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St. Christopher's

e-Traveler

Issue #64

MARCH 2018

A Note from Rev Daniel Pearson



The Rev.
Daniel V. Pearson

Transition Priest



Meet Christ
Be Christ

Practicing Silence

Most of us live in cities these days where silence does not seem to be a "natural" resource. We're talking constant communication by day and sirens by night. Not so, back in the day, on the farm. Yes, the muffled but throaty sound of the John Deere pulling 14's or 16's turning the earth, but turn off the tractor and it's birds singing or bees pollinating plants. Not exactly rock music.

Given our urban environment, it would seem that if silence were a value it would have to be intentionally practiced to be acquired. If we Episcopalians look closely at the way we typically worship on Sunday, we find encouragement to practice silence. After each reading of Scripture, there is the permissive rubric "Silence may follow" and in some congregations, there is a custom of holding a moment of silence to let the words of the Sermon "sink-in." All forms of The Prayers of the People have a rubric calling for or suggesting a response of silence. Following the invitation for Confession of Sin, again, "Silence may be kept." Although coming to the Table mainly involves the actions of offering, giving thanks, breaking and coming forward for communion, it is interesting to note that at the Breaking of the Bread "A period of silence is kept." Period.

In addition to the encouragement we are given to practice silence in liturgy, we in this northern clime are

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VESTRY:

Cindy Lee,
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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

blessed with dormancy in our winter landscape. I recall a brief conversation with an immigrant who moved to Minnesota from Somalia, arriving in winter. She was shocked by the lack of green things. She thought all the trees were dead! No, just dormant. Practicing silence for a season.

At best, silence puts her arms around us. She reminds each individual that they are there to be present to the moment. That they are bound to others and the earth by more than actions and words. Silence says, "Just this." Be here.

At times, we are called to or simply find ourselves in vigil. A need to be there where tragedy issues in unspeakable grief, or more pacifically, bedside at the death of a loved one. Assuring words need to be said but as with humor, timing is everything. Also, there needs to be room for "the sounds of silence."

If I'm right that in our day silence is not natural but still of value, we can thank the wisdom of the ages carved into the liturgy and spiritual practice of the church to help us practice silence. It's good to be ready. We never know when the Lord will appear in "a sound of sheer silence." (1 Kings 19:12)

dvp

The Deacon Discusses



The Rev.
Janet MacNally,
Deacon

One of the take-aways that I received from the report on the survey we took last fall, was that as a faith community we have placed a priority on reaching out beyond our doors and forming relationships with our neighbors. There is a great deal that has been going on in our neighborhood and through my association with the community group **Do Good, Roseville**. I have several things that I want to share with you. Keep in mind that all or none of this may appeal to you and that is all right! This is an active group working on racial reconciliation and immigration issues at its core and while you may not find anything that interests you this month, there will be more to choose from in the coming months. Look at this as a sampler and as a way to be involved with our neighbors who share similar goals and concerns.

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

Social Justice Book Club

Tuesday, March 6, 7:00 -8:30 p.m. at the Roseville Library

Are you looking for a way to connect with other people who want to discuss issues of social justice? Join your neighbors and fellow community members in reading, discussing and educating ourselves with our Social Justice Book Club. Our first book is "A Good Time for the Truth" edited by Sun Yung Shin. In March we will discuss the chapter "With an 'e'" by Venessa Fuentes. *I realize that this is the book that we used last Lent for our program, but if you would like to continue conversations with those outside of St. Christopher's this is a great place to do just that. And if you did not participate last year and wish to do so now, contact the office and we will put a copy of the book in your hands.*

The library has made arrangements with the authors to enable the library to make copies of the chapters available for free at the library. Copies are available at the reference desk on the 2nd floor.

Ask a Muslim Woman 2

Tuesday, March 13, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. at the Roseville Library

We welcome back our wonderful panel of Muslim Women to answer more of your questions about their religion, traditions and experiences. I realize that this is ground we have begun to explore as well, but Nya has brought together a panel of women that wish to share their stories and their truth that will only enrich the work we have done.

Presented in partnership with Ramsey County Library, the bi-monthly "Ask" series seeks to give a voice to the underrepresented in our community by using personal stories from a diversity of life experiences. The panel discussions are moderated by Nyia Harris, Director of Community Relations for Do Good Roseville.

