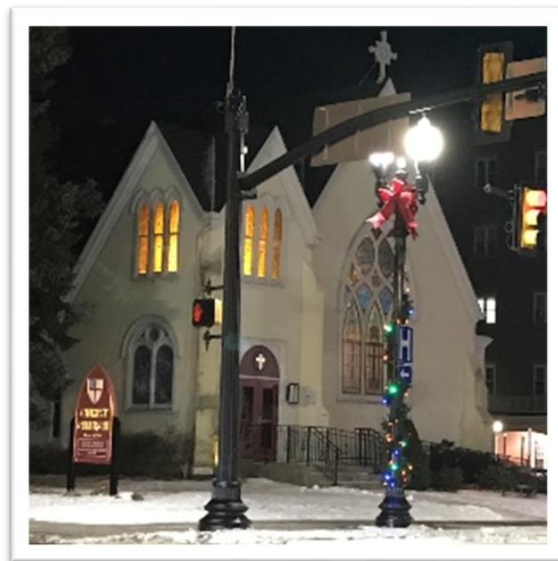
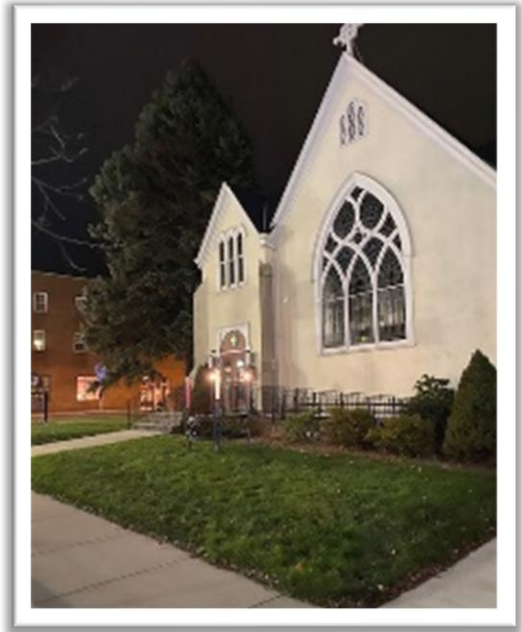


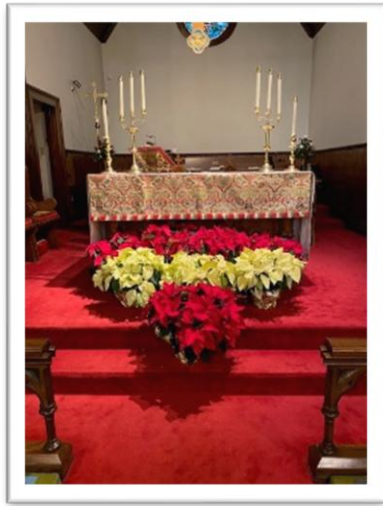
About Christ Episcopal Church

The Little Yellow Church on the Corner

Christ Episcopal Church, fondly referred to as the “little yellow church on the corner,” is located at the intersection of 9th and Philadelphia Street in downtown Indiana, Pennsylvania. The parish’s history dates to 1855. A pivotal event occurred in December 1899, when a fire destroyed the original church building. The only surviving artifact from this incident was the Good Shepherd-stained glass window, which now graces the vestibule and looks out onto 9th Street. The current church structure was completed and dedicated in 1901. Its exterior, finished in stucco and painted a warm, buttery yellow, gives the church a unique charm and welcoming presence in the community. The building consists of a main floor and a basement, while the attached old parish rectory features a main and a second floor. Heating is provided by a gas-fired hot water system with zone-controlled thermostats, and cooling is supplied by ceiling fans. A fire alarm system protects the entire facility, automatically alerting a clearing house that contacts the fire department if necessary.



Sanctuary and Worship Spaces



The nave of Christ Episcopal Church comfortably seats up to 125 individuals, creating an intimate and inviting environment for worship. Oak pews with built-in kneelers line the sanctuary, and the beamed, wainscoted ceiling adds character to the space. The sanctuary measures 28 by 15 feet and includes a choir loft, a pipe organ, a free-standing oak altar, a brass lectern, and a wall-mounted oak pulpit. The front of the sanctuary features a baptismal font and a wooden altar rail. The altar, facing the congregation, is highlighted by a suspended cross that serves as a focal point during worship services. The church's pipe organ is a notable feature, enriching services with its spiritual music and playing an integral role in parish life.



Community and Gathering Spaces

After the 10:30 a.m. service, parishioners gather in a spacious community room measuring approximately 30 by 80 feet. This space fosters fellowship and meaningful connections among members through weekly hospitality. Beneath the nave lies a large undercroft equipped with a full kitchen, supporting various church events, activities, and meetings.



Church Offices and Education

The office area, formerly the church rectory, is now an attached section of the main building. Along the 9th Street side are the office and a library/conference room, which serve the administrative and educational needs of the congregation. Above the offices, rooms are dedicated to Sunday school and childcare, providing safe and welcoming environments for children during services. This part of the building is of frame construction with a wood shingle exterior and limited stucco, and it includes a metal fire escape.



Grounds and Accessibility



The church property, while modest in size, is thoughtfully designed and beautifully landscaped. Lawns and flower beds border the building, adding vibrant color and a welcoming atmosphere to the exterior. On the office side, a Peace sculpture and two concrete benches create a tranquil space for reflection and quiet conversation. Accessibility is a priority: a concrete ramp extends from the driveway to the front entrance, ensuring that all visitors, regardless of mobility, can enter the church with ease. During the Advent season, a hand-crafted wrought iron Advent wreath is placed in front of the church, serving as a visual reminder to both parishioners and the wider community of the anticipation surrounding the birth of the Christ child.

The Herb Garden and Memorial Area

Beyond the small parking lot, a fenced-in herb garden serves as a sacred resting place for some parishioners. A brass plaque mounted on the building lists the names of those whose cremains are interred in the garden. From early spring through late summer, the garden flourishes with a variety of herbs and perennials, creating a peaceful and lush setting for remembrance and contemplation.

