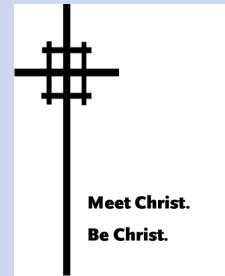


St. Christopher's

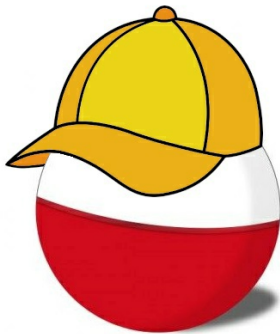
## e-Traveler



[Visit our Website](#)

*From the Editor:* Hello, St. Christopher's! Please remember that our emails are now sent with the "from" address as "office@stchristophers-mn.ccsend.com." Please mark this address as "safe" or "not junk" or "not spam," depending on your email provider, so you are sure to receive all of our communications. If you have missed one lately, please check in your spam/junk folder. (We had EIGHT Comcast addresses "bounce" the e-Blast for February 29.) --Ruth

### From the Rector



**The Rev.  
Randy W. Johnson**

**Rector**

#### **Reach Out and Touch** *by Fr. Randy+*

I consider myself a most fortunate and humbled individual to have had the honor of serving our communities as a peace officer. I take most seriously the oath I swore to uphold the laws and constitution, as well as protect the lives and rights and liberties of every person, as I lived the vocation of being a public servant. I never shied away from the term "*servant*," as that is precisely the calling to which I responded.

A cop learns very early in their career the power of presence, and the ultimate power wielded with a touch. A simple touch to take the hand of a lost dementia patient, now found, as you lead them safely back to their residence. The touch of hands placed on and rhythmically compressing the chest of a person while administering CPR. The critically impactful moment when the decision is made to take a person into lawful custody, when all other options to deal with the incident are exhausted. When hands are laid upon another, critical things happen.

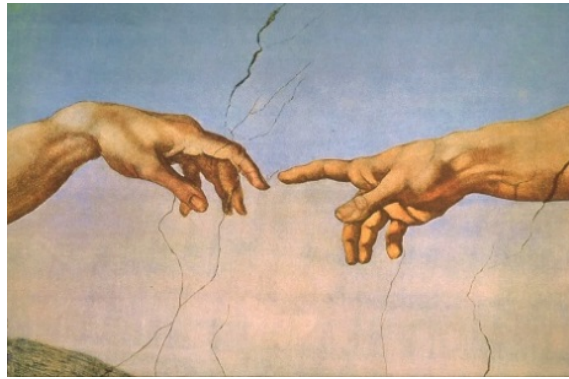
I was particularly taken today by a new realization gained as I read Matthew

8:1-4. It is a very brief story which captures some of the essential qualities and characteristics of God. And, it mirrors some of the experiential realities I learned first-hand in my public service career. In this encounter between Jesus and leper, we see again the nature of God, and God's desire for all humanity.

*“Jesus came down the mountain with the cheers of the crowd still ringing in his ears. Then a leper appeared and went to his knees before Jesus, praying, ‘Master, if you want to, you can heal my body.’ Jesus reached out and touched him, saying, ‘I want to. Be clean.’ Then and there, all signs of leprosy were gone.”* (Matt 8:1-4; The Message)

What caught my attention is not only what was said, but also what was done. Jesus stretched out his hand and touched the leper. While leprosy is contagious, it is not necessarily contracted through touch, as was once believed. That Jesus touched the leper, is significant, and in itself demonstrates something about God. In that one action, we see that nothing is beyond the touch and reach of God.

What also leapt off the page and impacted me deeply was is the significant revelation in the dialogue. *“Master, if you want to...I want to...”*



The essential quality, characteristic, and nature of God is one of healing, wholeness, and life, for the God who in Jesus came *“so they can have real and eternal life, more and better life than they ever dreamed of”* (John 10:10b). This is the same God who reaches out and touches, saying, *“I want to; Be clean.”*

But all the while, if it is God's nature to choose to reach out and touch us, our nature runs in the opposite direction, as we choose to hide, to turn our backs, and to reach out for what is forbidden. In our ignorance and arrogance and personal pride, we choose to stretch our hands, not to God, but to the forbidden fruit, thinking that by eating it, we will become like God.

