



Hello, St. Christopher's Community!

Our **Event Fair** was a great success! Don't miss the events you have signed up for! (Letters are coming soon!) Several are coming RIGHT up:

The Barbie Movie Event on THIS Friday the 19th;
DOORS OPEN at 6:30 PM, Movie begins at 7 PM!
the Tea Party is on January 27th; and
the Cooking Afghan Food and Afghan Meal are on the 28th!

Squeaks, Creaks, and Aching Bones *by Fr. Randy+*

The butt-end of the shovel dug into my stomach with all the savagery of a Roman Legionnaire's thrust! The sidewalk crack had captured the cutting edge of the shovel blade and refused to yield. My soft tummy was only too eager to absorb the blow—and *it really hurt!* I yelled out in pain, but there was NO ONE present to witness this carnage! The windchill factor was nearly -20 F, and the surrounding neighborhood was empty and silent—not a soul to be found.

We have been experiencing a severe turn of season this past week. We have had the pleasure of enjoying a rather mild winter season so far—but all of that changed with an abrupt and crippling blow of arctic wind. And, I muttered and grumbled beneath my breath—heaving billowing plumes of steam from my mouth with every single breath I took. Shiver and shake and ache all over.

The snow squeaked and screamed as it was compressed beneath my clunking car tires. Ice-melting salt crystals crackled and crunched on the sidewalk as they were crushed to powder under my winter boots. Our grandkids re-enacted the scene from "A Charlie Brown Christmas"—gliding and twirling on their small pond skating rink—steel ice skate blades squeaking against the ice surface in the severe cold.



And, we complained like Job: *“...dread came upon me and trembling, which made all my bones shake.”* (Job 30:17) *“...dread came upon me and trembling, which made all my bones shake.”* (Job 4:14)

“Cold enough for you?” is the phrase that falls so easily from our mouths. *“And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ...”* (Matt 20:11)

But, our lonely existence on the edge of the tundra is not entirely encapsulated in the previous observations and experiences I have shared—the fretting and grumbling and protestations are really rather shallow and centered in self-pity and shortsightedness.

The earth, the environment, and all of God’s glorious creation requires this respite and time of snow-blanketed rest. And we, likewise, require a time of reflection and quiet peace in this season of rejuvenation—*all the while cupping a mug of warm beverage in our squeaky, creaky, aching hands!*

“Bless the Lord, dews and falling snow; sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.” (Prayer of Azariah 1:45) *“Bless the Lord, frosts and snows; sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.”* (Prayer of Azariah 1:49)

Take a moment, revel in God’s goodness in creation. Find wildlife tracks in the pristine sparkling snow. Watch the eagles soar and the bunnies bounce. Revel in the brilliant orange-magenta sunrises and the star-twinkling midnight blue night skies.

“Like the cold of snow in the time of harvest are faithful messengers to those who send them; they refresh the spirit of their masters.” (Proverbs 25:13)

“For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, ...” (Isaiah 55:10)

Squeak, creak, and ache for now—and *know* that Spring is coming!

Randy+

Annual Meeting of the Parish January 21st!

Please join us **THIS Sunday, January 21st**, for a single service at **9:30 AM**, followed by "Continental Breakfast" and some fellowship time, and the Annual Meeting beginning about 11 AM. We will elect Wardens and Vestry members, and hear about the 2023 Financials and final 2024 Budget.

Our Facebook WORSHIP Fans

We've been working to get our 10:30 service online, for those who cannot be with us. (If you're not following us on FaceBook yet, please do!) We hope to be able to bring it to you every week. It's especially helpful with winter weather, and it's an opportunity to connect with our snowbirds, and people we haven't met yet.

Here's where **you** come in! We really only need one person per Sunday to set up and monitor a tablet during the service, and take it down afterwards. We could use several more people so that the commitment is not a burden to a few. This is a great ministry opportunity for anyone to get started in a low-key way! Volunteers of any age are encouraged; the only requirement is some familiarity with tablets, and we'll train and provide simple directions.

Please consider this important outreach opportunity! Contact Marilyn+ for more information and to sign up. [Marilyn's email](#)

MEANWHILE, if you are not "on" FaceBook, here is a link that will take you to the St. Christopher's page, so you can watch the service live streamed, or go back later to watch the recording.

<https://www.facebook.com/St.ChristophersRoseville>

Upcoming Lectionary Readings

January 21: Epiphany 3

Jonah 3:1-5, 10; Psalm 62:6-14; 1 Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20.

January 28: Epiphany 4

Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Psalm 111; 1 Corinthians 8:1-13;
Mark 1:21-28.

Sunday Ministries January 21

9:30 AM

Nursery - Becky L, Jean C

Lectors - Erin B, Josh K

Intercessor - Angela R

LEM - Mike S, Marion H

Ushers - Bruce W, Ella S

Altar Guild - Ann T, Kathy A

Crucifer - Marion H

Acolytes - Ellery B, Roland K

Jr Acolyte - Charlotte B

Coffee Hosts: Vestry for Annual Meeting!

Are you receiving this email forwarded by a friend?

You can now sign up to receive the weekly Parish Mail and monthly *e-Traveler* in your own inbox. A sign-up form is now on the main page at our website. Just go to www.stchristophers-mn.org.

www.stchristophers-mn.org



Thank you for keeping your pledge up to date.

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church | 2300 Hamline Ave N, Roseville, MN 55113

[Unsubscribe office@stchristophers-mn.org](mailto:office@stchristophers-mn.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by office@stchristophers-mn.org powered by



Try email marketing for free today!