- 4) While we have reported openings every year for various leadership positions opening up in the next year – this year we are not publishing that list. Instead we will offer an overview of what we might be looking for if the church moves to a Simplified Accountability Structure for the ministry year of 2027. As the church prayerfully considers what this change might mean for us, we invite all of you to participate in our educational events and discernment. More information will be forthcoming soon.

We would like to thank the following people who have served faithfully in their various positions – we are who we are today because of their leadership and service:

Kara Ford – Church Lay Leader and Lay Member to
Annual Conference
Michael Edwards – Missions Chair, Lay Member to
Annual Conference, nominations, and SPRC
member
Paul Waugaman – Chair of Trustees
Cora Harkins – Covenant Council
Tobin Sidles – Covenant Council
Debra Haddock – Covenant Council
Susan Schreiner – Covenant Council

Janet Waugaman – Trustees
Gary Jay – Trustees
Lynda Turrentine – Trustees
Bob Kuyper – Finance
Ron Thompson – Finance
Jim Entwistle – Finance
Ruth Crary – SPRC
Bob Ursery – SPRC
Georgia Carmichael - Nominations

Church Wide Leadership

Lay Leader: Marie Zoellner
Annual Conference Representative: Marie Zoellner
Annual Conference Second Representative: TBD
Treasurer: Carol Swango
Recording Secretary: Paula Jameson

Leadership Team/Covenant Council

This body meets about 7 times a year on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm. They oversee the big picture ministry of the church, dream what can come next, and hold the church leadership accountable to the vision and mission of the church in all that they do.

Chair Person: Paula Jameson

Lay Leader: Marie Zoellner¹
 Trustees Chair: TBD
 Finance Chair: Suzanne Shipley
 Staff Parish Chair: Kara Ford
 Missions Chair: TBD
 Worship Representative: Terry Vondrak
 Memorial Garden Rep: Gretchen Lofgren

Stephen Ministry Rep: Shawne Sidles
 United Women in Faith President:
 Debbie Hoster
 Treasurer: Carol Swango
 Outdoor/family ministries rep:
 Karen Messmore

Members at Large

2026: Peggy Bartlett	2027: Rick Aaberg	2028: Jane Furr
2026: Wendy West	2027: Iris Washburn	2028: Gary Jay
2027: Freda McCabe	2027: Don Waugaman	2028: Don Finch

Trustees

This team oversees the assets of the church, primarily the church campus. They deal with repairs, maintenance, and improvement of the campus. **They meet regularly on the first Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm.**

2026: _____	2027: Joanne Finch	2028: Michael Edwards
2026: Paul Waugaman ²	2027: David Templin	2028: Juan Jimenez
2026: Bob Stoebe	2027: Tom Haslag	2028: _____

Finance

Numbers tell a story and the finance team makes sure that Christ Church's numbers match up with our vision and mission. They meet at least 6 times a year on the third Tuesday of the Month at 6:30. Not listed below are SPRC representative, Lay Leader, Church Council Rep, Trustees Rep, Treasurer and Financial Secretary who are also on this committee.

Chair: Suzanne Shipley (27)	2027: Les Hunter	2028: Janet Waugaman
2026: Paul Ford	2027: Gretchen Lofgren	2028: Ruth Crary
2026: Joe Barkenbush	2027: _____	2028: Rachel Williams
2026: Dick Lear (28)		

Staff Parish Relations (SPRC)

This is the humans relations committee of the church helping to care for our staff while also providing oversight and support.

Chair: Kara Ford (26)	2027: Karen Messmore	2028: Tobin Sidles
2026: Michelle Tejada	2027: Dan Swango	2028: Cora Harkins
2026: Jinda Jones	2027: Dorothy Boone	2028: Laura Monier

¹ Sits on all committees, but is not listed in each category in this report

² Is serving as the SAS liaison to Trustees to help facilitate possible transition.

Missions

This committee is made up primarily of our leaders of various missions and would very much like to see broader representation of the church present at the table to discuss long term strategic vision around our ongoing mission projects.