And for the tech savvy folks:

Facebook

Do Good Roseville

Up-to-date information is always available on our Facebook page. Please like us at: <https://www.facebook.com/DoGoodRosevilleMN/>

And if you are interested in joining me:

Roseville Area Interfaith Community

DGR is continuing to facilitate connections between the faith communities in the Roseville area. In addition to hosting monthly meetings at different faith communities we recently established a Facebook page to enable the communities to stay connected with each other and the broader Roseville



Book Discussion

Those reading "The Great Spiritual Migration" by Brian McLaren will gather on Mondays, March 5th and 12th, at 2:00 PM in the Gathering Room to begin discussing the book. Anyone interested is welcome to join us!

--Lyn Lawyer

From Keystone Community Services:

Chrissy assumed food shelves were filled with dented cans and processed foods. So when Chrissy's friends encouraged her to visit a food shelf when her financial situation became strapped, she initially disregarded their advice.

Chrissy began reducing her monthly food budget after she received notice that her monthly rent was going up. To continue making ends meet, the first things that came off her shopping list were meats and fresh

Community. Please like the new Roseville Area Interfaith Community page at: <https://www.facebook.com/RAICMN/notifications/>

In addition to these activities I have been busy making connections with other Roseville faith communities, primarily St. Michael's Lutheran and Roseville United Church of Christ, concerning ways in which we can reach out to and journey with our immigrant neighbors. Currently we are in conversation with a Spanish language Lutheran church, Cristo Rey, that is working on collecting basic need items for an immigrant community that worships with them. If you are interested in finding out more about this venture, please contact me.

We also have a small but loyal group that join a prayer vigil the second Tuesday morning of every month beginning at 7:30 in front of the BishopWhipple Federal Building. (Yes that is the same Whipple; I even gave a talk about him!) The vigil lasts about 45 minutes and I promise it will get warmer! Again I am there every month; let me know if that is something you might be interested in. We also take small (two to four folks) group to witness immigration court on Tuesday and Thursday mornings.

I have also been in contact with a group of Ethiopian refugees from the Anuak tribe, to start a conversation circle around coffee and handiwork. These are women who wish to share their stories and their culture, and very much would love for us to help them practice their English. We will meet the third Saturday afternoon of every month in the parish hall from 1 to 4 pm, starting on March 17th. And I am also in contact with a woman whose organization trains folks to help our immigrant neighbors correctly fill out the paper work necessary to move them forward towards citizenship. If any of these activities interest you please contact me, I would love to hear from you!

I was heartened to see that we, as a faith community, are on the path outside our doors to discover where God has been at work in the neighborhood ahead of us, and once discovered to join in that work for the life of the world. And realizing that one path does not fit or interest all, with the help of my friends who are Do Good, Roseville, I have been busy finding many paths for us to try out. Let me know what path or paths may speak to you and I will help you with those first steps!

Amen,
Deacon Janet

Music Notes

produce. As Chrissy's budget tightened, she started buying more processed and less healthy food. As her financial situation got more stressful, she thought back to the advice her friends gave her and decided to try out Keystone's Roseville food shelf. Chrissy was shocked at what she found.

"Wow. I almost got emotional looking at all the fresh produce. Produce in the grocery store is so expensive. The food I got here today is what I would have actually picked if I had the means to pick whatever I wanted in the grocery store. This really is mind-blowingly awesome." ~ Chrissy

Please be reminded that March is FoodShare Month! Please be generous.



Karla Cole,
Director of Music Ministries

Come hear the Bell Choir as we take part in ***Belfest!*** on March 3rd at 3:00 PM, at North Heights Lutheran Church (1700 W Hwy 96, Arden Hills). We'll be there practicing with up to 35 other handbell choirs all day, and you can join us to hear the results for a **free public concert** at the end. If you haven't heard that many handbell choirs playing together - you should!! The music for massed ringing is a lot of fun, and some of the professional and really excellent church choirs from the area will be playing their own pieces to round out the program. We'd love to see you there!

Karla Cole



Footprints MARCH 2018



News from Children's
Ministries



Marion Hunner
Children's Ministries Director

Lent has begun, but it's not too late to set aside time for a Lenten Discipline!

- We have printed copies available of the booklet *Illustrated Lent for Families* - a series of short, weekly Lenten practices. See Marion on Sunday for a copy if you are interested.
- We have several good resources for Lenten Family Activities on our website, which you can view here: <https://www.stchristophers-mn.org/family.html>
- On Wednesday evenings at 7pm throughout Lent there is a Way of the Cross service in the sanctuary. This is an interactive Stations of the Cross followed by Holy

Eucharist. All ages are welcome!

Sunday, March 4th: Join us for Children's Chapel at 10:30. We will explore a kid-friendly version of the Liturgy of the Word and then join the congregation at the Peace. THERE IS NO SUNDAY SCHOOL ON THIS SUNDAY.

This month in Sunday School

we complete our series on Compassion and then move into exploration of the life of Jesus and Holy Week.

