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**Issue #46**

**AUGUST 2016**

St. Christopher's

# *e-Traveler*

**From the RECTOR**



The Rev.  
John F. Dwyer  
Rector

St. Columba wrote:

*Alone with none but you, my God,  
I journey on my way:  
What need I fear, when you are near  
O Ruler of night and day?  
More safe am I within your hand  
than if a host did round me stand.*

It is a stunning surprise to me that we are already at the start of August...where did June and July go? When I was growing up, my elders always told me how much faster time passed for them as they grew older... and their statements of this fact have proven so very true for me this summer.

Summertime is a wondrous period when we can find time to recharge, refresh, renew ourselves. A time when nature, all around us, is teeming with vitality and health, helping us to be inspired to become stronger, in mind, body, and spirit. Even with that inspiration, I have found writing this *e-Traveler* article a challenge this month! I want to live into a short-period of contemplative re-charging and I am finding this article an obstacle to those reflections. And so, as the Holy Spirit works, I found in my readings this week the St. Columba prayer, set forth above, to be a glad reminder that I am not in charge, as much as I want that to be the case on occasion. I am reminded that God is in charge of the big stuff, and I am a servant working at creating the Kingdom for



Meet Christ  
Be Christ

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Jan Fillmore  
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**STAFF:**

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

which Jesus calls all of us to strive. And small faithful and prayerful steps are all that are necessary.

My prayer for all of St. Christopher's is that the remainder of this summertime respite will enliven each of our Spirits readying us for the work ahead.

God's Blessings and Peace to one and all.



## The Deacon Discusses



The Rev.  
Janet MacNally,  
Deacon

It is summer, August to be precise, and that wonderful celebration of all things Minnesota, and more particularly all things agriculture, the Minnesota State Fair, is less than a month away. And while the State Fair is quite often the last hurrah of summer, the last thing we do before we return to fall and the rhythm of the seasons (not to mention the return to school!), it is also a time to celebrate how much we are connected to and in concert with our earth.

The fifth mark of the Five Marks of Mission is as follows: To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth. It is all at once the most important of the five marks, and perhaps at the same time the most misunderstood.

At times, we look at this fifth mark and wonder to ourselves how this manages to find its way into the company of the other four marks. They speak of evangelism and of loving service and of striving to change the unjust structures of our societies. You know, those topics we immediately think of when someone mentions outreach or perhaps mission. And yet here it is, the fifth mark, proudly proclaiming our need to care for the earth and protect all that is found therein. The answer to our question is all together surprising, and yet obvious at the same time.

To start out with, we as humans were given the earth to

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

### Our SUMMER Schedule (Through September 11)

#### Sunday:

**9:30 AM**

Holy Eucharist

**10:30 AM**

Fellowship

#### Wednesday:

**12:15 PM**

Holy Eucharist-Chapel

#### Office Hours:

Monday - Friday  
9 AM - 4 PM

## JULY Calendar Highlights

*Please be aware that there are numerous staff vacations this month.*

- 3 12:15 PM Holy Eucharist-Chapel**
- 7 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist**
- 8 5:30 PM Finance Committee-Parish Hall**
- 9 PRIMARY ELECTION DAY - Voting in Parish Hall 7 AM - 8 PM**
- 10 12:15 PM Holy Eucharist-Chapel**

have dominion over it and all that it contained. But the translation of the word dominion does not mean to rule over, or to use or abuse as we please. It means that we are called to be stewards of the earth and all that it contains, to take care of our planet, "this fragile earth, our island home." (BCP 370). It is all that we have, its complex eco-systems are all that enable us to live and move and breathe, its gifts of water and plants and animals are all that we have to sustain us. And once we cease to care for the earth that has been entrusted to us, to waste or abuse its resources, once we have failed in our charge as stewards, then the rhythm of our existence fails as well. Once all or any of those eco-systems is off, we as humans are in a precarious place. Weather systems become unpredictable. We comment on how mild and dry the winters are, or how cold, and summers are no different with unusual temperature swings and either too much or too little rainfall. Everything seems to be out of step.

The truth of the matter is simply this: we are told by Jesus that those who care for their neighbors, who take care of the least among us, are the ones that will have abundant life. And, as our former Presiding Bishop Katharine writes, that even those who cannot understand that it is our duty to care for all of creation "must recognize that the life of human beings depends on the health of the whole planet."

Those who are the least among us are first to be adversely affected by the chances and changes that accompany climate changes; and they are the least able to respond as well. And the droughts and famines that occur on the other side of the world, causing illness, starvation and death, affect us all. We live in a global community and all of our lives are closely linked together. And if the upheaval and devastation that occur across the globe have an impact on us, then so too does our being good stewards here in Roseville have impact on those far away.

We are taking positive action here at St. Christopher's. We have wonderful solar panels that not only lower our electric costs but save resources as well. We faithfully recycle, and we are in the middle of a clever campaign called "Adopt an LED Bulb," to help ensure that all of our lights are energy efficient. And let's not forget our Giving Garden that not only provides food to our local Keystone Food Shelf, but also encourages pollinating insects as well. These are small actions, that when done by each of us, have a large impact across the global community.