*The truth is this*—we become like God only by choosing to stretch our hands out in humility and loving service, just as Jesus did. We are called to mirror Jesus' actions by reaching out, touching the untouchable, and bringing them healing, health, wholeness, and relationship—the life which God chooses and desires for all of us.

This brief story from Matthew's gospel is most significant because it reminds us what God is like, and what God desires for all of humanity. Jesus invites us to do the same. And when we do this, we become like God, whose very life and nature is bound up in acts of humble, loving service. *Randy+*

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**March 24 - Palm Sunday** - 8 AM and 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist

**March 27 - Wednesday** - 12:15 PM Holy Eucharist

**March 28 - Maundy Thursday** - 7 PM Holy Eucharist

**March 29 - Good Friday** - 12 PM Worship for Good Friday  
with Reserve Sacrament  
7 PM Way of the Cross with Reserve Sacrament

**March 31 - EASTER!** - 8 AM and 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist

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## Music Notes



**Karla Cole**

**Director of Music Ministries**

Rieger Pipe Organ for sale. All offers considered. You haul it.

Karla Cole

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## Footprints MARCH 2024 News from Children's Ministries



**Marion Hunner**

**Director of  
Children's Ministries**



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**Lenten presentation:** On February 11 we had an intergenerational Education gathering where the children did a presentation on Lent. They talked about how Lent is the season to get us ready for the Mystery of Easter. Then they shared various things that we do differently in Lent; in the liturgy, in our personal lives, and opportunities at St. Christopher's. A summary of the St. Christopher's opportunities can be found [here](#). We also colored alleluias to be put away during the 10:30 service.

**Lenten Calendar** – One of the things that we offered during Lent is to join us in our [Lenten Calendar](#). This calendar offers new opportunities each day for practices in Kindness, Scripture and Prayer, and Awareness and Outreach. The Awareness and Outreach days ask for a donation. Once we collect all of the donations at Easter, they will be matched with a grant from the Mission Opportunity Fund and the children will use that money to choose items from [Heifer International](#). Use the links to learn more.



**Easter Sunday, March 31:** There will be an Easter Egg Hunt following the 10:30 service!

**Plans have begun for Vacation Bible School 2024.** We hope to launch dates and a theme at Easter.

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**Green Team**

The Green Team hosted a Blue Zones Dinner for the Event Fair!

There are 5 "Blue Zone" areas throughout the world, where the world's healthiest people live, with many living past age 100. In the United States, Loma Linda, California is designated a Blue Zone area. The Green Team researched the Blue Zone cookbooks and served a delicious meal using recipes we found. The menu was:

First course: nuts, olives, and cheese made from sheep's milk

Second Course: vegetable soup with sweet potatoes

Third Course: Kale and spinach salad with chickpeas and a miso dressing

Fourth Course: Porcini mushroom risotto and sweet and sour salmon

Dessert : Greek yogurt chocolate mousse and black and green tea.

Here is a link to the mousse recipe – it was tasty!

<https://www.myfussyeater.com/healthy-greek-yogurt-chocolate-mousse/>

Are you wondering why the healthiest regions are called Blue Zones?

Find a Green team member and ask- you will be surprised!

Your Green Team:

Leslie and Joel Norton, Sally Brown, Joan Hoium, Karen Hartman, Larry Jones, Jean Crow

PS: We received \$18 in February and \$5 from the GetSneakers recycling program! Keep on bringing those athletic shoes! Thanks!

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## Vestry Shorts

The Vestry had our first meeting since the annual meeting. Barb Hovey assumed the role of Senior Warden. We welcomed Josh Kattelman as Junior Warden. We also welcomed Kathy Ackerman and Betsy Wesenberg as new members.

The Event Fair was a big success, raising over \$4,300 for 27 events. This includes participation from 44 households. Multiple events have been held already.

The Green Team continues to collect athletic shoes. Look for collection bins. The solar panels are doing well. Other churches have contacted Joel Norton asking about the solar panels. The team is planning for Spring planting of the Giving Garden.

We worked with the Chinese Day Care to install new carpet in the Day Care rooms. The Day Care also expanded into the additional room that they started renting as of January.

Soup Suppers began on Ash Wednesday and continue through March 20.

Shout Outs:

John Lawyer for managing our library and for being a resource when people want books on specific topics.

