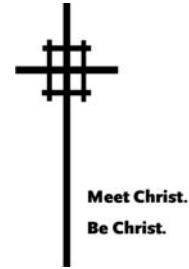


From: St. Christopher's Episcopal Church <office@stchristophers-mn.org>
Sent: Monday, December 31, 2018 4:50 PM
To: office@stchristophers-mn.org
Subject: January 2019 e-Traveler

Issue #74 | JANUARY 2019

St. Christopher's
e-Traveler



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St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

VESTRY:

Cindy Lee, Sr. Warden; Joel Norton, Jr. Warden
Sue Triebenbach, Clerk; Darlene Cross, Treasurer

Mark Brilowski; Jan Fillmore; Karen Hartman; Barbara Hovey; Chris Huntley;
Tom Linder; Becky Lucas; Mike Sirany; Lisa Spiro

STAFF:

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

Our REGULAR Sunday 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-Parish Hall
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist
11:30 AM Fellowship

Wednesday: 12:15 PM Holy Eucharist in the Chapel

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday 9 AM - 4 PM

A Note from The Rev. Daniel Pearson



**The Rev.
Daniel V. Pearson
Transition Priest**

Merry be the sixth day of Christmas....

These words remind me of my mother Florence, who died a number of years ago. I guess it's rather predictable to be conjuring memories of important people in our lives at Christmas. I remember from a rather early age overhearing her answer the telephone with the greeting of one of the twelve days of Christmas. Now days, not only does her greeting seem old-fashioned, but also the whole notion of celebrating Christmas for 12 whole days. What with Christmas decorations going up before Thanksgiving, even the most ardent consumer is understandably exhausted with the celebration and ready to move on.

Still, there can be some wisdom in what's old-fashioned. Personally, I need most of the twelve days to complete what I actually want to do: send Christmas cards, write thank you notes, and feel like I'm having a day off. In addition to this rather practical angle, there's the sense of lingering and savoring that I would like to capture and experience. How blessed to have the whole family gather at our house for Christmas dinner and sharing of gifts. Remember that? Speaking of gifts, let's see...which ones did I get from whom and how do I treasure them? A bit of lingering can bring this more fully to mind. And what about savoring those few moments of peace that find their way into our hearts while doing ordinary, simple and predictable things. Just hanging out at home, I recall my wife Anne saying, "My it's quiet here today." Let's hold on to that. And for me, there is that moment of fulfillment and peace that comes in leaving church on Christmas morning after the last of the services are

over. What a blessing to have this work, and this place of St. Christopher's, where we gather to focus attention on the divine aspect of the holiday season.

With New Year's Day coming within the Twelve Days, we need not worry about lingering too long or savoring too much. There's something about giving voice to "Happy New Year" and writing "2019" that does move us on. Still, we can hold on.

dvp

The Deacon Discusses



**The Rev.
Janet MacNally**

Deacon

I must admit it came as a surprise when Ruth gently reminded some of us that we had not yet turned anything in to her, and time was fleeting! The last few weeks of 2018 came and went in a bit of a blur, and suddenly I realized that we were all on the verge of saying goodbye to 2018 in just a few hours and welcoming in 2019 with all the hope and promise that a new year contains. So this is my humble attempt at a glance back and a look forward, of the year almost past, and the one that is to come.

2108 saw a great deal of change around St. Christopher's. Fr. Daniel had been with us just a few weeks as our interim as we welcomed in 2018. And a great deal of activity, if not change, began to happen. We appointed the two halves of our search process teams: Discovery and Discernment, and then the actual Search team. The discovery and discernment folks did just what their name implied, and set about determining where we were as a faith community as Fr. John arrived, where we were when he left, and most importantly where we wanted to be in the future. They worked long and hard, asked many folks many questions and above all prayed for guidance as they completed the task at hand. We began, as a faith community, to look at ourselves and our public face through the lens of a prospective new rector, and spruced a few things up. Once those things were in place, the process moved to the second part of the process, search committee team. The results and conclusions of the first half of the process were turned over to the ECMN offices, and finally the

search committee received names! As of this writing they are busy at work, interviewing potential rectors, and that is all we know! Still, we have faith and know that they are being guided by the Spirit.

