

Christ Church, Albion

What are some significant moments in the history of your church that have shaped its identity today?

Past generations hosted a dance studio and a separate nursery school which many local youth attended. They are now older adults, and still remember coming to Christ Church Nursery school and Christ Church Dance school.

What makes your church unique in the region and the diocese?

Christ Episcopal Church: since 1844, erected in 1830 by Presbyterians, it is the oldest church building in Orleans County still being used for worship services.



What are the most vibrant ministries or strengths of your parish today?

We host 4 sessions of AA meetings, the only code blue warming shelter in Orleans County, as well as a respite program for caregivers, twice per month. Additionally, we hold several collections for the needy populations of Orleans County, for example, fill the backpacks, food drives, "socktober" collection of socks, and continuously partner with the food pantries of Community Action and Genesee Orleans Ministry of Concern. The neighboring Roman Catholic Church has a Lawn Fete annually, and we allow them to utilize our spacious kitchen to prepare food for their event.

Describe a moment in your community's life when you felt the presence of the Holy Spirit moving among you. What made that moment possible?

When we had a more youthful congregation and were able to host a weekly Community Kitchen for the hungry in our community, on the last day of the operation, an individual came into the kitchen to personally thank everyone and tell them what a huge impact this ministry had on her when she was in dire need of sustenance.

How does your church engage with the local neighborhood, the civic life of your community, or diocesan and/or Episcopal Church-wide initiatives?

We are members of the GRI and our Deacon attends meetings of the Albion Ministerium which include religious leaders from many denominations which helps us coordinate our efforts. Additionally, there is a Christmas parade and Strawberry Festival in which our church is open and has many visitors coming in to see our beautiful sanctuary.

What are the hopes and dreams of your congregation for its next chapter?

We hope to be able to continue our ministries in our community and hopefully increase our attendance our Sunday services as well as membership so that we can continue our operations and ministries for many years to come.