It is the last of summer, the winding down before the gearing up. Let all of us take a moment each of these remaining summer days to give thanks for the abundance we have been given. Let us renew our commitment to care for and tend this fragile earth, our island home, and in doing so remember that all of the lives on this wonderful planet are

**14 9:30 Holy  
Eucharist**

**15** *(Vestry has been moved to August 24 at 5:30 PM)*

**16 Meals on Wheels-  
Offsite**

**17 12:15 PM Holy  
Eucharist-Chapel**

**21 9:30 AM Holy  
Eucharist**

**24 5:30 PM Vestry**

**25 5:30 PM Community  
Dinner**

**28 9:30 AM Holy  
Eucharist**  
Backpack Blessing!

**29 e-Traveler  
Deadline**

**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!

**Back to School  
shopping online?**

closely linked with ours.

***Amen,  
Deacon Janet***



## Footprints August 2016



News from Children's  
Ministries



Marion Hunner

Children's Ministries Director

I want to offer my heartfelt thanks to everyone who made VBS such a wonderful success. It takes many, many volunteers - both during the week and behind the scenes - to provide this special week of programming. VBS week is my favorite week of the year, and I am always energized by the excitement of the children, and the true sense of the Holy Spirit working among us. If you would like to see pictures from each day, they are on posters in the Upper and Lower Narthex and the Children's Ministries bulletin board (and a few are here, too). You can also find pictures on St. Christopher's Facebook page - you do not need to be a Facebook user to access our page: [www.facebook.com/St.ChristophersRoseville](http://www.facebook.com/St.ChristophersRoseville)



You can use this link to shop at Amazon, and a portion will be donated to St. Christopher's:

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/41-6009110>

Thanks for thinking of us while you shop!





### School Supply Collection



Watch for the yellow bus in the Lower Narthex from July 31 - Aug 14, where we are collecting school supplies for Keystone Community Services. They need all of the typical school supplies: backpacks, colored pencils,

pens (red, black, blue ink), compasses & protractors, notebooks (wide & college ruled), pencil bags/cases, glue, scissors, markers (narrow & wide), crayons (24). . . etc. Anything you find in the back to school section of the store would be great! Please place supplies in the bus no later than Sunday, August 14th. If you would prefer a monetary donation, please put it in Marion's mailbox and label it "school supplies." We will use it to purchase items for the drive.

### Pulse of the Parish - July

Good Morning. My name is Barb Swanson and I am on your Vestry. 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, July 18th.

- The monthly financial report was reviewed. Budgeted income is above expectations and budgeted expenses for the month and year are below expectations. We are at the halfway point of our financial year and 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 easier cash flow, particularly in the summer months.

- The Vestry discussed the parish gathering and conversation about after funeral gatherings and reviewed options available to the parish. The vestry is moving forward with final plans and hope to have arrangements publishable by the beginning of September.
- The Vestry reviewed the final plans for the Adopt an LED Light Bulb fundraiser, that begins today. Please take note of the insert in your leaflet today.
- The Vestry was informed that the Columbarium shutters have been returned and were to be installed this week. They have been re-secured and the new engraving looks wonderful.
- The Vestry reviewed and approved the Finance Committee's recommended adjusted mid-year budget. Finance revised the budget based on actual experience at our half year mark, with revisions to both income and expenses. The revised budget remains balanced with a projected surplus of \$20.
- The Vestry reviewed plans for our Start Up Sunday, on September 11th. More information will be provided in mid-August, but please mark your calendars for this celebration of the start of our new Program Year.
- The next Vestry meeting has had a change of date. The new meeting date is Wednesday, August 24th.

The Vestry approved one Fundraising Request:

- Children's Ministries is sponsoring a school supply collection for Keystone. This project was approved and will take place over two weeks: July 30th thru August 14th. More information will be forthcoming from Marion Hunner.

The Vestry would like to recognize the following people in our "Shout-outs" for the work they have recently done for our parish:

- All the volunteers who worked on the reception for Fr. John's and Ben's marriage blessing.
- All volunteers who created the marvelous VBS experience for the participating children.
- Don Shiek, Bruce Warkentien, and all volunteers who moved furniture for our carpet cleaning.

Please be aware that the minutes of the July meeting will not be available to read online or in the library until after they have been approved at the Vestry's August 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.

## Last Words

Well, I blew it! You should have received this on Friday, July 29th, but I forgot to send it. Sorry about that!

I hope you have enjoyed the August *e-Traveler*. Please note that I will be on vacation again August 23-29. I should probably go to the Fair... You may want to call ahead before stopping in the office.

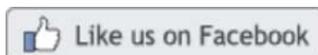
Lincoln wants me to follow him into Fr. John's office. He likes company when it's time to eat lunch!



Sincerely,  
Ruth Thillen, Parish Administrator

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