To all who are involved in the Soup Suppers, including planners, cooks, servers and attendees.

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# Invitation to Serve

We have a lot of folks who help make our Sunday services run smoothly. We would love to have a few more ushers and LEMs. Ushers will greet people as they arrive, pass out bulletins, and perform other various tasks during the service. LEMs will help distribute the consecrated wine. The schedule is written for 3 months at a time, and the next schedule will cover April, May, and June. We will happily work around your conflicts. If you would like more information or to help at either service, please contact Marion Hunner. ([marion@StChristophers-MN.org](mailto:marion@StChristophers-MN.org)).

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## MARCH Calendar

### **1 Friday**

**2:45 PM** Cello Lessons - #218/219 – to 6:45 PM

### **2 Saturday**

### **3 Sunday – Lent 3**

**8 AM Holy Eucharist**

**9 AM** Fellowship

**9:15 AM** Adult Forum – Chapel

**9:30 AM** Sunday School – Room 107

**10:30 AM Holy Eucharist**

**11:30 AM** Fellowship

### **4 Monday**

**3:30 PM** Cello Lessons - #218/219 – to 6:30 PM

### **5 Tuesday**

**Presidential Primary Election Voting – Parish Hall – All Day**

**8 AM** Private Spiritual Direction – Gathering Room

**11 AM** Private Spiritual Direction - Library

**4 PM** Cello Lessons - #218/219 – to 6:15 PM

**7 PM** Brian Boru Irish Pipe Band - Sanctuary

### **6 Wednesday**

**9 AM** Private Spiritual Direction – Library

**12:15 PM Holy Eucharist – Church**

**4 PM** Cello Lessons - #218/219 – to 7:15 PM

**5:30 PM** Lent Soup – Parish Hall – to 7 PM

**6:15 PM** Bell Choir – Balcony

**6:30 PM** Wednesday AA Group – Gathering Room

**7 PM** Way of the Cross and Holy Eucharist - Church

**7:15 PM** Choir – Music Room

### **7 Thursday**

**3:30 PM** Cello Lessons - #218/219 – to 7:15 PM

### **8 Friday**

**2:45 PM** Cello Lessons - #218/219 – to 6:45 PM



**9 Saturday**



**10 Sunday – Lent 4- Daylight Saving Time Begins – SPRING AHEAD**

**8 AM Holy Eucharist**

**9 AM Fellowship**

**9:15 AM Adult Forum**

**9:30 AM Sunday School – Room 107**

**10:30 AM Holy Eucharist**

**11:30 AM Fellowship**

**11 Monday**

**3:30 PM Cello Lessons - #218/219 – to 6:30 PM**

**12 Tuesday**

**10 AM SG Peer Group – Gathering Room – to 12 PM**

**1 PM Private Spiritual Direction - Library**

**4 PM Cello Lessons - #218/219 – to 6:15 PM**

**7 PM Brian Boru Irish Pipe Band – Parish Hall**

**13 Wednesday**

**10:45 AM Private Spiritual Direction - Library**

**12:15 PM Holy Eucharist – Church**

**4 PM Cello Lessons - #218/219 – to 7:15 PM**

**5:30 PM Lent Soup – Parish Hall – to 7 PM**

**6:15 PM Bell Choir – Balcony**

**6:30 PM Wednesday AA Group – Gathering Room**

**7 PM Way of the Cross and Holy Eucharist - Church**

**7:15 PM Choir – Music Room**

**14 Thursday**

**10 AM Private Spiritual Direction - Library**

**3:30 PM Cello Lessons - #218/219 – to 7:15 PM**

**15 Friday**

**2:45 PM Cello Lessons - #218/219 – to 6:45 PM**

**16 Saturday**

**9 AM Flute Lessons – Music Room**

**10 AM Private Spiritual Direction - Library**

**17 Sunday – Lent 4 – St. Patrick's Day**

**8 AM Holy Eucharist**

**9 AM Fellowship**

**9:15 AM** Adult Forum – Chapel

**9:30 AM** Sunday School – Room 107

**10:30 AM Holy Eucharist**

**11:30 AM** Fellowship

**18 Monday**

**3:30 PM** Cello Lessons - #218/219 – to 6:30 PM

**5:30 PM** Finance Committee – Parish Hall

**6:45 PM** Vestry – Parish Hall

**19 Tuesday**

**8 AM** Private