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St. Christopher's

e-Traveler

Issue #65

APRIL 2018

A Note from Rev Daniel Pearson



The Rev.
Daniel V. Pearson

Transition Priest



Meet
Christ
Be Christ

Spiritual Practice and Lifestyle

As I write this note, the season of Lent is fast coming to a close. Tomorrow will be Palm Sunday, the first day of Holy Week that leads to Easter. I suppose technically Lent gives way to Easter in about the middle of the Great Vigil of Easter when darkness is overcome by light-literally-and the joyful sound of Alleluia returns.

One hopes that something of our lenten practice may abide into the lengthy Easter Season and thereafter. If your discipline happened to result in the loss of a few pounds or a healthier diet, so much the better. If your prayer life got a bit more robust, may it continue.

I would guess that I am not alone in beginning Lent with good intentions coupled with salutary performance only to find a diminution of the latter. For good or ill, Anne and I planned a trip to India over a year ago which took place in the middle of Lent. The good of traveling is that it takes you out of your daily routine and at best it expands your horizons and opens the doors of your perception. We see how others live and consider what they believe often increasing gratitude for what you have. You go away from home to enrich your life when coming back home.

Typically, spiritual practices rest on habit and routine. In our house,

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

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VESTRY:

Cindy Lee,
Sr. Warden
Joel Norton,
Jr. Warden
(Position Open),
Clerk
Darlene Cross,
Treasurer
Mark Brilowski
Jan Fillmore
Karen Hartman
Barbara Hovey
Chris Huntley
Tom Linder
Becky Lucas
Mike Sirany
Lisa Spiro

Anne has a room for mediation and I have a place to say the Daily Office. Same at St. Christopher's for me. Ordinary life involves the "same old, same old" exercised for the sake of slow and steady transformation of the soul. Travel is extra-ordinary and disrupts routine and is quite likely disruptive also of spiritual practice.

Interestingly, being at home in our frenetic, interactive, transactional, fragmented culture is like continual travel wherein it is difficult to carve out time and space to get into a routine that augers well for spiritual practice. I recently read an article about proposed legislation in New York that would fine companies if they expected their employees to get on-line or email after work hours-a sure sign of our over-heated society.

Personally, I'm thankful for being a church person who follows the liturgical year. This commitment keeps the issue of spiritual practice and lifestyle alive-its tensions and challenges. As the Forty Days of Lent give way to the Great Fifty Days of Easter, no matter how successful we've been with our prayers and devotions, I hope they end up as seeds and become something of the "green blade [that] riseth from buried grain" the rest of the year.

dvp

The Deacon Discusses



The Rev.
Janet MacNally,
Deacon

It is Monday of Holy Week as I write this, and the day is somewhat gray and there was a light dusting of snow on the ground this morning. Thankfully, that has disappeared, but it still remains chilly and gray and not at all as though we had reached the official "spring" date on the calendar. And yet we are, heading into the week that is set apart from all other weeks of the year. The week that allows us to walk through the last days of Jesus' life here on earth and then to celebrate together as community the resurrection that is the hope and promise of our faith. And yet, it is what happens in the following week and weeks to come, it is how we live into that promise of resurrection, that is the journey that greets us on Easter morning. And perhaps that is the real and lasting promise of Easter morning, that there is a journey to embark on as we move outside the doors of our church.

There was an interesting Op Ed piece in this morning's (3/26) New York Times. Written by contributing writer Margaret

STAFF:

Ruth Thillen,
Parish Administrator
Chad O'Leary
Youth Director
Marion Hunner,
Children's Ministries
Karla S. Cole,
Director of Music
Rev. Mary Rowe,
Assisting Priest
Rev. Janet MacNally,
Deacon
Rev. Daniel Pearson,
Transition Priest

Our PROGRAM YEAR Schedule

Sunday:

8:00 AM

Holy Eucharist

9:00 AM

Fellowship

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

(2nd & 4th)

10:30 AM

Holy Eucharist

11:30 AM

Fellowship

Wednesday:

12:15 PM

Holy Eucharist

-Chapel

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday

9 AM - 4 PM

Renkl, it details Ms Renkl's departure as a regularly attending member of a Roman Catholic faith community, To be honest, I read a great deal about what was wrong with the church and the world in her writing, all of which, I suppose, was to justify her leaving the church as a regular member. It was worth staying with the article, however, because at the end was her decision to return to the church as a regular member, and reasons why. And this is what I found most interesting. It was the community of people gathered that she was missing, it was "standing side by side with other people, our eyes gazing in the same direction, our voices murmuring the same prayers in a fallen world." She speaks of missing the smiling faces of babies and young children, the exchange of the peace, the singing. She is resolved to return to church this Easter and thereafter to offer prayers for her faith community, her country and the world. And then she will "walk into the world and do her best to practice resurrection."

