

# CHRIST CHURCH



Dr. David D. Ireland, Lead Pastor

Executive Producer Marlinda K. Ireland

Director Jena Fisher

Assistant Director Anne Joseph

### Camera Operators

Kelly Tosado Lovelene Glaude Cristian Castillo Gabre-Ana Ruthland Claude Apollon Darnell Gillet Rosalie Charles Kolby Lynch Tennyson Depeiza

### **Producers**

Peter Powers Jena Fisher Patrick Fider

### **Vocal Directors**

& Arrangements
Kezia Harley
Zuumah Gayemen

Production
Manager
Zynide Banks

Writer Daniela Mangini

### Stage Managers

Anne Joseph Moises LaPorte

### Video Directors

Cristian Castillo Lovelene Glaude Zerom Kiflemariam

### Social Media Coordinators

Erwin Rodriguez Dominique Betts-Payne

### Marketing/Design

Jerry Laguerre Tanisha McKinnon Laura Yumang Casey Langenbach Sara Passafiume Zynide Banks

Technical Director Moises LaPorte

### Lighting Operators Luis Tosado

Luis Tosado Gabre-Ana Ruthland

### Video Editors

Nataly Mora Kelly Tosado Joshua Siniscal Patrick Fider

# Computer Graphics Operator Kelly Lewis

### Photographers

Rayshard Bennett Rebecca Mancini

### **Animation Artists**

Laura Yumang Casey Langenbach

### **Audio Engineers**

John Nieves Filipe Mora Lewis Denis Jason Worthem

### Makeup & Wardrobe

Jena Fisher
Anne Joseph
Kelly Desario-Capozzi
Alexus Frain
Lorraine Lee
Amanda Camille Rolon
Markell McCormick

### **Musical Director**

& Arrangement Peter Powers

### Song Writing

& Arrangements
Jena Fisher
Anne Joseph
Amanda Camille Rolon
Peter Powers
Charisa Rouse
Donnie Atis

### Choreographer

Luis Tosado

# Thanks FOR VISITING!

### # CHRIST CHURCH

Uniting People to God and People to People



Thank you for including Christ Church as part of your holiday plans. And believe me when we say, we never grow tired of seeing people—from all walks of life—come together in celebration of Jesus' birth.

Our church is richly blessed with talented artists who are passionate and dedicated about sharing God's message of love and hope. Our prayer

is that this concert will bring you a measure of this great love and hope—for the holidays and beyond!

We would love to have you join us for one of our holiday or weekend services, whether in person or online. Visit **ChristChurchUSA.org** for service times and viewing info. Also, subscribe to us on **YouTube** and join us on **Facebook** and **Instagram** for life-giving conversations.

Enjoy the show, and may you and your family have a very Merry Christmas!

