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Issue #48

St. Christopher's

e-Traveler

From the RECTOR



The Rev.
John F. Dwyer
Rector

LIVING GENEROUSLY

It is October, and it is Stewardship Season. As in past years, we have adopted a new theme for our 2017 Stewardship Campaign: Living Generously. You will see the images here on all of our communications in regard to this campaign, and I do hope and pray that all of us will be responsive and generous. There will be mailings, and weekly Sunday inserts, and testimonials from parishioners about their individual journeys of faith and generosity. In-gathering Sunday will be October 30th, but your Finance Team and Vestry urge all parishioners to turn in their pledge cards anytime before that date: this will simplify the bookkeeping aspect of this streamlined campaign.

We are blessed to have our facility utilized quite a lot this coming month. With that in mind, if any are looking to utilize one of our spaces for an event



They rise in the darkness
as a light for the upright;
they are gracious,
merciful, and righteous.
It is well with those who
deal generously and lend,
who conduct their affairs
with justice.
For the righteous will
never be moved;

OCTOBER 2016



Meet
Christ
Be Christ

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

2300 Hamline Ave N
Roseville, MN 55113
651-633-4589
stchristophers-mn.org

VESTRY:

Mary Pendergrass,
Sr. Warden
Jeff Jensen,
Jr. Warden
Ann DePaolis-Jones,
Clerk
Suzanne Hitchcock,
Treasurer
Kathy Ackerman
Darlene Cross
Harold Danley
Jan Fillmore
Elizabeth Grayden
Christopher Lacher
Becky Lucas
Mike Sirany
Barbara Swanson

STAFF:

Ruth Thillen,
Parish Administrator
Chad O'Leary
Youth Director
Marion Hunner,
Children's Ministries

(that is not already on the calendar), please be sure to contact our Parish Administrator, Ruth Thillen, to make arrangements to ensure there are no conflicts.

never be moved;
they will be remembered
forever.
PSALM 112:4-6 (NRSV)

Karla S. Cole,
Director of Music
Rev. Mary Rowe,
Assisting Priest
Rev. Janet MacNally,
Deacon
Rev. John F. Dwyer,
Rector

The Children and Youth will be busy with many events and activities this month, and please take note of those by reading the articles penned by Marion and Chad, found below.

I would like to highlight something new occurring this month. On October 30th (that is also In-gathering Sunday), we will be hosting a Welcome Luncheon for any and all folks who are new to our parish family, or feel or believe they are new. This luncheon will begin about 20 to 30 minutes after the 10:30 coffee hour has started, and will last approximately 45 minutes to an hour. We will be asking for RSVPs during the month of October to ensure we have enough food and coffee, to help facilitate our conversation and program. Please watch for more information in the coming weeks.

Not only is October Stewardship Season, but it is also Harvest Season. So I leave you with a Celtic Prayer called "A Harvest Prayer."

*May the holy and life-giving God
teach us to reverence all those life-giving works,
to praise God in all we do,
and to live as the image of God's glory for all the world to see.
Amen.*

God's Blessings and Peace,



The Deacon Discusses



The Rev.
Janet MacNally,
Deacon

It finally is officially fall! The leaves are turning, the temperature is dropping just a bit, and the days are getting a little shorter with each new cycle of sunrise and sunset. And we have returned to our Program Year. I have always enjoyed fall for a number of reasons, but most of all because amidst all the colored leaves and brisk

Our PROGRAM YEAR Schedule

Sunday:

8:00 AM
Holy
Eucharist

9:00 AM
Fellowship

9:00-9:25 AM
Archangels
-Music Room

9:30-10:20 AM
Children's
Education
-Room 107

9:30-10:15 AM
Youth Education
-Youth Room

9:30-10:15 AM
Adult Education
-Chapel
(1st & 3rd)

10:30 AM
Holy Eucharist

11:30 AM
Fellowship

Wednesday:

12:15 PM
Holy Eucharist
-Chapel

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday
9 AM - 4 PM

Gifts of Hope:

days, we find ourselves returning to the routine we keep for nine months of the year. And I love that! That routine brings all kinds of good things that were missed during the lazy months of summer. Even returning to school is a welcome part of that schedule. Here at St. Christopher's, we too return to all kinds of great and wonderful things, from Sunday School to the choir to regular meetings of committees to planning for the great feasts of the liturgical year. It feels somewhat like putting on a friendly warm sweater that surrounds us with the comfort of being familiar.