That is what Easter is all about, isn't it? That gathered in prayer, rejoicing in song, and fed at the table, we are nourished to go forth into the world on Easter and every other Sunday to practice resurrection. I like the fact that she uses the word "practice" to describe her journey outside the doors of her church. It says to me that, as we travel on the path that the Holy Spirit is asking us to follow, we may stumble, put a foot wrong, not get things quite right along the way. The word practice allows us to acknowledge that fact, accept it, and continue to move forward. I am not saying that Easter is not a big deal, it is a big deal, a very big deal. But it is made a big deal by our actions as disciples of Jesus in the world. It is made a big deal by our gathering on all the Sundays to pray, sing and be fed and nourished for the work ahead and outside.

The world is waiting. Waiting for us this Easter Sunday and every other Sunday thereafter to join where God is already out ahead of us, where the Holy Spirit is calling us to join in, where we are to be Christ's hands and feet and voice in the world.

Side note: At our "Ask A Dreamer" event a few weeks back, we asked our dreamer Ginger what we could do to help. Her response was to listen to their stories without judgement and with understanding and love. We have an opportunity to just that; on Saturday, April 7th, there is a breakfast hosted at St. Michael's Lutheran Church here in Roseville, to give an opportunity to listen to our immigrant neighbors with love and understanding, and breakfast. Details to follow! Ginger's podcast can be found at: <https://www.spreaker.com/user/laquemaneradio/im-daca>

Amen,
Deacon Janet

Music Notes



Food Shelf Update

Food collection for January and February totaled 130 pounds. Thank you all who kept the hungry in mind. There is a need for canned vegetables, especially beans. Can YOU contribute at least one can this month?.



Karla Cole,
Director of Music Ministries

Hello all! Karla is taking an issue off from the eTraveler and in her stead I, **Matt**, Karla's husband, is writing the column. I am proposing a fun project for Saint Christopher's to try this year: Postcards from Saint Christopher's Travels. Each week we bless our travelers as they head to Ely and London and Wausau and Durban. Each week some among us set out to see the world. Each week some of us come back to the welcoming confines and community of St. Christopher's. These days it is simple or even imperative for the younger set to share their experiences as they happen with Instagram or Facebook. I am suggesting that we also try a more primitive form of Instagram: postcards.

Postcards are very old school and highly underrated. Back in the days of film, heck, even in the days of daguerrotypes, it was common for travelers to send postcards back to their friends and families at home, to reassure them that things were ok, the scenery was lovely, and to induce envy and FOMO. Pretty much like Instagram, actually. Postcards usually were photographs of locally notable sights or cultural artifacts. They weren't private at all; all the text on the postcard was available for anyone to read, kind of like email or apparently Facebook. Postcards may eventually fade away entirely, but while they are still around, they'd make a fun way to see Saint Christopher's parishioners out in the world.

The idea is that, when you are out traveling, you write a postcard and mail it back to St. Christopher's. Once received, we'll put it up on a bulletin board and build a portfolio of cards from out in the world as we encounter it. To make this easier for those traveling domestically, we'll actually give you a postcard stamp and a pre-printed address label (for 2300 Hamline Ave N, Roseville, MN, 55113-4200, United States). Sadly, our supply of French and British and Australian and Indian postcard stamps is badly depleted, so you'll have to track down postage yourself if you're off somewhere exotic. This can be good fun; one of my early attempts at actual French usage was "Excusez moi, avez vous les estampes pour les poste cartes a l'Etats-Unis par avion?" and I was sold some stamps AND the post cards I mailed with them showed up. Mad fluent, that's me.

The conventional way to do post cards is to buy them. Gift shops, hotel lobbies, drug stores, all kinds of places will sell them. Even with a traditional post card, there is room for creativity; in my younger days I would carry a Sharpie marker to add dialogue bubbles to the fronts of the cards. In recent years, I've done post cards where you take a 4X6 print (which you can print from your smartphone at Walgreens, CVS and Boots, depending on location) and stick to a post card backing which can be bought at National

Camera Exchange. This way you can send a photo you took. Another way to use your own photos is to use an online service. PhotoCard for the iPhone/iPad by Rick Atkinson is an app I use and there are several others for iOS and Android devices. You choose a picture from your Photos, write and address it in the app, and it is printed and mailed. This costs a bit of money, but they do a really nice big print. And, unlike that quickly-forgotten Instagram post, you can stick this one to the fridge door with a magnet!

