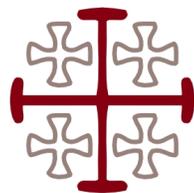


# WELCOME TO CCA



CHRIST CHURCH  
A · N · G · L · I · C · A · N  
— Established 1733 —





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Welcome!

We are glad that you have chosen to learn more about Christ Church Anglican and eager to share more of our story with you.

This booklet will guide you through many aspects of our beliefs and life together so that you can make an informed decision about whether you are being called to join us and make this your spiritual home.

We encourage you to visit our website ([www.ccasav.org](http://www.ccasav.org)) if you haven't already done so. There you will find more information about our parish and its numerous ministries. Feel free to call our parish office at 912-355-7730 if you have any further questions. We will be glad to help you!

Faithfully in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Marc', underlined.

The Rev. Marcus B. Robertson  
Rector (Sr. Pastor)



Fr. Marc and his wife, Alice.



## WHO WE ARE

It is with all humility that we know ourselves to be the oldest church in Georgia. Founded in 1733, when General James Oglethorpe established the colony, Christ Church Anglican was initially a parish of the Church of England. It was home to the first American Sunday School, as well as the first published hymnal in English. Our history includes notable rectors John Wesley, George Whitefield and hymn-writer Bland Tucker, and parishioners Johnny Mercer (song-writer) and Juliette Gordon Low (founder of the Girl Scouts).

In 2007, due to irreconcilable theological differences, CCA departed from The Episcopal Church, USA. As a result of consequent litigation, the congregation lost its historic property and assets but carried on with public worship at Independent Presbyterian Church,

whose members graciously offered us their building for over three years.

While looking for a new church home, CCA leadership put a priority on our



Mission and Ministry in an area of the city that had great need. The Thomas Square Neighborhood was selected, and the original Hull Memorial Presbyterian Church built in 1914 was purchased. Both the church building and Thomas Square neighborhood were in need of renewal and renovation. Over the last three and half years CCA partnered with community foundations and churches to secure grants to renovate a beautiful three-story Victorian house it had previously acquired one block away from our new church building. This building is now named “The Whitefield Center” and has become our signature outreach facility serving the Thomas Square Neighborhood and beyond. By God’s grace, we’ve “found our footing” these past few years, and stand ripe with vision, hope and opportunity for the years

ahead. Our physical location is 37<sup>th</sup> and Bull Streets, but our eyes and hearts expand beyond into the streets of Savannah and around the world.



## WHAT WE BELIEVE

### The Gospel of Jesus Christ

**CREATION:** We have been created in God's image, as the crown of His Creation and the delight of His heart.

**SIN:** Due to our selfishness, we rebelled against God and sought to live life according to our own wants and desires.

**JUDGMENT:** Our rebellion distorted the divine image within us beyond recognition and has alienated us from our Creator, resulting in great pain and confusion and bringing us under His righteous judgment.

**REDEMPTION:** God, in His mercy, provided a remedy: Jesus Christ, who died in our place on the cross, taking the just punishment that was rightly ours, and rising bodily from the grave. Through repentance from sin and faith in Christ's act of love and mercy on our behalf, God gives us forgiveness and the gift of the Holy Spirit, who transforms our lives and offers us new life, beginning in this world and carrying us into the glory of the world to come.

### Historic Christian Creeds

#### THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

And I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there he shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.



## WHAT WE BELIEVE

### THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, visible and invisible.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;  
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
Who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism  
for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.



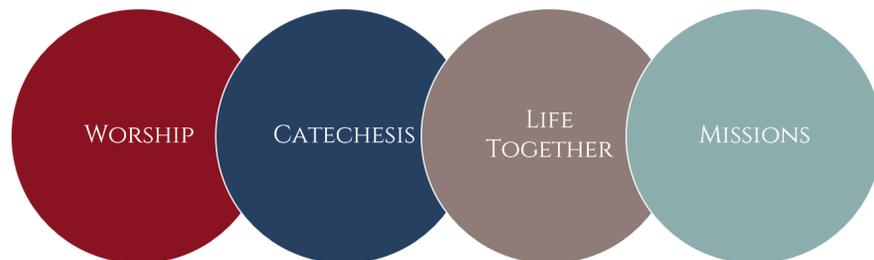
*Adherence to the orthodox beliefs of the Anglican Church, and specifically the Historic Creeds, is an important component of membership at Christ Church Anglican. In our daily lives we try in every way to conduct ourselves in a manner that truly reflects the Gospel we profess.*



## OUR VISION

### Advancing God's Kingdom... One Step At A Time.

In February of 2018, a "Fresh Vision" was presented at the Annual Parish Meeting with four main areas of focus.