We also seem to talk a great deal about giving and sharing and abundance and scarcity around this time of year, not the least of which is related to annual stewardship campaigns. Whew! There, I said it! We talk a great deal about discerning our gifts and talents, and how to use those gifts for the life of the world. We talk a great deal about sharing with each other, in the form of our faith community, to the world beyond our doors, and we talk about giving: giving of ourselves, our time, and our treasure. But if we were to be honest and truly listen and respond to the Gospel lessons we hear throughout the year, we aren't just reminded of the sharing of our gifts in the fall as we return to our familiar and family-like routine, we are reminded of Jesus' mission for the life of the world, including a great deal of reaching out and sharing the gifts each of us has been given with those who have been given little.

But here is where I think that things get a bit hazy in the stewardship line of things. We spend a great deal of time talking about sharing our time and our talent. Those gifts that are uniquely ours to give, and which, if given, can and do make a difference in helping St. Christopher's as a faith community live into bringing about the Kingdom of God. And we think about our treasure, too, as we consider our neighbors in need, just outside our doors or far away. And all of that is very good and very important. But when we think of how to best use our time, talent and treasure, we need to think of the home that is St. Christopher's as well.

St. Christopher's, the church nestled in the cloverleaf, needs our gifts too. We come here every Sunday to be fed and nourished at God's Table and then sent forth into the world in mission. We come here in times of joy; weddings, baptisms and feast days, and times of sorrow, such as funerals, when we are in need of healing, or when the world seems to simply overwhelm us. Over the history of this faith community, St. Christopher's has formed, confirmed and sent forth generations of young people, fed the hungry, supplied the needs of its neighbors, comforted us in our sorrows, shielded us in our joy, and provided a place where we are welcomed just as we are, loved just for being us, and surrounded us in a community of fellowship. And all of that, my sisters and brothers in Christ, takes all of our gifts, our time, our talent, and yes, our treasure.

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church is a complex and marvelous place. We are a group of Christians that gather weekly to glorify

Would you like to sponsor an entire family?

Gifts of Hope is a program run by Keystone Community Services. They select several client families who are in particular need of help at the holidays, and typically St. Christopher's will sponsor 3-4 of those families.

We make a display where our parishioners may choose to purchase one or several gifts as part of this program. We will do the same thing this year, however, last year there was interest from several of our St. Christopher's families to sponsor an entire Keystone family.

If you are interested in sponsoring an entire family (roughly a \$250 commitment), please contact Marion before November 1st. She will request a family of whatever size you choose for you to sponsor. You will then be given their wish lists and asked to bring the items to church by the deadline - usually a week or

God, to be educated, to praise and to be fed so that at the end of the liturgy we can be sent forth, full and nourished to "do the work that we have been given to do." (BCP 365) St. Christopher's, the physical building, the lights, upkeep, and last but not least the staff, provide the space where we can and do come together in community to discern our time and our talents, and how best they might be used to engage in God's mission. And that takes our treasure; there just is no other way to say it.

And all of that requires that we focus on all that talk about abundance and scarcity and giving and sharing. And all of that requires that we remember that first and foremost we are a community of faithful people who, through the sacrament of baptism, have risen to new life in Christ Jesus and joined with Him in bringing about God's Kingdom on earth. We are fortunate to belong to a faith community that takes the promises we make at our baptism seriously, and sets forth every single moment of its collected life to support us as we strive to live out those promises. This fall, once again, we need to think with abundance as we discern our commitment to St. Christopher's through our time, our talent, and last but not least, our treasure.