I write this from the Amtrak in the Winona area on the way back from Chicago. I've sent three postcards from this long weekend visiting Geneva. One is a current postcard, lovely and colorful. One is a very old postcard from the International Museum of Surgical Science who apparently printed thousands of the things decades ago. They have boxes of these in the basement still, and the cards don't have zip codes, so must be from before 1963. And one is from the PhotoCard app. What we'd like to see is postcards from your travels, wherever they may be, and we'll put them up on a board for everyone to admire.

In some ways this call to postcard action is just a bit late, seeing that Father Daniel just got back from India and the Crows were recently in England. They'll have to go back just to mail us some postcards and maybe buy some stamps to hand out. In the meantime, take a few minutes out from your trip to Hayward and drop us a card from the Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame. We will be consumed with envy and feel compelled to respond with a postcard showing the World's Largest Ball of Twine. It should be good fun all around!

Safe Travels!

Matt



Footprints APRIL 2018



News from Children's
Ministries



Marion Hunner

Children's Ministries Director

The Triduum

What is the Triduum? It is one service that extends from Maundy Thursday through the Easter Vigil. We break it into three parts: Maundy Thursday (7pm), Good Friday (noon), and Easter Vigil (7pm), but it is really a journey through the last days of Jesus' life, his crucifixion, and the waiting for the resurrection. Please consider bringing your children to these services - we will have special bulletins for them, and the Easter Vigil is where we release the Alleluia balloons.



Easter Sunday we will have our traditional Easter Egg Hunt and crafts in the parish hall following the 10:30 service. There will be **NO SUNDAY SCHOOL OR CHILDREN'S CHAPEL** on Easter Sunday.

April in Sunday School - We will explore the Easter Season with Mary Magdelene, the road to Emmaus, and the Ascension, with a short break on April 22 to celebrate Earth Day with the creation story.

Honoring our Graduates: During April and May the Sunday School children will be tying fleece blankets for our three high school seniors who will be graduating in June.

Looking Ahead to Summer!

July 23-27 -Shipwrecked - Rescued By Jesus

Our Vacation Bible School program, will run from 9am - noon at St. Christopher's. At Shipwrecked VBS kids learn one important Bible Point each day, and it's reinforced through Bible adventures, songs, snacks and hands-on explorations that help them know that Jesus is with them through all of life's storms. VBS is designed for children in preschool through finishing 5th grade. Students who have completed 6th - 12th grade are welcome as volunteers, and adults are always needed to help. Feel free to contact Marion with questions.



More information available at:

<http://www.stchristophers-mn.org/vbs.html>



ECMN Summer Camps

EKID: Episcopal Kids

<https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07ef1ofbaod25af1cf&oseq=&c=&ch=>

June 21-23, 2018 [PreK - Gr. 5]

Camp Miller, Sturgeon Lake, MN

EKID is a 3-day introductory overnight camp for kids entering PreK - Grade 5. Each kid comes with one adult, who could be a parent, godparent, aunt, uncle, grandparent, family friend, etc. These duos (or families) explore climbing, hiking, and waterfront activities together and discover the joy of camp! This is a great way to prepare your kid for camp before attending EYQC or EYMC.

ECAD: Episcopal Creative Arts Day Camp

<http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register>

[/event?oeidk=a07ef1o3cvgaa32cc03&llr=87k4fkcab](http://event?oeidk=a07ef1o3cvgaa32cc03&llr=87k4fkcab)

July 30 - Aug 3, 2018 [PreK - Gr. 6]

St. Mark's Cathedral, Mpls

ECAD runs from 9am-3pm M-F for children Age 4 - entering Grade 6. Before and aftercare is available. We'll sing, dance, tinker, tell stories, and play, finding the Holy and experiencing God in everyday moments.

EYMC: Episcopal Youth Music Camp

<http://www.episcopalmncamps.org/>

August 5-11, 2017 [Gr. 3-12]

Camp OneHeartland, Willow River

EYMC offers an overnight camp experience to youth entering Grades 3-12. We rehearse and perform a condensed musical each summer with orchestra, band, bells, recorder, piano, drama, and more! Our week also includes morning and evening worship, faith formation, and traditional camp activities (swimming, crafts, games, etc.).