This vision is helping us in our calling to advance God's Kingdom under the good news of the gospel. This vision continues to be a guide to all church leadership, gradually being implemented in all areas of the church.

#### WORSHIP

*That we would glorify God in our worship through Word and Sacrament and strengthen our Gospel-oriented identity in the Anglican tradition.*

#### CATECHESIS

*That we would develop a culture of passing on the faith from cradle to grave through intergenerational experiences on Sunday and throughout the week.*

#### LIFE TOGETHER

*That our parish family would love one another, while building a supportive community for all people in every stage of life.*

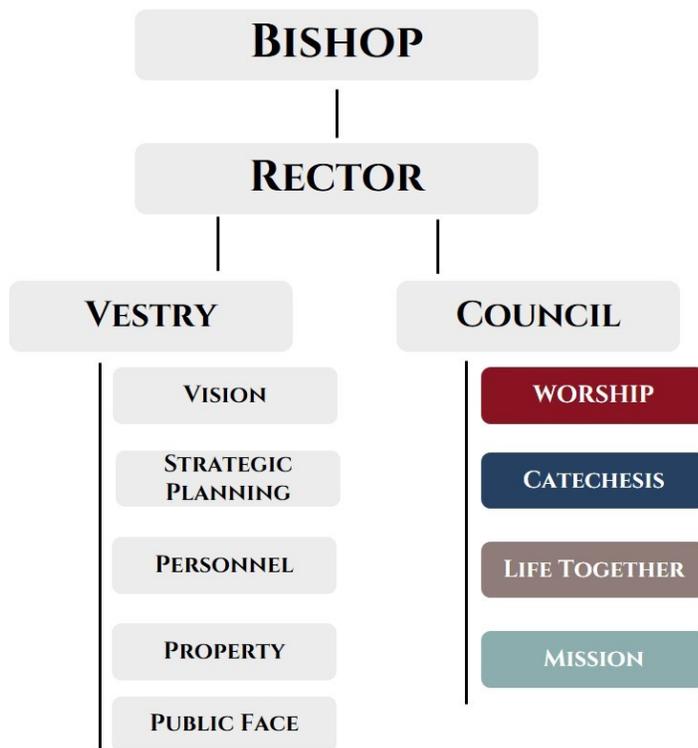
#### MISSION

*That we would grow into a church FOR the Thomas Square Neighborhood, interacting, engaging, and serving those in need around us and beyond.*



# OUR VISION

## How Do We Get there?



### Reorganization of Church Governance:

The two primary governing bodies of the church, the Vestry (“Where are we going?”) and the Council (“How are we going to get there?”), are clarifying their roles in relationship to each other and in bringing greater consistency and follow through to their various areas of responsibility.

### Leadership Development

All who hold positions of leadership will receive regular training and shepherding as they not only lead, but develop and equip leaders within their ministries.

Promote a unified approach to leadership, so that staff, Vestry, Council and the Parish share the same values, principles and language.

### Strengthening of Healthy Membership

- Bring clarity to what is expected of members at Christ Church Anglican based on a new Membership Rite.
- Improve newcomer assimilation with increased intentionality and communication.

### Communication and Administration

- Improve parish communication and branding that stretches to every email, publication and internet presence with an intention of clarity, consistency and follow through.
- Continue to engage the church vision as an active conversation, keeping it in the forefront of all planning, especially in the areas of setting meeting agenda, calendaring and budget.

### Ministry Development

Four key ministries serving our four areas of ministry have been identified as our initial focus for the next five years:

- Sunday Morning Formation (Preaching & Catechesis)
- Community Groups
- Stephen Ministry
- The Whitefield Center



## WORSHIP



We seek to worship in the Anglican tradition.

Sunday attendance ranges from 280-350.

Sunday worship offers three services:

- 8 a.m. 1928 Book of Common Prayer
- 10:30 a.m. *ACNA rite*
- 9 p.m. Compline service sung in candlelight

Music is an important piece of CCA's worship, exhibited by its five choirs: the Parish Choir, the Folk Group, Choristers (children's choir), the Bell Choir, and the Compline Choir (the only auditioned choir). Others that assist in worship include Ushers, Flower and Altar Guilds, Acolytes, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers and Prayer Teams. Gospel preaching is essential, and we celebrate both Word and Sacrament as the essential ingredients of the visible Church.