Amen,
Deacon Janet

Music Notes



Karla Cole,
Music Director

So we're all back in the swing of things again. Everyone is into fall schedule now and we're busy learning new music and preparing for the year to come. You'll notice that the choir has changed formation up there, and we're excited to note that we've added a few new faces. (Yours would be welcome, too!) We're working hard on honing our collective choral sound and psyching ourselves up for the Christmas music that will appear in folders next week. We stay at least six weeks ahead of the rest of you, and any one of our anthems gets 15-20 minutes of practice each week until we sing it. At Christmas, there's a whole lotta anthems all at once, so you can see the wisdom of starting so early.

This year, the **Lessons and Carols** service will be held at **4:00 pm** on **December 18th**, with all the musicians from tall to small in attendance. I like having an overarching theme to the music most years, and this year, it's music from all over the globe. Now you

two before
Christmas.

SILENT AUCTION -- SMALL BITES/BIG BIDS

Coming Soon...

Mark your calendars for St. Christopher's Annual Silent Auction. This year, the Silent Auction will begin Saturday, **November 5**, at Small Bites/Big Bids (a "happy hour" with heavy hors d'oeuvres), and continue Sunday morning **November 6** until noon.

We **will** have a Cash and Carry table again this year, and a separate table of Christmas items marked \$15 or less for immediate purchase. We are looking for gift- or house warming gift-worthy items.

Look for the 4th annual raffle opportunities. Sale of Raffle Tickets will start when the auction booklets are available, October 30.

Unable to purchase a gift card for the gift card tree, but

might think that Christmas music comes from all over already, and you'd be right. But I've been looking even further afield. There are Christians on most every continent and they all have their own indigenous music to celebrate Christ's birth. We Americans have taken much of the European Christmas carols as our own, but aren't widely familiar with African, Asian or South American carols. So it has been quite an interesting project to survey Christmas music from those other cultures.

Christmas always starts in July for me. I begin piling up music on the piano, adding and adding until it becomes unwieldy, then I start sifting and discarding until it reaches a reasonable size - hopefully by mid-September. Every year has little heartbreaks as I have to discard a piece or two that I've become fond of. And sometimes the next year's planning is begun already, as I can't bear to fully part with some of those pieces. This year's task was especially hard because I found all sorts of nifty carols and then realized that there wouldn't be room for anything familiar if I used all of them. I do recognize that many folks come to Lessons and Carols to hear and sing familiar Christmas carols, so there definitely needs to be a balance between the familiar and all those new carols I've been digging up.

Choosing music is a juggling act. And there are all sorts of elements to be considered - style, mood, where it belongs in the service, how long has it been since we did it last, how long will this take to learn, the choir might not like this much but the congregation will, I will love (or hate) this but everybody else will hate (or love) it - see where I'm coming from? Hopefully, I strike a nice balance most of the time and people appreciate their favorites and enjoy the fact that others' favorites are included as well. I do love bringing in music from other cultures and making a serious attempt to use the proper performance practice. I'm sure we are often too square or stilted in our performance, but we are the "frozen chosen" after all, and I think we should get full marks for effort. This faith of ours is timeless and has no boundaries. When we sing *O come, O come Emmanuel*, one of our oldest hymns, we are united with Christians from centuries past. And when we sing *We are marching in the light of God*, we sing in solidarity with our Christian brothers and sisters in South Africa. Those connections across time and space are priceless, and help us see that all are members of the body of Christ, now and always.

Karla Cole



Footprints October 2016

News from Children's
Ministries



would like to donate? We will shop for you. These will be available at the ticket table outside the Gathering Room; any donation amount is accepted.

Donation slips are available around the parish and in the office now. Please consider what you can donate to help make this auction a success. This is a great opportunity to share your time, talent, and/or treasure with St. Christopher's community.