Youth News

Happy Easter! As we shout out "Alleluias" and reflect on what it means to be people of the new life, it is also time to begin thinking about how we want to structure the next programming season. With a commitment to being a good steward of our parish's resources and the time of all of our families involved in youth ministries, I have put together a survey of what formation opportunities youth and parents/guardians desire. If you are a middle school student, high school student, or a parent/guardian of a teenager, please take five minutes and complete the survey, found [HERE](#). This information is absolutely essential to making St. Christopher's youth ministry work for YOU. This information will be shared with you, the vestry, and staff so that we can all move forward together. Thank you!

Below you will find information about this month's formation opportunities!

Weekday Meetings:

April 4 (6:15-7:45PM) - Bishop Prior will be joining us! Please plan to come! He loves to get to know the youth of the faith communities in the Episcopal Church in Minnesota.

April 11 - Topic TBD by youth

April 18 - Topic TBD by youth

April 29 - Community Dinner, 5:30PM (Parish Hall)

Sunday Formation:

April 1 - No Formation (Happy Easter!)

April 8 - We will join the adult forum! Topic: The Anglican/Episcopal Tradition

April 15 - We will join the adult forum! Topic: Christian Basics: The Creed

April 22 - We will join the adult forum! Topic: Christian Basics: Incarnation, Redemption & Holy Trinity

April 25 - Formation (Youth Room)

MN TEC

There is still room for high school students to be part of TEC April 13-15 at St. Mark's Cathedral in Minneapolis. TEC has been part of our ECMN experience for years but, for the first time, we will be coming together as one state to walk the Paschal Mystery together. Registration can be found at www.episcopalmn.org. Please keep Patrick Hunner and young adult participant Lucas Monahan in your prayers as they serve in leadership roles during the weekend.

YOUTH TREASURE HUNT

Jesus is resurrected -- so is our treasure hunt (one, however, clearly more important than the other!). You will see the first clue below. The treasure is a St. Christopher's coin (those given to travelers on Sundays) and is hidden somewhere on church property. It is NOT in any locked rooms or hidden in a way where a mess is created. The finder of the medal will win a \$35 gift card to the store/restaurant of their choice!

CLUE #1

It is time once more for the event you adore
The one where you hunt for a precious rupee.
Start your search; scout out the entire church
Inside a locked place it will never be.

Nature's around and a warm breeze abounds
Sense where this is going?
In something it is not, but let's not force the plot
Detect a hidden message that's showing.
(Enough to get your curiosity growing?)

--

Much Peace on the Journey,
Chad O'Leary

Giving Opportunities

Giving Opportunities: Help Us Replenish our Endowment Fund

Please consider donating towards the cost of our sewer replacement. The total cost of our sewer work was \$169,016, which was paid from the Endowment Fund. To date, we have received donations of \$22,000 from generous parishioners to replenish the Endowment Fund balance, leaving \$147,016 still needed to restore our funds.

Many thanks to those who have already contributed. If you have not yet contributed, we encourage you to donate now in any amount, large or small. Perhaps you are receiving a tax refund this year, or are celebrating a big birthday - there are many great reasons to give. Just mail a check to the office, or place it in the collection plate, noting 'Endowment Fund for Sewer' on the memo line.

Also, please consider our Legacy Giving opportunities. There are many ways to make a Legacy Gift to St. Christopher's, and we have lots of information available to get you started.

If you have already made arrangements to include St. Christopher's in your estate plans, we sincerely thank you for your generosity and we would love to have you let the office know of your intentions. We have a 'Statement of Intent' form you can use, or you can just provide Fr. Daniel or Ruth with a written note regarding your plans. This information simply helps inform the church of your intentions for future reference.

Thank you - Cindy Lee

Green Team

Earth Day is an annual event celebrated on April 22. Various events are held to demonstrate support for environmental protection throughout the world.

First celebrated in 1970, Earth Day events in more than 193 countries are now coordinated globally by the Earth Day network.



Come join the Green Team on Earth Day at coffee hour. Coffee, food, and fun along with Planet Earth being shown on the "big" screen for your enjoyment, will be provided. Want to get involved



with the Green Team? Then join us at our next meeting:
Wednesday April 11 at 7:00 in the Parish Hall.

Last Words

I hope you have enjoyed the April *e-Traveler*.

It looks as though March is trying to "go out like a lion!" As I write on Good Friday, we've had snow flurries off-and-on. But the days are definitely longer, and soon I'll be trying NOT to complain about being too warm.

THANK YOU to everyone who has shoveled (whether or not they were on the official chart), helped prepare the building for Lent and Easter events, volunteered at all the extra services, and helped the office staff with boxes and deliveries.

Sincerely,
Ruth Thillen, Parish Administrator

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