Chair: TBD

Asylum Ministry Rep: TBD

Clothing Boutique Rep: Judy Obert

Food Bank Rep: Katherine Gilbert

Co-Chair Food bank: Martha Davis

Food for life: Marie Zoellner

Good Samaritan Ministries: Michael Edwards

Primavera: Don Waugaman

Member at large Cassandra Prescott

At Large

2027: Beth Hunter

2027: Pam Vondrak

2027: Ellie Adams

2028: Deb Haddock

2028: Lynne Speight-Clark

2028: Joandare Jay

Nominations Committee

Chair: Pastor Beth Rambikur

Lay Leader: Marie Zoellner

SPRC Chair: Kara Ford

Chair of Covenant Council: Paula Jameson

Member at large: Don Finch (26)

Member at large: Linda Jones (27)

Member at large: Sharon Stites (28)

Member at large: Rosalee Murray (28)

The following are groups and teams that operate within the church (We did not list missions groups or fellowship groups). These are not elected groups but there are always needs for people to serve here. If you would like to participate with this group please contact the leader!

Outdoor/Family Ministry: Contact Karen Messmore at Kmessmore@aol.com

Rick and Tina Aaberg, Janet and Don Waugaman, Karen and Tom Messmore

Kitchen Committee: Contact Karen Messmore at Kmessmore@aol.com

Earlene Ridge, Beth Hunter, Karen Messmore, Carol Swango

Memorial Prayer Garden Trustees: contact Gretchen Lofgren at

glofgren22@gmail.com

Gretchen Lofgren and Ron Thompson

Memorials and Gifts: Contact Kathy Ferguson at katharinef1941@gmail.com

Kathy Ferguson and Betty Rice

Worship Team: Contact Tom Haslag at thaslag@cox.net

Needed: Ushers, power point builders, slide operators, communion supplies stewards,

and people who can help set up and take down paraments and banners.

Golf Cart Team: Contact Paula Jameson at pjames50@outlook.com Ron Thompson, Tom Haslag, Tobin Sidles, Roger Erikson, Rick Aaberg, John Tejada, Don Waugaman, and Michael Edwards, Henry Parra, Ray Ramon

Staff

(are listed for your information as they interact with several of our committees)

Pastor: Beth Rambikur
Administrator/Financial Secretary: Candi Eppley
Facilities Manager: Ron Thompson
Custodian: Pierre Bashikire
Choir Director: Sinamar Respicio
Bell Choir Director: John Neve
Organist/Pianist/Accompanist : Janet Tolmen
Communications: Mary Beth Buttler

Staff Parish Relations Committee Annual Report 2025

The Staff-Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) meets quarterly via Zoom. This year, the SPRC aimed to redistribute some annual tasks earlier in the year to alleviate the workload for Pastor Beth and Candi in the last quarter. This goal was achieved by completing staff evaluations and the SPRC budget in the third quarter. Additionally, we have completed and submitted the SPRC Appointment Preference Form to the conference and have requested that we retain Pastor Beth.

We are delighted to report there have been no staff changes this year. The SPRC wishes to acknowledge with heartfelt gratitude all our wonderful staff members at Christ Church. Their daily contributions are vital to how we function and the ministries we do. We are so fortunate to have such a dedicated team of employees.

To help foster a culture of staff celebration, I want to point out that our eight staff members have a combined 80 years of service to Christ Church. In September, we celebrated Candi Eppley's 10-year anniversary as our Financial Secretary and Office Administrator. And in three short years we have two staff members, John Neve and Pierre Bashikire, who will both be celebrating 20 years with us. So mark your calendars Christ Church, we've got a lot to celebrate between now and then!

Submitted by Kara Ford, Staff Parish Relations Chair

Shared Youth Ministry

Finance Committee Annual Report 2025

The finance committee meets monthly via Zoom on the third Tuesday of the month, except for a brief respite in the summer months of June and July. The committee enjoys a good blend of experienced and new members and exhibits a firm hold on the concepts reviewed below.

Book-ended by an opening devotional and closing prayer every meeting, the committee examines a Profit and Loss Statement and a Balance Sheet for important trends. In this way we are able to step in and adjust for any unseen consequences or undesired outcomes, such as running over budget. Ron Thompson updates us regularly on maintenance and repairs of our facilities and grounds and we have recently added a quarterly review of our investment results for endowed funds.

Our two additional significant tasks are the approval of the annual budget and facilitation of the stewardship campaign by providing guidance to Pastor Beth. We also keep track of the annual audit, occurring in late September of 2025 to ascertain that all records are kept in accordance with GAAP, Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.