## CATECHESIS

We see catechesis as the heart of Christian formation in our parish, the goal being a sustainable faith, lasting through high school and into college, young adulthood, singleness, marriage (for many), children (for many), career and eventually retirement, aging and death. **From cradle to grave, the Gospel of Jesus Christ is the cornerstone of this sustainable faith.**



We've found intergenerational education to be an important element of nurturing such a faith, and it is a distinctive of our congregation. Biblically based and structured according to the Church year, catechesis reaches all ages with a call to deeper engagement in the Gospel .



## LIFE TOGETHER

We believe the Christian life is most fully experienced in community, or “Life Together,” encouraging our parish family to love one another while building a supportive community for all people in every stage of life.



Several examples of community at CCA are:

- Stephen Ministry, a one-on-one caring ministry in the name of Christ
- Monthly parish breakfasts
- Annual or bi-annual parish retreats
- Women of CCA
- Men of CCA
- Founders' Day Oyster Roast
- Hospitality Guild and Feastmakers
- Community Groups





## MISSION

***CCA does not exist for its own self-perpetuation, but for God's mission,*** in the local neighborhood, city, region, and throughout the world. Though we are not a neighborhood church, we see ourselves as a church *for* the neighborhood. The Whitefield Center, our urban ministry house, has the Mission of raising the educational level and quality of life in the geographic "heart" of Savannah – The Thomas Square Neighborhood. Whitefield seeks character transformation "one life at a time," by implementing virtues and character building through all its initiatives. These include High School Diploma Recovery through an on-site Academy; daily after-school mentoring and tutoring through *Urban Hope*; Adult Basic Literacy instruction; Financial Literacy instruction in neighborhood schools; Resident Advocacy and Bible Instruction in a local senior home facility for lower incomes; and functioning as a home for five local partners who serve inner city youth. In addition, we offer twice-monthly lunches to the homeless at The Lunch Place, where we transform our parish hall into a joyous place of hospitality and hope.



CCA Mission Team to Iraq 2019

Regional missions involve our support of campus ministries including Anglican Campus Fellowship, founded out of our parish. We have established a congregation in Statesboro, Georgia, home of one of the fastest growing universities in the south. We have called a Church Planting Curate, the Rev. Drew Miller, to shepherd this congregation for the next several years.

We also support global missions and send teams to Haiti, Uganda, Nepal, Kurdistan and other parts of the world. Our Annual Savannah Tour of Homes and Gardens has been an integral part of the Church's mission work since 1935 through its ministry of hospitality and the generation of substantial funds for local and global Christian-

based ministries. This event involves hundreds of volunteers from the church and the community and draws visitors from around the country. Tour grants in recent years have been awarded to Urban Hope, Young Life, Kairos Prison Ministry, Crisis Pregnancy Centers and a variety of Missionary Sending agencies, including the New Wineskins Network.



## OUR MINISTRIES

### WORSHIP

**Acolytes** - Open to 5th grade and up, assist in the leadership of worship services on Sunday, weddings and funerals.

**Altar Guild** - Cares for and prepares the altar vessels and chancel appointments for all worship services.

**Audio Ministry** - Records portions of the worship service for the website.

**Eucharistic Ministers** - Share in leadership of worship services by leading the prayers and administering the chalice.

**Eucharistic Visitors** - Bring communion to parishioners unable to attend services.

**Lectors** - Assist in worship by reading the scripture lessons for the day.

**Music Ministry and Choirs** - Lead worship through adult and children's choirs, folk group, handbell choir, Complaine choir and instrumentalists.

**Ushers** - Assist at worship services by greeting worshipers, distributing bulletins and gathering the offering.

### CATECHESIS

**Adult Sunday School** - Adult Sunday school is offered in various classrooms from 9:15 – 10:15 a.m. A variety of classes ranging from Bible studies to church history, finances, and marriage are offered.

**Catechesis Community Group** - Interested in seeking to renew your commitment to Christ and ministry in His church? Perhaps you want to join CCA as a member pursuing confirmation. A mid-week catechesis community group starts in Advent (December) and ends with the Bishop's visit in June.

**Children's Sunday School** - Children in PreK4 through 5th grade are using an imaginative approach that supports, challenges, nourishes and guides children into God's larger redemptive story called "Gospel Play." Room #5 in the Wesley Wing every Sunday morning from 9:15 - 10:15 a.m.

**Little Church** - Young children process from the 10:30 a.m. service to attend Little Church before the Gospel Reading. This time includes Scripture readings, elements of the liturgy, a children's homily and fun activities led by volunteer teachers. They return to the main service prior to communion.