But many other things happened while all of that hard work was going on behind the scenes. Our Community Dinner continues to be a welcome offering to our neighbors, and this past month we discovered that even a steady downpour of a cold freezing rain was not enough to deter many of our regular guests from a warm meal, good conversation, and a welcoming community. We also began to develop a partnership with a community of refugees from Ethiopia who live in Roseville. Our work here continues to unfold as we, along with our partners the Roseville Area Schools, walk along side our neighbors, not looking to fix things but rather to leverage the situation, looking not to lead but rather to walk alongside. This work is also supported as we join Episcopal Migration Ministries as members of a pilot program called Partners in Welcome. In addition, we helped to form an interfaith partnership with St. Michael's Lutheran Church, Falcon Heights United Church in Christ, and Christo Rey Lutheran Church from New Brighton. This partnership also seeks to work with our immigrant neighbors.

2019 will see a continuation of all of these activities, as we continue to walk alongside our neighbors and listen to their hopes and dreams and needs. But 2019 will also bring us our new rector, and the change that will come as a result. It will be an exciting time for us, if we let it. Change is never easy for any of us! And, it is always a bit unsettling to find that things won't always be the way they have always been. But if we are honest, things here at St. Christopher's have been changing since the beginning. Things everywhere have been changing since the beginning. Change is the natural occurrence of our being. Now is a good time to remember that the process of finding and calling a new rector is one that has been made by our brothers and sisters in Christ, who have faithfully and prayerfully worked to determine who we are and where we are heading, and who will be the best person to lead us in that endeavor.

As I wrote at the beginning of this piece, the last few hours of 2018 are quickly slipping away, and soon 2019 will be here. Let us greet the new year together and rejoice and celebrate the new and exciting ways that we are being called to be a followers of Jesus in the neighborhood outside our doors. Let us rejoice in the call of our new rector, and as a community of faith, let us greet the change that we have been given.

Amen, Deacon Janet

MUSIC NOTES



Karla Cole

**Director of Music
Ministries**

It has been a wonderful, but exhausting, Christmas season in our house. I hope you all had the wonderful, but not the weariness. And after the church events and the parties and the houseguests, I'm really looking forward to getting back to some normality, with regular rhythms in the days. I do want to thank everyone for their incredible efforts in getting another Lessons and Carols off the ground. It is the classic example of the expression that "many hands make light work." Or at least, they make for lighter work! Special gratitude to all the hard-working musicians, who started the task in October; and to Darlene Cross and Karen Hanna for beautiful decorations and picking up the slack everywhere; Matt Cole and Tom Linder, who crawled up and down on the step ladder hanging lights and running errands; folks who baked the goodies; Madeline Drake and Margy Zaro who were acolytes; the many very fine readers; Fr. Daniel and Deacon Janet; and everyone who came. I think the attendance was the best ever. Thank you all!

If you missed Lessons and Carols and Christmas here at St. Christopher's, you can get a little taste of it on Sunday, as we celebrate Epiphany with a little reprise, and a couple of new tunes. It is a busy January, as Bishop Prior joins us the following week, and then there is the Annual Meeting the week after that.

If that isn't enough for you, there will be an all French program on the last Friday evening of January – January 25th at 7:00 pm. Carol Gilkey, who teaches flute in our choir room, will join me for Francis Poulenc's *Sonata for Flute and Piano*. It is rhythmic, motivic and fun, with bursts of lovely melodies. Also on the program is *Babar, the Little Elephant*, a very descriptive piano piece also by Poulenc, and narrated by my son, Henry Cole. Poulenc fought in WW1 as a young man, and some sources say he fought with the Resistance in WW2. At any rate, the summer of 1940 found him in the country with his nieces and nephews and little cousins, who begged him for a story. And *L'Histoire de Babar, le petit éléphant* was the story at hand. I think you might remember the tale of the little elephant whose mother was killed by hunters and who went to live with the rich lady in the city. But his cousins came to find

him and he went back with them to the wild to become King of the elephants and marry his Queen Celeste. It's a childhood classic.

Carol Gilkey has also been pulling in flute players from all over to join in a lovely piece by Gabriel Fauré, the *Cantique de Jean Racine*. Jean-Baptiste Racine was a 17th century dramatist, who excelled in writing tragedies. He also translated an Ambrosian hymn from the Latin into very florid French and Fauré set it beautifully for organ and choir. We will present it for piano and a whole stage-full of flutes. Our own flute players, Cheryl Bailey and Jean Crow will be up there as well. It will be a lovely evening and a lot of fun. You should come!