We have been gratified this year to see pledged giving hold steady and total expenses not exceed budgeted amounts. The August year to date financial statement is included as a supplement to this report.

Last year's unexpected equipment and building repairs have not been repeated, and some adjustments to insurance pay-outs from the previous year have been realized. We are also grateful for the Desert Southwest Conference's intercession in finding new and more affordable insurance for the churches in this conference.

Respectfully submitted by Suzanne Shipley, Finance Committee Chair.

Report of the Board of Trustees

The Methodist Book of Discipline sets out the mission of the Board of Trustees as follows:

"The Board of Trustees of [Christ Church United Methodist (CCUM)] exists to oversee the tangible assets of [CCUM] in the furtherance of the missions and objectives of [CCUM] as set out by the various governing bodies of the [CCUM] congregation.

Tangible assets include real and personal property including buildings and grounds and such assets as furniture, vehicles, and books and records associated the ministries and operations of [CCUM]."

Annual Mission Reports 2025

These reports represent those missions who submitted a publication. Additionally Helping Hands and Women at the Well provide many forms of support to the congregation and community, impacting hundreds of lives across the year. And our outreach to Primavera and our Food For Life Ministry help feed people across Arizona.

Christ Church Community Food Bank

The CCUM Food Bank is a partner agency for the Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona and the Arizona Diaper Bank. What makes our Food Bank unique is that in addition to food, we also offer personal hygiene items, diapers, and pet food. Clients tell us over and over the reason why they choose to visit our Food Bank is because of the variety of food and additional items they can get compared to other food bank locations. The variety of food and hygiene items our clients appreciate so much is largely due to the generous donations made by members of CCUM.

This year Christ Church helped us double the number of families we are serving through the diaper bank and period supplies. We hope that the church can help us continue to provide these essential resources.

Sometimes we serve as many as 50 families a day. This year we have served more than 5,000 families, a substantial increase over last year. We cannot provide this level of service to our community without the support of CCUM member donations and volunteers. Thank you CCUM for your contributions to the Food Bank. It makes a difference!

Katherine Gilbert

Food for life

This is a program that brings nutritious, home-cooked meals made and delivered to home-bound clients each week. This program also includes emergency meals and weekly group meals served at SAAF. Christ Church provides the desserts for these meals. I am grateful to Marie Zoellner who has offered to take over coordinating this ministry in 2026. This year, more than 20 people provided desserts 6 times a year for the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation. Each time the AZ AIDS Foundation picked up the desserts, there were more desserts than I expected—truly a miracle!

Dot Waugaman

The Clothing Boutique



The Clothing Boutique at Christ Church United Methodist started in 2009 as a lay initiated outreach ministry. It continues to play an important role in this community providing free, clean, gently used clothing to young families, the unhoused, the marginalized, those seeking work related/job interview clothing, the elderly, and those who choose to reuse/repurpose.

This year we have had 2,436 shoppers (710 increase) who have shopped for 5,836 family members (1,387 increase). Most importantly, our first time shoppers increased to 326. We are open Tuesday and Wednesday mornings from 9:30-11:30. There are 11

weekly volunteers. We feel it's a honor and privilege to serve our community in this outreach mission.



Thanks to the compassion and continued support of this congregation, our shoppers can "dress with dignity". Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Obert

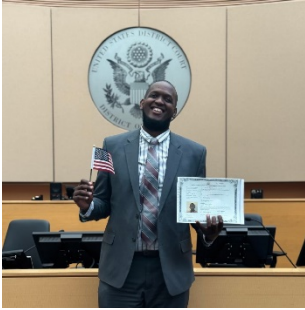
CCUM Asylum Mission Report

October 2024—September 2025

We are pleased to be asked to highlight the accomplishments of the Asylum Mission during the past year. We are proud of what we have been able to accomplish this year, especially since we only have two active volunteers, one of whom, Ann Brittain, has been coping with a serious illness since April, and we are pleasantly surprised to find that we are willing and able to continue for another year.*

In addition, we have had excellent assistance in our work from a number of people who previously received help from the Asylum Mission and now want to help others, but they do not wish to be mentioned by name. Many others have helped us as needed, particularly by providing translation and interpreter services and helping others fill out forms. We keep in touch with the volunteers and the people we have previously helped through our WhatsApp group, which is aptly named "CCUM Asylum Mission Family." We all consider ourselves to part of the immigrant family founded by Berta Riley when she started the Asylum Mission almost a quarter century ago.