**Youth Ministry** - Sunday School classes, weekly gatherings (Mondays, 5 to 7 p.m.) and special projects are offered for students in 6th–12th grades throughout the year.



## OUR MINISTRIES

### MISSION

#### **Isaiah 58 Ministries -**

Provides services such as Bible study and prayer for men and women with a twice monthly lunch on the first and third Thursdays.

#### **Missions Committee -**

This group fosters involvement in missions (global, regional, and local), support of long term and short-term missionaries and education about missions.

#### **Savannah Tour of Homes**

**& Gardens** - This annual all-parish event is an all hands on deck fundraiser that raises money for community and global missions and ministries. Takes place for 4 days each March.

**The Whitefield Center** - The center's purpose is to raise the educational level and quality of life in the Thomas Square Neighborhood that is CCA's home. The ultimate goal is to "transform the heart" of the city one life at a time by implementing virtues and character building through all of its literacy based initiatives: Basic Literacy Instruction - Summer Day Camp - Elementary Academic Tutoring - Financial Literacy Instruction - Williams Court Senior Advocacy - Seasonal Income Tax Preparation - International SCAD Student Outreach.





## OUR MINISTRIES

### LIFE TOGETHER

**1st Sunday Breakfasts & Feastmakers** - This monthly event features a great meal and program. Under the direction of Deacon/Chef Greg, the Feastmakers work together in the kitchen to provide delicious food for the 1st Sunday Breakfasts and other special events. Being part of this team is an easy point of entry to get involved and meet people.

**Community Groups** - Community Groups are the best way to connect at CCA and the primary place where we are formed as followers of Jesus Christ. Our Community Groups are scattered across the city. They usually meet on a weekly basis in people's homes. Our groups will be similar in substance but different in style, so we encourage you to try out a few groups and find one that feels like the best fit for you.



**Email Prayer Chain** - Receive requests via email and pray during the week for the confidential needs of parishioners.

**Friday Noon Prayer at the Whitefield Center** - Join us in prayer for the future of our congregation on Fridays at noon in Fr. Marc's office.

**Healing Prayer & Intercessors** - Teams of parishioners pray during Communion in the corners of the church for the requests of individuals at the 10:30 a.m. service. On the second Sunday of the month we offer healing stations during communion when worshippers are invited to come for the laying on of hands and anointing with oil.

**Hospitality** - The CCA Hospitality Guild extends Christian hospitality with the purpose of welcoming newcomers, fostering the fellowship of the congregation and honoring God. The Guild hosts the Sunday hospitality immediately after the 10:30 a.m. service.



## OUR MINISTRIES

**Men's Ministry** - Several times during the year the men of the parish gather for special times of fun, food, fellowship, Bible Studies, and service projects including workdays.

**Newcomers** - Newcomer Lunches are offered three times a year. These informal gatherings for newcomers take place following the 10:30 a.m. Sunday service at the Whitefield Center. Participants get to meet our clergy and lay leadership and begin to connect with them and one another as well as learn more about CCA's mission, doctrine and membership rite.

**Nursery** - Christ Church Anglican provides nursery care for infants and children through the age of four, from 9 a.m. — Noon on Sundays and during other church events, as needed.

**Stephen Ministry** - The purpose of Stephen Ministry is to provide personal, Christ-like care to those who are hurting. Our congregation's Stephen Ministry equips lay people to provide one-to-one (male-to-male, and female-to-female) Christian care to people in our congregation and community who are experiencing difficulties in their lives.

**Women of Christ Church Anglican (WCCA)** - Encourages the spiritual growth of all women in the parish through fellowship, study and service opportunities. "Renew" is one of their special monthly gatherings that often meets at Wesley Gardens Retreat Center.





## MEMBERSHIP

### CCA Membership Rite

*The following “ceremony” for new members is a time of welcome and commitment between the new member and the rest of the congregation. It takes place various times throughout the year during the 10:30 a.m. Sunday service. The italicized portions are said by the new member in response to various questions from people in leadership.*

**Rector:**

We are gathered here to recognize these believers in Christ as members of this congregation. Membership in Christ Church Anglican conforms to the requirements and responsibilities of the Anglican Church in North America and the Gulf Atlantic Diocese, as well as our Congregational By-Laws. More directly, membership in this parish welcomes you into your new parish family!

**Rector:**

Do you, in the presence of God and His people, profess your faith in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior?

