

Soundings



Michael's Minute Message

Pastor Michael

To joyfully share the love of Christ as we...

WORSHIP
GOD
CONNECT
TO GROW
& SERVE
THE
WORLD



Saturday, December 14th at 4:30 pm and 7:00 pm.

The theme for this season's cantata is *Appalachian Winter*. You will be transported to a mountainous Christmas experience via sound and sight. The vocalists, orchestra, narrators, and dancers will come together brilliantly so that the good news of Jesus' arrival can shine bright in the hearts of all who attend.

celebrate the birth of Jesus together with songs, scriptures, and candles.

There will be a special Christmas present giveaway for all children during the service, and a surprise for the young and young at heart as we exit the sanctuary that night. It will be a fun and meaningful way to lead us into Christmas Day!

I'm enjoying each moment along the way to December 25th. I'm so pleased for us to share in many moments together this Christmas season at Christ by the Sea.

Christmas is the best. I'm a sucker for all of it. The music. The decorations. The food. The movies. It makes sense to me that such wonderful wrapping would surround the most fantastic gift the world has ever known. I love Christmas and I love for the church to be in the thick of it! If we can just get a cool front to pass through once or twice this December...

We will have **Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship** on **Tuesday, December 24th at 5 pm**. There is a yearning in many unchurched people that still draws them to be part of worship on Christmas Eve. There is an intrinsic sense within us that we can be filled with hope as we

Grateful to be your pastor,

Michael

One way to share the joy of Christmas is to invite friends, relatives, and neighbors to come to Christ by the Sea's **Christmas Cantata** on

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Worship Arts

CHRIST BY THE SEA UMC PRESENTS

Appalachian Winter

A CANTATA FOR CHRISTMAS

by Joseph M. Martin



Saturday, December 14, 2024
4:30 pm and 7:00 pm

20TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CANTATA

Please join us to celebrate the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ! Set to a full musical production with a mixed choir, full orchestra, liturgical dancers, dramatic scenes and uplifting narration! Featuring opera singers from Tennessee and musicians from all over the state of Florida. Free-will offering appreciated.



3755 Hwy A1A
Vero Beach, FL 32963
cbtsumc.org

Serve

The Serve Team THANKS YOU for your ongoing generous support of our local and international ministries!

Hundreds of children enrolled in Methodist schools in Haiti have had the opportunity to learn a wide range of curriculum on laptop computers refurbished by Bethel Computers for Education. They are the hope of the future for Haiti.

Dozens of male and female clients from The Source received personal hygiene and dental care items. Your gift of soup cans resulted in warm meals for many months.

Families at The Hope for Families Center (HFFC) received bottles of detergent to help with laundry expenses. Schoolchildren received new clothing, gift cards for shoes, Bibles, caps and sunglasses to start the school year.

The Giving Tree provides Christmas gifts for needy Beachland students and the families of veterans who served and protected us. This year children at HFFC will enjoy using your donations of puzzles, books and Legos in their multi-purpose room.

Children around the world learn about becoming a Christian through the loving gifts you provide through Operation Christmas Child. It is the highlight of their year.

Shining Light Gardens (SLG) grows fresh produce for non-profits throughout Indian River County at no cost. Beautiful flowers grown at SLG bring joy to residents in assisted living, memory care and VNA Hospice locations. Students in the Kiwanis Youth in Action program pick crops at SLG, paint and clean up areas in need and help in many other ways.

Our Cuban sister church prays for all of us daily and is so grateful for your continued support of their annual Christmas banquet.

Join us in praying for the youth at Residing Hope, the Special Gathering's clients and our own Food Pantry recipients.



the greatest gift of all
MATTHEW 1:21

We are now receiving orders for

Christmas Poinsettias



Envelopes are available in
the Church Office and
In the Narthex

Orders are due by Dec 15th

Stewardship

Just last month, we were visited here at Christ by the Sea campus with a tornado—one of 131 that were spawned across the State of Florida by Hurricane Milton. Even though we were fortunate with just moderate damages to buildings, we suffered greatly with our Live Oaks. Recently, we've had to take \$200,000 out of Reserves and Emergency Funds to help pay for ur damages. Yes, we do have an insurance claim pending; however, most policies have very limited coverage for lawns, trees and shrubs.

Fortunately through the wonderful vision of our Board of Trustees we just had a new roof installed last year, and it held well. However, that loan is still being paid off to Endowment.

So as you can see, we have expenses out of the ordinary that are piling up for us here at Christ by the Sea Church. As Pastor Michael has been preaching many times giving or tithing is 10% of gross income. I sincerely hope you can consider this among our other needs, when filling out your Pledge Card for 2025.

Our accounting year is switching back to the true Calendar Year—January 1 to December 31, for 2025. I am so proud to be a member here at Christ by the Sea Church with so many caring and loving people.

Merry Christmas to you and yours.

God Blesses!!

David Vogt, *The Stewardship Guy*

Birthdays

Lucille Havens	12/01	Ron Jones	12/03
Joan Mason	12/03	Miguel Bonachea-Diaz	12/05
Roberta Dougherty	12/05	Eureka James	12/06
Peggy Salin	12/07	Mark Toole	12/07
Julie Johnson	12/10	Francisco Rosado	12/10
Deanna Malchow	12/11	Buddy Troutman	12/11
Debbie Clement	12/13	Betty Foster	12/14
Melina Zohn	12/21	Ivy Richards	12/22
Gail Rodgers	12/22	Carol Schoff	12/24
Dida Hagan	12/27	Nancy Freer	12/28
Kathy Latimer	12/28		

Anniversaries

Miguel Bonachea-Diaz &
Genia Franco- Bonachea 12/24 (32 yrs)

Steve & Kay Harkins 12/23 (26 yrs)

Finance

Christ by the Sea UMC

Financial Results

YTD at 10/31/2024

Account Description	Actual	Budget
Income		
Pledge Funds	\$ 117,690	\$ 101,367
Tithes & Offerings	46,702	61,823
Other Income	13,760	6,884
Total Income	\$ 178,152	\$ 170,074
Expenses		
Staff-Parish Relations	\$ 152,195	\$ 164,838
Worship	3,582	3,848
Connect	119	645
Serve	25	1,914
Apportionments	6,605	6,123
Trustees	63,499	71,460
Communications	192	20,249
Finance Stewardship	3,615	3,522
Administration	1,533	3,047
Total Expenses	\$ 231,365	\$ 275,646