This year we have helped 146 people (most of whom are from Africa and are currently seeking asylum in the US or have already been granted asylum) with various immigration matters, including asylum applications, work permits, family reunification applications, green card applications, and citizenship applications, and we have helped them find answers to thousands of questions.



Ann Brittain and Marcia Rotunda
October 14, 2025

One of our asylees receiving citizenship, August 2025. We helped him apply for asylum in 2017.

*** HOWEVER, WE URGENTLY NEED NEW VOLUNTEERS, ESPECIALLY PEOPLE WITH COMPUTER SKILLS, IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT THE ASYLUM MISSION CAN CONTINUE IN THE LONGER TERM. IT IS A MUCH-NEEDED RESOURCE TO PROVIDE HELP THAT IS NOT AVAILABLE FROM ANY OTHER PROVIDERS.**

Good Samaritan Group (GSG)

Luke says:

“But a Samaritan while traveling came upon him, and when he saw him he was moved with compassion. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, treating them with oil and wine. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, ‘Take care of him, and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.’ Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?” He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”” Figuratively, “Good Samaritans” are persons who go out of their way to perform acts of kindness to others, especially strangers!

The Blessing Bag Ministry started several years ago as a part of the Stephen Ministry to help provide needed items and water to the homeless community around Tucson, Arizona! Initially donations were obtained from the congregation. The Blessing bags were assembled and distributed to homeless individuals in our community. Seeing a need for additional help due to an increase in homelessness in Tucson it was restarted in 2021 as a separate Ministry, and was expanded to help support other areas to help the homeless.

As an example, in 2023 we donated Thumb drives to the Gospel Rescue Mission so that individuals seeking to find jobs and eliminate their homeless situation can store their resumes and edit them.

We had a group of members donate some Bibles to the Gospel Rescue Mission.

The Good Samaritan Group continues to receive overwhelming support from the congregation and clergy of Christ Church.

Graciously Submitted,
Michael Edwards
Chair - GSG

United Women in Faith Annual Report 2025

(formerly United Methodist Women)

In February we gave \$200 to CCUM Food Bank, \$100 EACH to CCUM Blessing bag project, to TMM Family Services and to the Tucson Community Food Bank. We also gave \$250 to the Diaper bank. In March and September we assembled Blessing Bags and several of us gave them to the homeless. UWIF continue to meet monthly on the second Wednesday at 10:30 in the Social Hall or out in the community for lunch. All are welcome!

Debbie Hoster
UWIF President

Stephen Ministry Annual Report 2025

Bear one another's burdens, and in this way, you will fulfill the law of Christ.
-Galatians 6:2

MISSION STATEMENT

Christ caring for people through people

Stephen Ministry in 2025

God's vision for our Stephen Ministry is starting to materialize, and it doesn't look much like the past. Change takes time to get used to, but we have stumbled through, nevertheless.

Many in our Stephen Ministry Team have experienced the loss of a close family member this year. One member lost her niece; another lost her husband who was an integral part of our church and a retired United Methodist Pastor. I lost my mother on Valentines Day this year. We are reminded that it is one thing to be supportive to our congregation through the loss of a loved one, but it is all together another to experience that grief for yourself and allow others to support and care for us! We can only hope and pray that through this process of bearing one another's burdens it will enable us to inevitably strengthen our ministry and be more caring to the people we serve.

Our prayers have been answered as we have one candidate to become a Stephen Minister, and we are opening the process to receive more.

We are starting a Prayer Meeting Ministry called "Sweet Hour of Prayer" that will meet via Zoom once a month starting on October 14, 2025, from 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm. This will be supported by

the Stephen Ministry and should help the congregation to be more comfortable in requesting prayer and requesting a Stephen Minister as required.

Pastor Beth continues to be extremely supportive of our Stephen Ministry as we serve homebound members by visiting and serving them communion. A series of grief books (over a year's time) is sent to each grieving family on behalf of Christ Church Stephen Ministry. The Stephen Minister of the week continues to be published in the Church bulletin and shown on the announcement screen in the Sanctuary on Sundays.