*Response: I do.*

**Rector:**

Will you, as a follower of Jesus, seek to gather with the Lord’s people of this congregation on the Lord’s Day for worship, as far as you are able?

*Response: I will, by God’s grace.*

**Catechist:**

Will you, as a member of this parish, seek to learn more and more about the precious Gospel of our Lord, so that you may be transformed by its power?

*Response: I will, by God’s grace.*

**Rector:**

Will you invest in this parish family, seeking a life together that reflects the Body of Christ as described in Holy Scripture?

*Response: I will, by God’s grace.*

**Parish Life Administrator:**

Will you pursue a life of faithful stewardship, offering your time, talent and treasure to the spread of God’s kingdom through the mission of this parish?

*Response: I will, by God’s grace.*

**Deacon:**

Will you engage in the mission of Christ and His kingdom, serving those near and far as God calls you to serve?

*Response: I will, by God’s grace.*

**Catechist:**

Will you pursue a life of spiritual growth and formation, and if you have not already done so, prepare for the laying on of hands by the Bishop, for your spiritual confirmation and encouragement?

*Response: I will, by God’s grace.*

**Rector:**

May the Holy Spirit, who has called you to this fellowship, strengthen and confirm in you the promises you have made this day, working in you that which is holy and precious to God. Amen.

**Warden:**

Let us welcome the new members of our parish family!

**Congregation:**

We welcome you to our family and we pledge our prayers, our support and our love!



## CONFIRMATION



### What is Confirmation?

In the book of Acts, we witness a particular ministry among the apostles. This is the ministry of the laying on of hands. The apostles would lay their hands upon baptized believers, and they would receive the Holy Spirit. Truly the Holy Spirit was already at work in them, but we witness a confirmed renewal of the Spirit in their life and ministry within the Church. The bishop, whose ministry follows the apostles, visits our church annually and offers this same ministry of renewal. For baptized infants who have been raised up in the Gospel, and prepared through catechesis, this is their opportunity to profess their faith and commitment to Christ. We recommend youth to consider this at 15 years of age or older. For baptized adults, prepared through catechesis, this is their opportunity to strengthen their service and life within the Church. Through the laying on of hands, they are also confirming their membership at CCA. For those entering into a new phase of ministry or renewing their commitment, even if you have already been confirmed, the laying on of hands for renewal in the Holy Spirit is all the more fitting.

*Please pray, reflect, and consider if the Lord might be drawing you to receive the laying on of hands.*

## CLERGY

The Rev. Marc Robertson, Rector  
The Rev. Joe Gasbarre, Parish Catechist  
The Rev. Drew Miller, Statesboro Church Planting Curate  
The Rev. Greg Malley, Deacon  
The Rev. Sally Lufburrow, Deacon  
The Rev. Steve Dantin, Deacon  
The Rev. Kirk Duffy, Deacon  
The Right Rev. Neil Lebhar, Bishop  
The Right Rev. Roger Ames, Bishop in Residence

## PARISH COUNCIL

Richard James, Council Warden  
The Rev. Marc Robertson, Rector  
The Rev. Joe Gasbarre, Parish Catechist  
Katie Beaumont, Parish Life Administrator  
Mark Williams, Parish Musician  
Steve Dantin, Whitefield Center / Deacon  
Lauren Bayliss, Statesboro Mission  
Brian Dennison, Missions  
Daniel Hughes, Youth Ministry  
Fred Kuhn, Men's Ministry  
Sharon Mays, Community Groups  
Susan Moore, Women's Ministry / Stephen Ministry  
Gay Park, Hospitality  
Claudia Thomas, Women's Ministry / Missions

## STAFF

Mark Williams, Parish Musician  
Cindy Marshall, Associate Parish Musician  
Katie Beaumont, Parish Life Administrator  
Joan Malley, Financial Administrator  
Becky Hughes, Worship Communications  
Debbie Cela, Media Communications  
Bryan Kerr, Facilities Manager  
Daniel Hughes & Hannah Kuntz, Youth Assistants  
Kwanza Cooper, Olivia Prohaske  
& Re'Nelle Sierra, Nursery Assistants

## VESTRY

The Rev. Marc Robertson, Rector  
David Reeves, Vestry Warden  
Richard James, Council Warden  
Warren Thrasher, Treasurer  
Lea Stevens, Clerk  
Craig Clements  
Bridget Gardner  
Mark Johnson  
Sharon Lawson  
Jerry Reeves  
Larry Sprague



CHRIST CHURCH ANGLICAN

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