Drs. David & Marlinda Ireland



SEE BACK COVER TO CHECK OUT OUR HOLIDAYS AT CC SCHEDULE



# SONGS



# Nutcracker & O Holy Night ORIGINAL ARRANGEMENT

### SOLOIST

Andrew Darling featuring
Christ Church Ensemble & Choir

### RAPPER

Dashawn 'Redeemed' Robinson

### **Miraculous (Original Song)**

Written by Anne Joseph, Jena Fisher,
Peter Powers and Donnie Atis

### SOLOISTS

Will Perez

Anne Joseph Gabby Florendo & featuring Christ Church Choir

### **Little Drummer Boy**

### SOLOISTS

Ron Benson Christi Greco De Leon & featuring Christ Church Ensemble

### O Come, O Come Emmanuel

### **ORIGINAL ARRANGEMENT**

Filipe Mora Joshua Lozada

### SOLOIST

Marie Charles Kerline

### RAPPER

Dashawn 'Redeemed' Robinson

### Mary, Did You Know?

### ARRANGEMENT

Charisa Rouse Peter Powers Zuumah Gayemen

### SOLOIST

Charisa Rouse featuring Greater Glory Ensemble

### **Miracle Medley**

### SOLOISTS

Jena Fisher Ron Benson Zuumah Gayemen Shalon Jones

### This Christmas

### ORIGINAL ARRANGEMENT

Christ Church Band

### Away in a Manger

### **ORIGINAL ARRANGEMENT**

Christ Church Collective Amanda Camille Rolon

### SOLOISTS

Am<mark>anda Camille Rolon</mark> Jada Law Gabby Florendo Kezia Harley

### **God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen**

### ORIGINAL ARRANGEMENT

Peter Powers Kezia Harley

### **SOLOISTS**

Willie Matos Yvette Saldana & featuring Christ Church Ensemble

### **DANCERS**

Kelsey Elisabeth Holley Helar Aricaya

### Joy to the World

### SOLOIST

Ron Benson featuring Christ Church Ensemble

### **Uyangihola (He Leads Me)**

### SOLOIST

Dominque Bradford featuring Christ Church Choir

### **DANCERS**

Luis Tosado Kelsey Elisabeth Holley



## **PERFORMERS**



### SOLOISTS/LEAD SINGERS

Jada Law

Ron Benson Jena Fisher Kezia Harley Anne Joseph Willie Matos Yvette Saldana Amanda Camille Rolon Charisa Rouse

Shalon Jones
Zuumah Gayemen
Gabby Florendo

### **DIVERSITY IN WORSHIP AMBASSADORS**

Will Perez

Dominque Bradford

Andrew Darling

Marie Charles Kerline

As part of Christ Church's ongoing commitment of *Uniting People to God and People to People*, the Worship and Creative Arts Ministry has reached beyond the walls of Christ Church to welcome regional worshippers who are committed to diversity in worship. This cohort of singers and musicians, affectionately known as Diversity in Worship Ambassadors, have graciously lent their talents to make *Miraculous* a success! These ambassadors gather together to discuss how diversity can be expressed more authentically and practically in worshipping communities.

### **FEATURED GUEST ARTISTS**

Dashawn "Redeemed" Robinson
Dominque Bradford & Greater Glory
New City Kids Drumline

### **FEATURED GUEST SOLOISTS**

Andrew Darling
Christi Greco De Leon
Will Perez
Gabby Florendo
Marie Charles Kerline

### **ACTORS**

Li-Ann Asia as "Ruthie, Daughter"

Mark Bowen as "Nathaniel, Grandfather"

Matthew Cordero as "Samuel, Father"

### **DANCE ARTISTS**

Christ Church Collective
Movement Makers

### BAND

Farrel Hutchinson, Piano
Donnie Atis, Keyboards
Alex Michel, Electric Guitar
Natnael Isaac, Electric Guitar
Peter Powers, Bass Guitar
Leonard Latouche, Drums
Charisa Rouse, Violin
Roger Bryson, Saxophone
Michael Diaz, Jr., Trumpet

# Horn Section (Mary, Did You Know?)

Gina Benalcazar Lessie Vonner Shanyse Strickland Telaina Lee Odom

### ENSEMBLE

Viilmary Mercado Joseph Caraballo Betsy Hutchinson Damaris Richardson Anne Joseph Ezechial Thurman Kezia Harley Helar Aricaya

Wodline Hippolyte Sammie Mendez Shalon Jones







EQUIPPING CREATIVES TO SERVE GOD AND PEOPLE

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

f @ @SCHOOLOFWORSHIPUSA



### NEW SERMON SERIES | BEGINS JANUARY 7-8

Join us as this challenging question is tackled by Pastor David Ireland, Ph.D., and our Teaching Team. Using Bible-based practical strategies, we will help you filter out the noise, crystallize your 2023 vision and uncover What Really Matters!