Proceeds of this event will go to the Mission Opportunities Fund.



SEPTEMBER Calendar Highlights

- 2 8 AM Holy Eucharist
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist
- 5 12:15 PM Holy Eucharist
-Chapel
6:15 PM Bell Choir-Balcony



Marion Hunner
Children's Ministries Director



Many thanks to the adults who have volunteered to walk with our Sunday School Children on their Faith Journey this year.

Kathy Ackerman	Craig
Hunner	
Jean Darnell	Chris
Huntley	

Carol Duff

Children's programs are off to a great start! Here's what we have to look forward to in October:



Sunday, October 2nd the Sunday School children will learn about St. Francis and make homemade dog biscuits. We will freeze them and pass them out at Coffee Hour on Sunday, October 9th.



Saturday, October 29th - All Parish Hayride at 4pm at Bunker Hills Stables in Andover. Sign up in the parish hall following Sunday Services or contact Marion. **Sign up deadline** is Sunday, October 16th.



Sunday, October 30th - Celebration of Youth and Children AND Blessing of the Feet for Halloween.

- 6:15 PM Youth Group - Youth Room
- 7:15 PM Choir - Music Room
- 8 10 AM Mattie Abdullai Funeral
- 9 8 AM Holy Eucharist
- 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist
- 10 5:30 PM Finance Committee-Parish Hall
- 12 12:15 PM Holy Eucharist -Chapel
- 6:15 PM Bell Choir-Balcony
- 6:15 PM Youth Group - Youth Room
- 7 PM Green Team-Parish Hall
- 7:15 PM Choir - Music Room
- 14 6:30 PM Couples Bridge-Parish Hall
- 16 8 AM Holy Eucharist
- 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist
- 17 6:45 PM Vestry-Parish Hall
- 18 Meals on Wheels - Offsite
- 19 8 AM Holy Eucharist
- 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist
- 23 8 AM Holy

Youth News



Chad O'Leary

Youth Ministries Director

OCTOBER YOUTH GROUP DATES: 5, 12, 19 &

27 (Thursday)

We meet from 6:15 PM-8:00 PM.

2017 YOUTH PILGRIMAGE

This spring, St. Christopher's will be exploring the problem of racism in our communities -- at individual and systemic levels. Our youth group will be going on a pilgrimage to key Civil Rights sites in the American South during the summer of 2017. The exact dates will be chosen by participating youth and their chaperones. Please note that our young adults are also welcome to join us -- so, if you know of an 18-25 year old interested in this special trip, we'd love to have them! Informational forms available on the lower narthex bulletin board. Please contact Chad if you have any questions, or if you are interested. Those indicating an interest will be contacted to choose dates. We are looking for adult chaperones, especially those willing to bring their van!

SUPPORTING STANDING ROCK

This last week, Presiding Bishop Michael Curry visited the camps at Standing Rock Indian Reservation, where scores of people are peacefully protesting the construction of a pipeline beneath the Missouri River. He has invited all people of faith to stand with those committed to protecting the Earth. Lucas Monahan, a member of our youth group, recently returned from visiting Standing Rock with his parents, Becky and Robin. While there, the cooks said that they were in dire need of spices. Therefore, the youth would like to collect funds to purchase spices to send with the Monahans when they return to North Dakota in mid-October. If you would like to help support this essential cause in this special way, donations can be placed in Chad's mailbox.

Pulse of the Parish

Good Morning. Today I am offering the Pulse of the Parish. The purpose of this brief update is to keep you informed of the actions taken by the Vestry at their meeting on Monday, September 19th.