We are continuing to serve in many areas of the church such as the Food Bank, Clothing Boutique, SPRC, Missions Committee, The Good Samaritan Group, Church Greeters, Usher Board, Trustee Board, Finance Committee, and many other committees.

We look forward to continuing serving the members of CCUM and the Tucson community.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Edwards, Shawne Sidles and Gretchen Lofgren
Your Christ Church Stephen Ministry Leaders

Earl Miller Special Needs Committee

Improvements over the past years have allowed our community both inside and outside to worship with us. It also has allowed Sunday services and weddings/funerals to be attended when it otherwise would not have been possible. The recorded feature of the Sunday services has been helpful to allow the service to be watched at a later date.

The tech team continues to face new challenges with the little glitches that pop up unexpectedly, but they continue to work on them to provide the best benefits to our community.

EMSNC goals are to enlighten and be supportive of the new technologies that make inclusion possible.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Messmore

Outdoor Ministry Annual Report

2025 had many opportunities to gather and enjoy the outdoors and one another. Our events included:

- January – Planning meeting
- February – Frontier Sunday

- March – Fruit Picking with Ishkashita
- April – Bike/Hike meeting at Lowe's (Speedway/Kolb)
- May – No event due to graduations, travel and heat
- June – No event due to heat and travel
- July – 4th July Pie Sunday and concert
- August – Back to School Potluck and Swim
- September – Moonlight walk at Sabino Canyon
- October – Fall Retreat – Girl Scouts Retreat Center (Sabino Canyon Road)
- November – Bike/Hike and Picnic at Catalina State Park
- December – Kids Christmas Party

We are always delighted to share these events with our Church family and friends. Besides the fun part these events provide, it's also the fellowship and a chance to share Christian values with our sometimes old friends and sometimes new friends.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Messmore

Kitchen Committee Annual Report 2025

Food is the stuff of life, and our kitchens have seen many events with delicious items being prepared to serve the community. Learning to Grow continues to use the Fellowship Hall kitchen during the week and CCUM using it when needed. In the few instances we could not use it due to other groups using the Fellowship Hall, we were able to use the Social Hall kitchen to serve our need.

Several memorial services with receptions have been held this year; some large and some small, so both Fellowship Hall and Social Hall facilities were used to accommodate the gatherings.

Even though there have not been any new improvements added to the kitchen this year, we look forward to serving many more meals, receptions, and events in our kitchen facilities in the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,
The Kitchen Committee
(Beth Hunter, Earlene Ridge, Karen Messmore)
Rosemary Tweet (Funerals/Memorials)

Memorial Prayer Garden Annual Report 2025

Founded in 1990, the CCUM Memorial Prayer Garden remains financially independent due to donations. Funding for the Garden is not included in the church budget.

Ten plaques have been added to the Memorial Garden since the last annual report: John Hay “Johnny Ray”, Lucie Olwine, John Olwine Jr, Wanda Stauffacher, Robert Stauffacher, David Hendricks, Evelyn Stephenson, Ryan Wilson, Rev Ned Adams, and Lowell Fowble.

The Memorial Garden Records are being kept current in the digitized file.

The garden is open every Sunday morning for people to visit, sit and pray. If one wishes to visit during the week, stop by the office to get the combination to the lock.

The lights installed in the garden in 2017 continue to illuminate the garden and the plaque wall. The American Flag continues to fly 24 hours a day/365 days a year.

Respectfully Submitted,
Gretchen Lofgren and Ron Thompson – Memorial Garden Trustees

Lay Servant Ministries Report

The lay servant ministry of Christ Church United Methodist is strong! This year we had 5 members of the church continue their service to the connection and enhance the ministry of Christ Church through their participation in Lay Servant Ministry. We celebrated Paula Jameson’s achievement and dedication as she became a Certified Lay Speaker.

Certified Lay Servants

Michael Edwards
Kara Ford
Gretchen Lofgren

Susan Schreiner

Shawne Sidles

Certified Lay Speaker

Paula Jameson

We celebrate their ongoing ministry and commitment to learning!

Finally, we celebrate and honor the retirement of Joe Jameson as a Certified Lay Speaker and thank him for his decades of service in the Lay Ministries of the United Methodist Church.

If you are interested in participating in this vital ministry program, contact Gretchen Lofgren at glofgren22@gmail.com and take a class today!

Pastor Compensation Package

Finance Reports Through September 2025