Spiritual Direction – Gathering Room – to 5 PM

**10 AM** OA Group - #218

**10:30 AM** Meals on Wheels - Offsite

**4 PM** Cello Lessons - #218/219 – to 6:15 PM

**7 PM** Brian Boru Irish Pipe Band – Parish Hall

**20 Wednesday**

**12:15 PM Holy Eucharist – Church**

**4 PM** Cello Lessons - #218/219 – to 7:15 PM

**5:30 PM** LAST Lent Soup – Parish Hall – to 7 PM

**6:15 PM** Bell Choir – Balcony

**6:30 PM** Wednesday AA Group – Gathering Room

**7 PM** Way of the Cross and Holy Eucharist - Church

**7:15 PM** Choir – Music Room

**21 Thursday**

**10:30 AM** Hearts and Hands – Parish Hall

**3:30 PM** Cello Lessons - #218/219 – to 7:15 PM

**22 Friday**

**2:45 PM** Cello Lessons - #218/219 – to 6:45 PM

**23 Saturday**

**9 AM** Flute Lessons – Music Room

**24 Sunday – Palm Sunday**

**8 AM Holy Eucharist**

**9 AM** Fellowship

**9:15 AM** Adult Forum

**9:30 AM** Sunday School – Room 107

**10:30 AM Holy Eucharist**

**11:30 AM** Fellowship

**25 Monday**

**26 Tuesday**

**11 AM** Private Spiritual Direction - Library

**7 PM** Brian Boru Irish Pipe Band – Parish Hall

**27 Wednesday**

**12:15 PM Holy Eucharist – Church**

**6:15 PM** Bell Choir – Balcony

**6:30 PM** Wednesday AA Group – Gathering Room



7:15 PM Choir – Music Room

**28 Thursday – Maundy Thursday**

**7 PM Holy Eucharist for Maundy Thursday**

**29 Friday – Good Friday**

**12 PM Good Friday Worship**

**7 PM Way of the Cross**

**30 Saturday**

(Altar Guild decorates for Easter)

**31 Sunday – EASTER!**

**8 AM Holy Eucharist**

**10:30 AM Holy Eucharist**

**11:30 AM Easter Egg Hunt for Children**

**Please note** that MOST of our outside groups have returned to meeting in the building. Those groups are now on this calendar (*in italics*) to avoid over-scheduling. Always check with the church office before scheduling a meeting.

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## Last Words

I hope you have enjoyed the Marche-*Traveler!*

Wow, happy March! "In like a Lamb..." I wonder what it will go "out" as!

When I was growing up, the March bulletin boards in the classrooms always featured kids flying kites. We usually managed to GET kites about then, too. But it was usually *too* cold and snowy to go fly a kite THEN. We waited until sometime in May, usually.

But I always wondered WHY they had kites in March... until I finally realized that March, with it's changing season, was WINDY. This year... I'm out looking for a kite to fly in March.

Ruth Thillen  
Parish Administrator



**VESTRY:**

Barb Hovey, Sr. Warden; Josh Kattelman, Jr. Warden  
Robert Williams, Clerk; Bruce Warkentien, Treasurer

Kathy Ackerman; Cheryl Bailey;  
Darlene Cross, Madisen Crow; Eric Hedican;  
Rich Pieper; Ann Trapnell, Betsy Wesenberg

**STAFF:**

Ruth Thillen, Parish Administrator  
Marion Hunner, Children's Ministries Director  
Karla S. Cole, Director of Music Ministries  
Rev. Christopher Haack, Deacon  
Rev. Marilyn Baldwin, Assisting Priest  
Rev. Randy W. Johnson, Rector

**Our Schedule:**

*Recorded Sermons for each Sunday are on our website.*

**Sundays through May 2024:**

**8:30 AM Holy Eucharist**

9:30 AM Fellowship

9:15-10:15 AM Adult Forum

9:30-10:15 AM Sunday School

**10:30 AM Holy Eucharist**

11:30 AM Fellowship

**Wednesday: 12:15 PM Holy Eucharist** in the Sanctuary

**Office Hours:**

Monday - Friday 9 AM - 4 PM

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

651-633-4589 | Fax 651-633-7361 | [www.stchristophers-mn.org](http://www.stchristophers-mn.org)

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