CLIFTON SUNDAY 10:00 AM ROCKAWAY SUNDAY 9:00 AM

11:30 AM

MONTCLAIR

SUNDAY

9:00 AM 11:00 AM

12:45 PM

**ONLINE CAMPUS:** Visit ChristChurchUSA.org for schedule









# Jena Fisher DIRECTOR, PRODUCER, SOLOIST

Jena Fisher has appeared in several Christ Church Christmas productions over the last decade and has been featured in major theatrical and musical productions such as *The Mile-Long Opera* and August Wilson's acclaimed stage play, *The Piano Lesson*. Jena's passion for music and for worship is shown in her work as

a published songwriter (SEASAC)—most notably with collaborations featuring global recording artists Uche Agu and Nathan Curtis. Jena, a graduate of Calvin College in Michigan (B.A. in History and Secondary Education), also spent 10 years as a high school advanced-placement history teacher.

In addition, Jena is the Multisite Worship Director and principal worship leader at Christ Church. Her work as a songwriter, production manager and vocalist can be experienced on the Christ Church Worship Team's EP Release, As We Wait, and Christ Church Collective's Christmas Album Vol. 1.



# Peter L. Powers MUSIC DIRECTOR, ARRANGER AND COMPOSER

From an early age, Peter has had a deep interest in music. At age 12, he began taking music lessons, giving him the chance to study piano and learn basic music theory. When he was 14, he realized that he was drawn to the funky bass lines that he heard on old James Brown and contemporary gospel records, and he decided

to take up the bass; he's continued as a dual instrumentalist to this day.

Peter holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Jazz Performance from The New School for Jazz & Contemporary Music in New York City. In his professional career, Peter has had the opportunity to play with various gospel and mainstream artists in major venues all across the globe, as well as in the musical theater arena.

Peter currently serves as Music Director at Christ Church and is also featured as a composer on the faith-based independent film, "After the Wait."



# Patrick Fider

In his fifth year of producing the Christ Church Christmas Concerts, Patrick Fider, a.k.a. PatFider, is a media producer with a wide range of skills and experience in the world of media production. He is a man of God, husband, father and beloved media director of Christ Church. His works include directing nationwide broadcast

television commercials, and he was the Creative Designer in the marketing launch of Dolby Atmos. Patrick enjoys serving and being a member of the Christ Church Collective Worship Team and Band.





### **Anne Joseph**

### ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, SOLOIST

Anne is a touring singer/songwriter and guitarist from New Jersey. She serves as the Assistant Director for this year's musical concert, Miraculous, and is the songwriter of the original featured song, Miraculous. She has also appeared in past Christmas productions

at Christ Church. Currently on tour with Jackson Chery & Bridging the Gap, her ability to sing and to write songs has allowed her to collaborate with other artists such as Uche Age on Soldiers of the Cross, along with her Christ Church Collective family. Anne frequently leads worship at Christ Church's Clifton, Montclair and Rockaway, New Jersey campuses. Vocationally, she is the Director of Music at New City Kids in Jersey City, developing young people into musicians and leaders. Her passion is to spread the Gospel through music and to lead people to encounter the love of God.



# Li-Ann Asia

Li-Ann Asia is currently in the fourth grade and has been acting since the age of 4. She has been in several productions, including "The Wiz" and the lead role in "Annie." She plays piano, sings, takes ballet and tap. Li-Ann aspires to be an entertainer when she grows up and thanks God, mommy and daddy for her talent and love of performing.



# Mark A. Bowen

Mark has served as writer, director, cinematographer, producer and editor of stage and screen for over 30 years, taking on various roles and capacities. He has been in love with the process of storytelling since he was 6 years old. Every visit to the bookstore or library would find him drawn to the filmmaking and performing arts

section for hours. He occasionally takes on acting roles for opportunities to "get the silly out." As an ordained minister, he believes one of God's greatest gifts to Him is the power to make someone laugh. He currently lives in Union, NJ with his loving wife, Frances, and his amazing sons, Isaiah, Joshua, Kaleb and Mark Jr.



# Matthew Cordero

Matthew discovered acting at the age of 14 when he was in 8th grade. He realized that acting was something he wanted to pursue and began studying his craft in college. It was also while in college he earnestly began pursuing the will of the Lord for his life and his desires began to change. Matthew became a singer,

producer and an executive producer of music videos. Matthew feels the tug to enter the mission field of the entertainment industry where he can spread God's love and light.



