

From: St. Christopher's Episcopal Church <office@stchristophers-mn.org>
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St. Christopher's *e-Traveler*

Issue #63

JANUARY 2018

A Note from Rev Daniel Pearson



The Rev.
Daniel V. Pearson

Transition Priest



Meet
Christ
Be Christ

The Sunday Forum and The Growing Light

Epiphany is about the growing light of Jesus. At Christmas we celebrate the light of Christ that comes into the world- "the true light, which enlightens everyone." Epiphany is about the manifestation or showing forth of this light. It is not to be kept "under a bushel basket but on a lamp stand to give light to all in the house."(Mt. 5:14) In other words, we are meant to shine in such a fashion to help others realize "they are walking around shining like the sun." (Thomas Merton)

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

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We, in this part of the world, are blessed with growing light as slowly, almost imperceptibly, the days begin to lengthen. Spiritually, this turning of the earth serves to remind us of the lengthening, the expansion of ourselves as a source of light. With the Spirit's aid, we hope to be effective candles of the Lord.

The Church is a school of light and love. As disciples of Jesus we are life-long learners. To support this vocation, we at St. Christopher's are re-tooling the Sunday Forum to provide a weekly opportunity to learn some aspect of the Christian Way both for our own enlightenment and to help us be light for others. Come join in!

dvp

(Editor's note: I hope to have a photo of Fr. Daniel by next month!)

The Deacon Discusses



The Rev.
Janet MacNally,
Deacon

Happy New Year! As I write this it is cold outside, light snow is falling and it is still getting dark sooner rather than later. But we are on the threshold of a brand new year and that always seems to hold hope and promise despite the cold of a Minnesota winter. This coming year will hold a different sort of hope and promise for us at St. Christopher's as we begin the process of refining who we are as a community of faith here in Roseville, who we wish to become and who best might fit our hopes and dreams and needs as our new rector. We have been blessed with the gifts and talents of Fr. Dan Pearson as our transition priest who will help guide us through this journey.

We also have the journey of discovering how we best can, as a community of faith, live into the call of bringing about Dr. King's dream of a Beloved Community. This call has been given to us by our Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, and so the Episcopal Church in Minnesota has asked made this our common Lenten

Mark Brilowski
Darlene Cross
Jan Fillmore
Elizabeth Grayden
Karen Hartman
Chris Huntley
Becky Lucas
Mike Sirany
Barbara Swanson

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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

discipline. The Beloved Community is a philosophy that states in part that "The Beloved Community is a society based on justice, equality, opportunity, and love of one's fellow human beings." While stressing the principals of non violence and certainly at its heart at the time of inception, the importance of civil rights and racial equality, it goes so much further. Justice, equality and opportunity for all mean just that and Dr. King's vision stretched out farther than the struggles of blacks in the South during the 1960s. As we journey with our sister faith communities this coming Lent and beyond we too have the opportunity to reach out beyond our grasp to quote the poet and see what possibilities are there for us to explore and perhaps participate. As we begin our own journey of refining who we are as faith community we will also begin, during Lent, to discover how participation in bringing about the Beloved Community here in our corner of Roseville is a part of that journey. We have been in touch with friends at Do Good Roseville, who will help us along the way by providing panel discussions with members of our community who represent neighbors of ours who are facing the struggles that come with striving for justice and equality. And then as a faith community we will enter into discussions with ourselves to determine what steps we as St. Christopher's should take in playing our part to bring into reality Dr. King's dream. And this too will help us shape and define who is best called to be our new rector.

So on this cold, snowy end of the year day, I ask you to pray with me in thanksgiving for the guidance that we have been given, for the courage to follow where that guidance will lead us and to embrace the growth and change that it will represent. I ask you to pray for all of our neighbors in Roseville and beyond who continue to struggle against the injustice that is so often found within our community and ask for the wisdom and patience to listen to their stories and to let them walk with us along our way. And I ask you to pray for the courage to live into the commandment to love all our neighbors as ourselves.

All of this we ask in the name of Christ.

Deacon Janet

Music Notes



Karla Cole,
Director of Music Ministries

Wednesday:

12:15 PM
Holy Eucharist
-Chapel

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday
9 AM - 4 PM

Food Shelf Update



November and
December totals
were 132 pounds.

Many thanks for
pineapple
contributions, and
also a Thank you to
Sally Brown for
reminding others
the need for
cereal.

December alone
amounted to 93
pounds.

Happy New Year!
--Pamela Case

Many thanks to all the musicians and friends who created such a beautiful Lessons & Carols service, and made our Christmas celebrations so lovely again this year. Also, thank you to all the helper elves who baked and set up and cleaned. And thank you to those who came back to church on a busy December evening to join us! The choirs started working on that Christmas music last September. We are always looking forward and it's time (already!) to be looking forward to Easter. There are extra robes and folders and handbells - if you've a yen to try, now is a good time to step in and look forward with us!

