



Hello, St. Christopher's Community!

All Things New *by Fr. Randy+*

*Spring has sprung,
Grass is ris'.
I wonder where,
The bug spray is!*

I know...a really bad poem for springtime. We moved our way through Eastertide and are now leaning into Pentecost and the Memorial Day weekend. We even had our second 80 degree day for 2023, so it really must be here—*finally!*

It has been a very long winter and a very slow moving transition to spring. We are longing for the change to new things, new possibilities. People of the Older Testament were familiar with waiting and longing for change. And change does come, God does answer our cries for change. *“See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.”* (Isaiah 42:9)

At our home, the grass is emerald green thanks to a cool, wet springtime. It is also astounding how large and lush the weed growth is in places they are not necessarily welcome! We have been doing our best to attend the numerous end-of-school-year activities; choir and instrumental concerts, athletic field days, swimming meets, mountain bike races, and the never-ending spring/summer ice hockey camps and leagues. *“For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind.”* (Isaiah 65:17) Hopefully we can put the surprise major snow/ice event that persecuted us on April 1 out of our minds—*April Fool's Day!*

A couple Saturday's ago, Kim and I had the great joy to attend the Golden Valley Youth Recreation Program Opening Day Ceremonies for the new baseball season. This year, all three of our local grandkids are playing in the summer league. Gib plays in the Minors 1 League, Lucy in the Minors 2

League, and Ramona is joining her first season in the Rookie League. The opening day featured the introductions of individual teams, the running of the bases by all players and coaches, and a BBQ cookout to celebrate the beginning of a new season. An exciting event for all of the kids and their family members, as well as for the family dogs in attendance who “*vacuumed up*” all of the hotdog and hamburger cast-offs that littered the grounds!

The Johnson kids posed for a new season photo, hoping we would enjoy commenting on the flowing locks of strawberry blond hair peeking out from under their baseball caps! Oh...“*the Flow!*” Smiles and laughter abounded... great fun was had by all despite the cool rain and strong breeze.



“So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; look, new things have come into being!” (2 Corinth 5:17)

My prayer is that you welcome all things new in this new season. New life has been breathed upon us and it is time for all of us to celebrate the wonders and joys gifted us by God.

“O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things.”(Psalm 98:1)

Peace and wonder and joy and blessings be upon you.

Randy+

Faithful Innovation

In response to some of the feedback we have received, the Faithful Innovation Team is reflecting on how we welcome people to St. Christopher's. We invite you to share your special welcoming or hospitality moments in the Parish Hall following each service this Sunday. Our discussion will be guided by these 3 questions:

When/how were you welcomed at church, or when/how did you welcome someone else?

How was that sense of welcoming sustained?

Where was God in this experience?

COMING SOON! Together at 9:30!

Sunday, May 28, is **Pentecost** Sunday! Please wear **red**! AND, *please note* that on Pentecost, we are changing to a **single service at 9:30 AM** for the Summer.



Upcoming Lectionary Readings

May 21: Ascension/Easter 7

Acts 1:1-11; Psalm 47 or 93; Ephesians 1:15-23; Luke 24:44-53.

May 28: PENTECOST

Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:25-35, 37; 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13; John 20:19-23.

Bike to Church and “Blessing of the Wheels”

It’s time for the “Blessing of the Wheels.” Dust off those bikes, scooters and skateboards and join us after the 9:30 service on **June 4**. Bonus blessing for those who RIDE their bikes and scooters to Church. Don’t forget your helmets!

Adopt-A-Highway

Every spring, St. Christopher participates in the Adopt-A-Highway program. We are responsible for picking up garbage along Hamline Ave. from County Rd. B to County Rd. C. Come join the Green team on **June 4** after the 9:30 service (and following the “Blessing of the Wheels”) and make Hamline beautiful. Bring some gloves! Bags and a partner are provided! It doesn’t usually take us more than 1 hour and we get some early morning steps in!

Tell us about Hwy 36



Take the Hwy 36 survey!

What is YOUR vision for the future of Hwy 36? MnDOT is conducting a study of Hwy 36 and needs your input. This study will look at car, truck, transit, bike and pedestrian use along and across the highway. As residents and community members of this area, our experiences and voices are valuable.

Please visit the website to learn more about the study and take the survey.

Survey link: <https://metroquestsurvey.com/p61j>

Study website: <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/metro/projects/hwy36maplewood-roseville/> (Or use the QR code below)

Public Meetings:

In person on Tuesday, May 23, 4:30-6:30 pm at the Roseville Library—Drop in any time between 4:30 and 6:30 on that day.

Virtual Meeting: Wednesday, May 31, Noon-2 PM. This meeting will include a presentation and facilitated discussion from 12-1 pm, followed by a question-and-answer session from 1-2 pm. Register for the virtual meeting at the Study website (above).



COVID-19 Protocols

Wearing masks inside the church building for worship and other activities is optional. Please remain attentive to the health needs and concerns of others, knowing some of our community will continue to wear a mask indoors, and be kind.

Are you receiving this email forwarded by a friend?

You can now sign up to receive the weekly Parish Mail and monthly *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.

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