# Ron Benson

Worship school director, singer and songwriter, Ron Benson has a passion to worship God authentically, and lead others to do the same. With energy and a gritty voice, Ron leads people into the presence of Jesus from a position of adoration, declaration and boldness. His heart wasn't originally drawn to leading musically,

but serving the local church in family ministries. Ron attended North Central University in



downtown Minneapolis, MN, where he received a Bachelor of Arts in Youth Ministry and a minor in Biblical Studies. After graduating from college in 2010, Ron accepted a pastoral position in student ministry. But in 2014, Ron took the step from doing music as a hobby and part time, to serving in a full-time capacity.

Ron currently serves on the Christ Church staff as the School of Worship Director. He and his wife, Leanne, live in the Poconos with their four beautiful children.



# Dominque Bradford

From the age of 6, Dominque always had a love for the things of God and a passion for music. Over the years he began to develop his ear for piano music and an interest in choral conducting. Upon graduating from the Music Educators of Tomorrow (MET) program at James J. Ferris High School in Jersey City, NJ, he concurrently

served as the Choir Director for the New Hope Missionary Baptist Church in Jersey City. He became part of the world-renowned Harlem Gospel Choir, serving as a featured soloist and music director.

He started his first group called "The Assignment" in 2009 and they have been blessed to share the stage with the likes of Bishop Hezekiah Walker, Pastor Donnie McClurkin, Richard Smallwood, JJ Hairston & Youthful Praise, and many more.

Dominque is married to Lateafa Draughn-Bradford and serves as Minister of Music at the Ark City Church in Newark, NJ.



# Marie Kerline Charles

A proud Haitian native, Marie started leading worship at the age of 15 and currently leads worship at Abundant Life Family Worship Church in New Brunswick, New Jersey. She has toured throughout Belgium, Luxembourg and Japan with Phyliss McKoy Joubert and The Glory Gospel Singers. She released her first single, Great Are

You Lord (All the Glory), in October 2021. A talented vocalist, Marie continues to be intentional about her artistry. Her sound is often likened to the beautiful blend of soothing jazz and neo soul. Marie holds a bachelor's in Public Health from Rutgers University and a master's in Health Policy and Management from New York Medical College. Whether leading in church or in various sectors, Marie's love for the kingdom and for spreading the gospel through her gifts, will always be what she is called to do.



# Andrew Darling

Andrew Darling, countertenor, is in frequent demand for his vocal artistry in a variety of styles including classical, musical theater, gospel and jazz. He received his B.A. in Music from New Jersey City University and completed the Graduate Performance Certificate Program at Montclair State University. In June 2017,

Andrew received the honor of performing in the Si Parla Si Canta Italian Opera mentoring program in Urbania, Italy. He was featured as one of the soloists with Kathleen Battle in her Underground Railroad concert at the Metropolitan Opera. Andrew is the 2012 winner of the Emerging Artists Vocal Competition in Reno, Nevada. As guest soloist, he has performed Handel's Messiah with the Vermont Philharmonic in 2014 and 2019. Darling is truly a God-fearing young man whose artistry is in tune with the divine.





# Christi Greco De Leon

Christi is a worship leader at Kingsgate Church and Resting Place House of Prayer in Woodland Park, New Jersey. She is passionate about creating a unique sound of praise and allowing space for the prophetic and spontaneity in worship. She is a full-time mom and wife and works with adults with developmental disabilities. She is

co-owner of a small business apparel brand and marketspace that cultivates opportunities for other small businesses to get connected and grow.



# Gabby Florendo soloist

Gabby feels blessed to be joining Christ Church for the Miraculous Christmas show. She is the Worship Leader at The Life Christian Church and also serves on the directive board for Tehillah Worship Collective. She will be graduating from Montclair State University in May 2023 with a BA in Social Media and Public Relations. She

thanks the Lord for this new family she has found in Christ Church! To God be the Glory.



