



NOURISHMENT FOR THE JOURNEY

Christ Church Greenwich
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Christ Church Greenwich Announces Interim Rector

**The public is invited to meet The Rev'd John H. Branson
at the [Great Fall Festival](#) on September 17**

Greenwich, CT - August 31, 2017 - The Rev'd John H. Branson will be the Interim Rector of Christ Church Greenwich, effective September 2, 2017, as announced by the Wardens and Vestry of the historic Greenwich church today.

“John Branson will be with Christ Church Greenwich during a period of transition over the next year as we search for our new tenured rector. The transition process is a time of great energy and growth for us as we expand programs and hire new staff,” says Randy Schwimmer, Senior Warden. “We look forward to John’s stewardship during this vibrant period in our community.”

The Rev'd Branson joins Christ Church clergy members The Rev'd Jennifer Owen, The Rev'd Suzanne M. Culhane, and The Rev'd Terence Elsberry.

“We invite everyone to meet John at the [Great Fall Festival](#), our program year kick-off event on Sunday September 17 at 10:00 am,” said Junior Warden, George Belshaw. “The Great Fall Festival is a joyous, informal occasion for parish families and newcomers to enjoy fellowship, food, and family fun, including bouncy castles and crafts, and learn about our many offerings including outreach, youth, and our renowned choir program.”

John Branson and his wife Judyth come to Christ Church Greenwich from North Carolina after many years of ministry in the Episcopal Church. They have one daughter who resides in Westport, CT with her family.

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The Rev'd Branson was the Rector of Christ & Holy Trinity in Westport for 21 years during which he helped grow the parish significantly, including overseeing the capital campaign for the addition of the Great Hall in downtown Westport. During this time he was also a board member of the United Way of Westport-Weston and A Better Chance of Westport. Branson has been actively involved in the Episcopal Church in Connecticut, including being the board chair of Camp Washington, the official camp and conference center of the Diocese.

Since retiring in 2012, he has served as the Interim Rector at The Church of the Holy Spirit in Lake Forest, Illinois, at Historic Christ Church in Alexandria, Virginia, and at the Chapel of the Cross, Chapel Hill, North Carolina. A native of Concord, NH, he graduated from Yale Divinity School and was ordained in 1974.

Christ Church Greenwich is one of New England's oldest and largest Episcopal churches. Established as a parish in 1749, it is a lively community of faith composed of people with diverse backgrounds and spiritual journeys. Often billed as the "Cathedral" of Greenwich, Christ Church Greenwich offers opportunities for worship, celebration, music, youth and adult education, outreach, fellowship, and pastoral care.

Christ Church Greenwich is also the home of the [Courage & Faith](#) speaker series, [Christ Church Music](#), the Christ Church Bookstore, and Christ Church Nursery School. The historic ten acre campus and facilities benefit the greater Greenwich community by hosting thousands of meetings, concerts, and events every year, and housing vital community service programs including Alcoholics Anonymous and Neighbor to Neighbor.

The mission of Christ Church Greenwich is to seek and serve God in all persons, and to provide spiritual nourishment for all who journey to find a sacred home for worship, personal growth, service, and community.

For more information about Christ Church Greenwich please visit christchurchgreenwich.org.

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For additional information, please contact Maria Olson Goins, Director of Marketing & Communications, mgoins@christchurchgreenwich.org.

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