Karla Cole

Footprints JANUARY 2019 - News from Children's Ministries



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 6th. 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. Our mom is recently single and relocated with 13 children ages 5 months – 20 years. Marion's heart was full as she loaded all of the items into her minivan. In addition to basic needs like coats, hats, boots, snow pants, diapers and formula, we were able to gift them a lighted Christmas tree, a Keurig coffee machine, a floor lamp, a sewing machine, a laptop computer, a TV, over \$300 in fuel gift cards, over \$300 in food gift cards, and many smaller gift items. This mom was so very grateful for our generosity!!

Annual Meeting – The church's annual meeting is on Sunday, January 20th. We will have one service at 9:30, and NO SUNDAY SCHOOL on this day. If families would like us to offer a movie to the children during the meeting, please let Marion know by Sunday, January 13th.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH

SUNDAY, JANUARY 20, 2019 at 11:00 AM

We will have ONE service at 9:30 AM, followed by a light brunch to be hosted by the Vestry. The meeting follows brunch.

Opportunities for Service

Are you looking for an opportunity to become involved in shaping the life of the parish with our incoming rector? We are seeking a parishioner to serve on the vestry for the upcoming three year term. Please consider this opportunity to join the vestry team for this exciting period.

Or, do you have a passion for stewardship of our financial resources? We are looking for a chairperson for our Finance Committee.

If interested, please contact Cindy Lee or Joel Norton in the next week. Thank you!

Would you be . . . a member of the new Library Committee?

Anyone interested in Christian books, spiritual reading, Bible studies, theology, prayer collections, novels that offer guidance about life (or at least ask interesting questions), or other relevant topics? Please contact Allison Jensen, allisoncampbelljensen@gmail.com or 651-492-5931; she'd like to gather a Library Committee to discuss the mission of the Cap Hanson library--and maybe help choose a few new books.

Food Shelf Donations Update

Thanksgiving and Christmas food delivery totaled 108#'s and \$20.00. Every item was very much appreciated, cereal is always welcome. Please keep this project in mind as you grocery shop. Thank you and Happy New Year.



JANUARY Calendar Highlights!

2 12:15 PM Holy Eucharist – Chapel
7:15 PM Parish Choir – Music Room

5 4-8 PM Epiphany Program Practice – Church, Parish Hall

6 EPIPHANY

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist

10:30 AM Holy Eucharist with Epiphany Program

9 12:15 PM Holy Eucharist – Chapel
4:00 PM Staff Meeting – Office
5:30 PM Youth Group – Parish Hall
6:15 PM Bell Choir - Balcony
7:00 PM Green Team – Library
7:15 PM Parish Choir – Music Room

10 1:00 PM Knitting – Library

11 1:00 PM Couples Bridge – Parish Hall

13 BISHOP'S VISITATION

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist

10:30 AM Holy Eucharist

14 5:30 PM Finance Committee – Parish Hall
6:45 PM VESTRY – Parish Hall

15 *Meals on Wheels – Offsite*

16 12:15 PM Holy Eucharist – Chapel

6:15 PM Bell Choir - Balcony

7:15 PM Parish Choir – Music Room

17 10:30 AM Hearts & Hands – Parish Hall

20 ANNUAL MEETING SUNDAY

9:30 AM Holy Eucharist

Light Brunch

11:00 AM ANNUAL MEETING BEGINS

21 Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday

Office Closed

23 12:15 PM Holy Eucharist – Chapel

4:00 PM Staff Meeting – Office

6:15 PM Bell Choir - Balcony

7:15 PM Parish Choir – Music Room

25 7:00 PM *Gift of Music: All French Recital!*

27 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist

10:30 AM Holy Eucharist

28 e-Traveler Deadline

11:30 AM Blues Buster BINGO! – Parish Hall

30 12:15 PM Holy Eucharist – Chapel

6:15 PM Bell Choir - Balcony

7:15 PM Parish Choir – Music Room

31 5:30 PM Community Dinner – Parish Hall

Please note: These are the parish events occurring this month. Please remember that many outside groups use our building daily. If you need to use a building space, please check with the office to see that your time, date and space are available.

Last Words



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

2018 went by pretty quickly! I hope as you review the events of the year, you find yourselves blessed.

Happy New Year!

Ruth Thillen

Parish Administrator

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church | 2300 Hamline Ave. N., Roseville, MN 55113
651-633-4589 | Fax 651-633-7361 | www.stchristophers-mn.org

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