

October 2017

Dear Friends,

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. James 1:17

Most Sundays during the announcements, you hear me say that there is never a dull moment at Christ Church. Our buildings are occupied daily by people, both parishioners and non-parishioners, actively seeking and serving Christ and striving to make a positive impact in God's name. As we approach the final quarter of 2017, I want to share with you a few examples of how your time, talent, and treasure have helped Christ Church share the Gospel of Jesus Christ this year.

Vacation Bible School, Lenten Preaching Series, Sunday Nights in Lent, Sundays at 9, Lemonade on the Lawn, T-Ball, and the Following the Jesus Movement and its spin-off **The Christ Church Cooks** have brought people together to explore their walk with Christ and strengthen the bonds between God and our neighbors. Each of these programs not only served the people of Christ Church, but dozens of others who got to know Christ Church a little better. Some of them have found ways to get more involved in this sacred place, too!

Restoration of the Bell Tower and Parish House –Our buildings and grounds are an icon in downtown New Bern and an area to which we devote a good portion of our budget. Because of the generosity of giving over the past several years, the Vestry was able to draw on some of our reserves to do some needed maintenance on both the bell tower and the exterior of the Parish House. Missing slates in the roof were replaced, new stairs were installed going up to the bell tower, bricks were repointed, and the louvers were painted among other work. Tremendous thanks to Jason Thuringer for his work in securing estimates and working with the contractor on this project, and a huge thanks goes to all who have given to Christ Church over the past several years in such a way that we were able to make this project a reality.

On the back of this letter, you will find your giving statement through the third quarter of 2017. If you want to talk more about ministries at Christ Church, please be in touch with me or any member of the staff or Vestry.

Thank you for all you do to help make Christ Church the holy and amazing place that it is!

In Christ,

The Rev. H. Paul Canady III
Rector