Looking Ahead! Vacation Bible School July 23-27, 9am-noon

Mark your calendars and invite your friends! This program is for age 3 - 5th grade. Details and registration will be available after Easter. You can see information and pictures from previous VBS programs here: <http://www.stchristophers-mn.org/vbs.html>

Snow Shoveling

Our snow plowing contract also does not include clearing of walkways and entryways. This is why we ask for volunteers to take a week during the winter to keep our walks clear and safe.

SO, please check your calendar, see what week might be convenient for you to come by the church and shovel the walks - and please write your name on our volunteer chart in the upper Narthex. AND, thanks for shoveling!



PLEASE be careful on the north side of our building, near the main entry, where the sun does not reach the pavement during the winter. It is icy there most of the winter.

Ruth Thillen
Parish Administrator

Green Team

Sometimes you just have to ask! The Green Team wanted to make sure our Palm Sunday would be as green as possible, so we asked our Altar Guild to order eco-friendly palms. The website that we had identified for these palms was not being updated, however; in the meantime, Kathy Ackerman asked our usual supplier, St. Patrick's Guild, about their palms. Turns out they are eco-friendly, being harvested only from mature trees, once a year. Moreover, they are worker-friendly, with fair pay and ethical treatment for those harvesting the palms. So, when you don't know about products or practices, go ahead and ask. You may find out the world is a little greener than you thought (or you may push an enterprise to be a little greener).



Submitted by Allison Jensen

March Calendar Highlights

1 7 PM Legacy Giving Presentation - Gathering Room

3 9 AM Discernment & Discovery Team - Gathering Room

4 Lent 3

8 AM Holy Eucharist

10:30 AM Holy Eucharist

10:30 AM Children' Chapel (No Sunday School)

5 2 PM Book Study Group - Gathering Room

6 *Meals on Wheels - Offsite*

7 12:15 PM Holy Eucharist - Chapel

6:15 PM Bell Choir - Balcony

6:15 PM Youth Group - Youth Room

7 PM Way of the Cross - Church

7:15 PM Parish Choir - Music Room

8 1:00 PM Knitting - Library

9 6:30 PM Couples Bridge - Parish Hall

11 DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS! Lent 4

8 AM Holy Eucharist

10:30 AM Holy Eucharist

12 2 PM Book Study Group - Gathering Room

5:30 PM Finance Committee - Parish Hall

14 12:15 PM Holy Eucharist - Chapel**4 PM Staff Meeting - Office (Office Closes)****6:15 PM Bell Choir - Balcony****6:15 PM Youth Group - Youth Room****7 PM Way of the Cross - Church****7 PM Green Team - Parish Hall****7:15 PM Parish Choir - Music Room****17 1:00 PM Coffee with Anuak Women - Parish Hall****18 Lent 5****8 AM Holy Eucharist****10:30 AM Holy Eucharist****19 6:45 PM Vestry - Parish Hall****21 12:15 PM Holy Eucharist - Chapel****6:15 PM Bell Choir - Balcony****6:15 PM Youth Group - Youth Room****7 PM Way of the Cross - Church****7:15 PM Parish Choir - Music Room****24 10 AM Discernment & Discovery Team - Gathering Room****25 PALM SUNDAY****8 AM Holy Eucharist****10:30 AM Holy Eucharist****26 e-Traveler Deadline****27 Meals on Wheels - Offsite****28 NO Eucharist - Clergy at Renewal of Vows****4 PM Staff Meeting - Office (Office Closes)****6:15 PM Bell Choir - Balcony****7 PM Way of the Cross - Church****7:15 PM Parish Choir - Music Room****29 MAUNDY THURSDAY****5:30 PM Community Dinner - Parish Hall****5:30 PM Youth Group - at Dinner****7 PM Holy Eucharist with Foot Washing****30 GOOD FRIDAY****12 PM Good Friday Worship****7 PM Way of the Cross****31 HOLY SATURDAY****7 PM The Great Vigil of Easter****APRIL 1 - EASTER SUNDAY****8 AM Holy Eucharist****10:30 AM Holy Eucharist**

Last Words

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

As I type, it looks as though March will "come in like a lamb" - I sure hope that doesn't mean it will "go out like a lion!" I remember the kites that went up on school bulletin boards for March when I was a child - and wishing for warm enough weather to fly them.



The warm and snow-melting days are pretty welcome after our back-to-back snowstorms. PLEASE be cautious around the building, as after those melts comes the nighttime re-freeze. Anything that looks wet could be ice! Remember, the unofficial 11th Commandment is: Thou Shalt not Fall!

Sincerely,
Ruth Thillen, Parish Administrator

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