# Zuumah Gayemen CHOIR DIRECTOR, SOLOIST

Zuumah Gayemen has been singing since the age of 3. With a hairbrush in her hand, singing in the mirror, she knew she was destined for the world of performing arts. Zuumah is a proud alumnus of the Cicely Tyson Community School of Performing and Fine Arts (New Jersey). She holds a bachelor's degree in Music Education from Saint Augustine's

University (North Carolina) and is currently pursuing a master's degree in Music Education.

Zuumah has performed with and for the late Whitney Houston, Emily "Cissy" Houston, Dionne

Warwick, Donnie McClurkin, Hezekiah Walker, Jill Scott, Tweet and so much more.

One of her most memorable and honorable moments was to sing in the presence of the late Rosa Parks. She is grateful for her Liberian roots, which laid the foundations of her love for music, and loves all things purple. Her desire is to make God proud in everything that she does.



### Kezia Harley SONGWRITER, SOLOIST

Kezia Harley is a singer/songwriter and has appeared in several of Christ Church's Christmas productions. She was a featured artist and songwriter for the Christ Church Worship Team's EP Release, As We Wait. Kezia is a principal worship leader and vocal director at Christ Church. She studied Music in Worship at Nyack College, graduating

with a Bachelor's of Science. A native of Jersey City, New Jersey, Kezia has been faithfully serving her community through worship.



# Jada S. Law soloist

Jada is a passionate vocalist who deeply loves Jesus and seeks to bring others to know Him through her singing. She is a former member of the Voice of Truth teen choir birthed at Christ Church. Jada has appeared in several of Christ Church's Christmas productions, and was a featured soloist for the Cicely L. Tyson Community School

of Performing and Fine Arts high school choir. She graduated with a B.S. in sociology with a double major in legal studies and music. Jada is currently a legal assistant at a law firm and is pursuing a legal career as an entertainment attorney. Jada's heart is for others to find hope in Christ Jesus and desires to keep using her voice to bring that to fruition.



# Willie Matos

Willie has appeared in several Christ Church productions over the last eight years. As a featured soloist, recording artist and worship leader, Willie's musical ability has been evident as early as age 7. A native of Puerto Rico, Willie now resides in New Jersey with his wife, Lynn, and their two children (Marilynn and Caleb).



# Amanda Camille Rolon

Amanda is honored to be part of "Miraculous" and share the stage with such a talented cast! As a recent graduate of Berklee School of Music, Amanda is a worship leader, songwriter and music producer. Her most recent demos appear on Instagram (@amandaxcamille). She is grateful to her family for their continual support and to God

for granting her the opportunity to use her love of music for His glory.



# Charisa Rouse FEATURED SOLOIST, VIOLINIST, ARRANGER

Charisa, professionally known as "the Violin Diva," is a classically trained jazz violinist and an accomplished contemporary music vocalist with her trademark Hot Pink Violin. She serves in the capacity of worship leader and is a member of the Christ Church Collective and Band. Her unique fusion of soul, jazz and exceptional vocal range has allowed her

to travel the world, recording and performing alongside illustrious artists including Patti Labelle on Black Girls Rock, Demi Lovato, Vivian Green, Kim Burrell, Cyndi Lauper, William McDowell, the Rolling Stones, Diana Krall and Quincy Jones. Charisa is also the creator and instructor of the "Stringtastic Curriculum," a unique program designed to reach underserved Black and Latino string players in the NYC tristate area.

Charisa's 2021 Christmas single "O Little Town of Bethlehem" is featured in the movie "A Miracle Before Christmas," starring LeToya Luckett and Keith David.



# Deshawn 'Redeemed' Robinson

Songwriter, rapper and producer, Dashawn "Redeemed" Robinson is a native of Brooklyn, NY who uses his gift with words to serve God, serve his community and discuss social ills within our nation. He is a five-time Kingdom Choice Award Nominee and the 2019 Pearl Award Winner of "Gospel Rapper of the Year." He co-produced the

theme song for BET's hit show "The Family Business" and has toured as the opening act for world-renowned violinist, Damien Escobar, and gospel sensations, The Walls Group. Redeemed is currently a graduate student at Princeton Theological Seminary and is a Master of Divinity 2023 candidate.