Eucharist
10:30 AM Holy
Eucharist
 with **Baptism**

24

e-Traveler

Deadline

26 12:15 PM Holy
Eucharist

-Chapel

6:15 PM Bell

Choir-Balcony

7:15 PM Choir

- Music Room

27 5:30 PM

Community
Dinner

-Parish Hall

5:30 PM Youth

Group-Youth Rm

29 4 PM Hayride!
(OFFSITE)

30 8 AM Holy
Eucharist

10:30 AM Holy

Eucharist

12 Welcome

Luncheon

Please note:

Outside group use of the building has not been listed here. Please note that we now have music lessons Monday through Saturday. Please check the calendar in the office before scheduling a meeting or event. Our weekly building-use calendar is quite busy!

- The monthly financial report was reviewed. Budgeted income is below expectations due to the kitchen not being more robustly used by renters. Our budgeted expenses for the month and year are below expectations. Our financial situation remains stable. As a reminder, we ask that if you have not yet started participating in the automatic withdrawal payment program, that you contact Ruth Thillen, our Parish Administrator, to begin participating in that program. It allows for more reliable cash flow.
- The Vestry discussed the Silent Auction, and the "Happy Hour" on Saturday night of this two day event that will occur in early November this year. The vestry is excited about this important Mission Opportunity fundraiser, and more information will be provided soon by the teams organizing these events .
- The Vestry approved the purchase of LED Light Bulbs for our facility and would like to heartily thank all those parishioners who helped us reach our goal allowing us to move forward on this important cost saving project.
- The Vestry approved the Proposed Budget for 2017 which will be part of the Stewardship Packet which will be distributed in early October.
- The Vestry approved a Mission Opportunity Grant request for financial support to be given to Meals on Wheels.
- The Vestry reviewed the plans of our new Welcome Team, and is grateful and excited that a Welcome Luncheon for any individuals who are, or consider themselves, newcomers will be hosted at the end of October. Look for more information about this event in early October.
- The Vestry reviewed the initial plans for forums concerning Super Bowl 2018 and sex trafficking that will take place in 2017. More information will be provided as those plans are more fully developed.
- The Vestry would like to recognize the following people in our "Shout-outs" for the work they have recently done for our parish:
 - For Don Shiek, Bruce Warkentien, and John Trapnell for scraping and painting the outside of the stained glass windows in the courtyard.
 - For all the volunteers who made the delicious food for Start Up Sunday: Ann Trapnell, Kathy Ackerman, and Ann DePaolis-Jones.
 - For Harold Danley and the other volunteers for the clean up along the fence and other areas of the grounds on a very rainy Saturday morning.

Please be aware that the minutes of the September meeting will not be available to read online or in the library until after they have been approved at the Vestry's October meeting. I will be at coffee hour after the service. Please feel free to ask any Vestry member or me any questions you have about this meeting. Thank you for your attention.

Green Team



After taking the summer off, the Green Team had our first meeting of the program year in September. We would like to thank all those who worked in the giving garden, contributing to our most productive year yet. So far, we have donated about 600 pounds of fresh produce to Keystone Community Food Shelf. With the recent rain, the garden is still producing, so stayed tuned for the final count.



We would also like to thank all those who contributed to the St. Christopher's LED light bulb fundraiser. We were able to meet our goal, and will now be replacing our lights with much more energy efficient bulbs, which will help our budget as well as reduce our carbon footprint.

The Green Team meets monthly to discuss and explore new ways to reduce waste, recycle materials, and become more energy efficient as a faith community. If you have any thoughts about how we at St. Christopher's can become even better stewards of our earth, please let a member of the Green Team know. Or better yet, come to our next meeting on Wednesday, October 12, at Stout's Pub in Roseville. Hope to see you there!



Submitted by Larry Jones

Last Words

I hope you have enjoyed the October ***e-Traveler***. It sure is busy 'round here! That said, I'll be off on vacation (last time this year) from October 11 through the 17th. Please call ahead to the office before dropping in that week! This handsome fellow will be in the office while I'm away. He'll be happy to see you!



Enjoy October's "bright blue weather!"

Sincerely,
Ruth Thillen, Parish Administrator

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church
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