* * *

Consider this your invitation to a recital on Friday, January 26th at 7:00 pm. It's another Karla and Friends event. My friend Rolf, the violist joins me in a program of songs and stories. Carey John Franklin, local composer and conductor of the Minneapolis Civic Orchestra has written a set of songs with texts by Emily Dickenson, and Rolf has arranged the vocal part for viola. Additionally, Katie Miller (our soprano section leader) joins us for Franz Schubert's Shepherd on the Rock. Written in the last year of Schubert's life, the piece was originally scored for soprano, clarinet and piano. But as there is little enough solo music written for viola, the violist has a wandering eye for what can be otherwise purloined. Johannes Brahms liked writing for viola and was friends with a couple of married musicians - he was a violinist and violist, she was a mezzo-soprano. Katherine Johnson (our alto section leader) joins us for these beautiful songs by Brahms. Please come and hear this program of beautiful, heart-warming music on a wintry night!

* * *

My dad was a pilot, and while he didn't navigate by the stars, he probably could have. Consequently when I was a little girl, hanging out with Dad meant learning to identify the constellations and planets that we could see in the north Texas sky - his eagle-eye vision seeing things that my coke-bottle-lens-enhanced nearsightedness just couldn't. But I was fascinated by the stars. And by their permanence, at least in my mind. It was a wondrous thing that the same constellations had been fascinating people for centuries. Little wonder then, that the story of the wise men following a star was the best part of the Christmas story for me. Never mind the shepherds and the angels, I was all about the dudes on the camels. Amahl and the Night Visitors was my favorite Christmas season drama.

After the bustle of Christmas is over, I always look forward to the season of Epiphany, the star, the growing light, the hope of spring. The stars still fascinate me. I think it's the hope that they symbolize.

That and the light in the darkness. And when things are their darkest and coldest, we need a lot of hopeful light.

Karla Cole



Marion Hunner

Children's Ministries Director

Epiphany Presentation - The children, families, and youth will be offering a special Epiphany presentation during the 10:30 liturgy on Sunday, January 7th. This will be instead of Children's Chapel, and there is NO SUNDAY SCHOOL this day.

Holiday Giving Update - This year we sponsored a Roseville Area family who recently moved from Nigeria. We provided all 7 family members with boots, coats, gloves, and neck warmers (which I'm sure they appreciated as our temps plummeted last week!). In addition, we gave them over \$250 in gift cards from Cub, Metro Transit, and clothing stores as well as sheets, comforter, and fun items for each of the kids. We also collected 10 blankets to support Keystone's Winter Warm-Up Program. Thank you all who participated!

Annual Meeting - The church's annual meeting is on Sunday, January 21st. We will have one service at 9:30, and NO SUNDAY SCHOOL on this day.

Green Team

2017 is drawing to a close. It is a good time to reflect on the past year here at St. Christopher's and of our country. From the Green Team's perspective, we have made progress on several key areas.



1. Reduced carbon footprint. Our solar panels continue to produce clean, carbon free energy while generating a revenue stream for the church. Currently almost 10000 kwh of electricity have been produced, saving about 22 tons of carbon.
2. The St Christopher's Giving garden harvested over 700 lbs of vegetables and donated to the Second Harvest Food shelf. We encourage people to stop by Second Harvest on Hamline Ave to see the faces of the people benefiting from the produce grown here at St. Christopher's.
3. Recycling bins have been placed throughout the church allowing recycling access to all users of the church.

In our country, progress continues despite the political headwinds. Three areas of progress in 2017, identified by the website Carbontrust.com include:

1. Since the federal government's withdraw from the Paris Climate Accords, states and cities have stepped up with a bottom up approach to meet our carbon reduction commitment. Former New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg and California Governor Jerry Brown have pledged to meet the climate accord guidelines. These two areas represent more than half the country's economy and population.
2. Wind power continues to grow. In 2017 it surpassed hydroelectric to become the number one renewable power source in the US.
3. Over 200 companies have committed to science based targets for reduction of Greenhouse gases.

We are looking forward to an exciting 2018 year. We are always interested in seeing new faces. Please join us on the second Wednesday of the month.
Happy New Year from the Green Team.

Last Words

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

Well! After a false start and a missed send date, I hope you have enjoyed the January 2018 *e-Traveler*. I look forward to the "lengthening light" of Epiphany and even the warmer days when Lent arrives next month!

Stay warm!

Sincerely,
Ruth Thillen, Parish Administrator

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