# Yvette Saldana

Yvette has been attending Christ Church for more than five years. She has been singing since she was very young and loves to worship in song. She states, "It's been a pleasure serving and receiving here at my church. I am happy to be able to participate in this year's Christmas production, Miraculous! I hope you all enjoy it."





# Zynide Banks EVENT PLANNING, MARKETING

Zynide served as the Production Manager for Home for Christmas and Ticket to Hope. She actively volunteers at Christ Church in event-support roles. In this capacity, she has participated in Elevate (Family Conference), Tri-County Fair, Prayerfest, the church's 25th & 30th anniversaries, 4RStudents and several other initiatives. Zynide is a

Registered Nurse and a retired Nurse Educator. She holds a bachelor's degree in Health Sciences and a Master of Arts in Educational Leadership from New Jersey City University. She is the mother of two adult daughters and grandmother to four adult grandchildren and one great-grandchild. She currently resides in northern New Jersey.



# Kelsey Elisabeth Holley

Kelsey hails from Durham, NC and is a graduate of the University of the Arts (NC). After graduating, she performed with Royal Caribbean International, and as a dancer, singer and actress in the West Side Story International Tour, along with the Netherlands production of The Lion King. Equipped with a master's degree in

Recreational Therapy from the College of Public Health at Temple University, Kelsey is employed as a recreational therapist. Her goal is to integrate her passion for performing arts and Recreational Therapy to facilitate increased health and wellness for people with disabilities. She is thankful to be part of the Miraculous Christmas production. To God be the Glory.



# Luis Tosado CHOREOGRAPHER

Luis Tosado was born in Ponce, Puerto Rico and began his dance training at Escuela Especializada de Bellas Artes de Ponce. He has performed in the Disney Parks Christmas Day Parade and has been serving as the Lighting Designer for the past three Christ Church Christmas productions. After stepping away from dancing in the

Christmas production in 2021, he is back to bring a miraculous touch to this year's concert.



# New City Kids Drumline

New City Kids Drumline is comprised of high school teenagers: Nasir Jefferson, A'Jahnae Hathcock, Christian Luarca, Jalil Blue and Jeslyn Borda, and are led by Tykia Williams, an alum of the New City Kids program. Not only do they love drumming, but they are also music instructors in the After School Center of New City Kids, Jersey City,

where they inspire the next generation to love music. They most recently appeared on stage at the New City Kids' Legacy Concert. The drummers are also featured in the New City Kids' album entitled, Legacy, available on all music streaming platforms.



# **WORSHIP WITH US!**



# **Montclair Campus**

Sunday 9:00 am, 11:00 am & 12:45 p.m



# Rockaway Campus

Sunday 9:00 am & 11:30 am



# **Clifton Campus**

Sunday 10:00 am



# **Online Campus**

For schedule, visit ChristChurchUSA.org

# NEXT CHAPTER

Expanding Our CARE for the Community



JOIN THE MOVEMENT!

ChristChurchUSA.org/TheNextChapter





# CALLING ALL CREATIVES

A Seat at the Table Is Waiting for You





# You're Invited to Holidays at CC!



Saturday, December 24
Christmas Eve
Candlelight Services
MONTCLAIR: 6:00 PM

ROCKAWAY: 6:00 PM\*

ONLINE: \*Livestreaming at 6:00 PM



Sunday, December 25
Christmas Day
"Home for Holidays" Service
ONLINE: 11:30 AM



Saturday, December 31
New Year's Eve
Worship Services
MONTCLAIR: 8:00 PM | 10:30 PM\*

ROCKAWAY: 8:00 PM

**ONLINE:** \*Livestreaming at 10:30 PM



Sunday, January 1
New Year's Day
Worship Services
CLIFTON: 10:00 AM

Watch our livestreams via

**ONLINE: 11:30 AM** 

ChristChurchUSA.org/Online

or on social media:



**ChristChurchUSA**