

## Vestry Reflection

By Anthony Johnson

Coming from a family of 13 kids there was a lot of yelling and screaming around our house. One thing that stood out from all of this was there had to be a better way of communicating. Fortunately, I was able to take advantage of courses on the subject and apply these skills in my daily life.

For example being an umpire takes a lot of patience because you're dealing with children of all ages, their parents and their issues. This requires a great deal of listening sometimes even before the game begins. Being an umpire is like being a counselor, you have to wear many hats.

Likewise a quiet option is sometimes just as important. Continuing to pray for people I hope will support their needs. I hope to continue to minister to others through my umpiring and singing ministry.

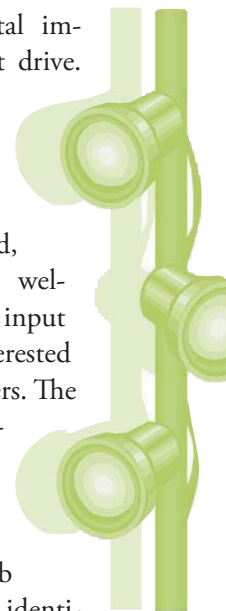
## IN THE SPOTLIGHT: PROPERTY COMMISSION

The fundamental mission of the Christ Church Property Commission is to maintain and improve the church's buildings and ground. Funds to provide for upkeep and maintenance are provided by the vestry as part of the church operating budget. Improvements to our buildings and grounds are mostly provided through capital improvement funds raised separately from pledges, which provide for the church operating budget. The Commission meets routinely on the second Wednesday of each month (except December) at 7:00 p.m. in the Resource Room. The work of the Commission

is done with vestry oversight and, in fact, a vestry representative serves as a member of the Commission.

A substantial portion of the Commission's operating budget is spent on rather prosaic purposes, such as cleaning supplies, gasoline, equipment repair and maintenance, etc. Floors must be kept clean, grass cut and snow removed. The more noticeable projects, however, such as resurfacing the parking lot or putting on a new roof, are funded by capital improvement funds. Currently the Property Commission is considering capital improvement projects for inclusion in the

next capital improvement drive. In this endeavor, the Commission would, as always, welcome input from interested parishioners. The Commission also works closely with Bob Smith in identifying and addressing projects which fall within its purview.



## Movies serve as springboard for Forum discussions

The Adult Formation Commission has selected a series of movies to serve as a springboard for discussion at our Sunday Forums in the coming months. This month, our movie date is set for Monday, January 8, at 7:00 p.m. Discussion of the movie will take place the following Sunday, January 14, at the Forum beginning at 11:30 a.m.

Our first feature is "Bridging the Racial Divide: A Community Conversation," a Channel 56, NCCJ-MI, and New Detroit production that aired last September.

The movie provides a look at the racial divide separating Metro Detroiters and encourages us to imagine ways that we can help build bridges by developing relationships built on understanding and honesty. Discussion of the documentary

will be an appropriate topic for the Martin Luther King, Jr., weekend.

On Monday, February 5, we will feature *An Inconvenient Truth*, which was also released last September. In its promotional material, we found the following quote: "Humanity is sitting on a ticking time bomb. If the vast majority of the world's scientists are right, we have just 10 years to avert a major catastrophe that could send our entire planet into a tail-spin of epic destruction involving extreme weather, floods, droughts, epidemics and killer heat waves beyond anything we have ever experienced.

A third movie will be shown on March 5, though the title has not yet been determined.

Childcare will be provided at each movie night.

### FORUM SCHEDULE

JANUARY 7 - *Introduction to "Emerging Churches"* The Emerging Church is a new term floating around church leadership circles these days. What is it? How does it relate to Christ Church and its future? Come and find out!

JANUARY 14 - *Metro-Detroit Race Relations* Join as we discuss the movie, "Bridging the Racial Divide: A Community Conversation." We will view the movie on January 8 at 7:00 p.m. in the lounge.

JANUARY 28 - *Christian or Christ Follower?* Are you a Christian or a Christ Follower? Is there a difference? Come and find out ... or at least enjoy what will be a humorous and thought-provoking time to reflect on those and other questions.

## JOIN US

### Annual Meeting

**Sunday, Jan. 21, 10:30AM**

140th Annual Meeting of Christ Church. A combined service will begin in the church at 9:00am, followed by the meeting and refreshments in the Fellowship Hall. During the meeting, children (preschool through 6th grade) will watch a presentation by the Wildlife Recovery Association called "Birds of Prey." Commission and Committee Chairs who have not yet turned in their year-end reports to the church office must do so by January 3.

## CHRISTIAN FORMATION

### Breakfast Bunch

**Sundays, 9AM**

Meets after the 8:00am service at Leon's Restaurant in Dearborn.

### St. Mary's of Bethany

#### Prayer Group

**Wednesday, Jan. 3, 17, 24 and 31, 10AM**

**Tuesday, Jan. 9, 10AM**

Intercessory prayer offered for the needs of those on our current and sustaining prayer lists. All are welcome.

### The Adult Forums

**Sundays, 11:30AM-12:15PM**

**Jan. 7** Introduction to "Emerging Churches"

**Jan. 14** Discussion on the movie, "Bridging the Racial Divide"

**Jan. 21** No Forum - Annual Meeting

**Jan. 28** Are you a Christian or a Christ Follower?

## FAMILY INTEREST

### Baptism — Preparation Class:

**Jan. 6, 10AM-12PM; Baptism,**

**Jan. 7, 10AM**

Preparation class is required for parents and godparents of children being presented for baptism the next day. If you're interested, call the church office by January 3, 2007.

## CHILDREN'S EDUCATION

### Prayer Room

**Sundays, 10:05AM**

Worship activities for children 3-7 years.

### Church School

**Sundays, 11:30AM**

Children aged 4 to 7 and 8 to 11 participate in a variety of creative learning experiences exploring a biblical story or theme in three- to four-week blocks.

**Beginning January 7: Epiphany Cantata: Light to the Nations**

## JOURNEY TO ADULTHOOD

### Pre-Rite 13

**Sundays, 11:30AM**

One-year bridge program from Church School to the Journey program, with a focus on building the dynamic of trust and attention needed for the Journey program. Program Contacts: Jeanne Martens 313.565.4827, Mark Cookman, 313.278.4734, and David Blake, 313.561.2465.

### Rite 13

**Sundays, 11:30AM**

For youth ages 12-14. Contacts: Erika Morrison, 313.791.2709 and John Porter, 313.354.3169.

### J2A

**Sundays, 11:30AM**

For youth ages 15-16. Contacts: Susan Gregg and Dale Taylor, 313.277.1975.

## SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

### Spirit of Hope Soup Kitchen

**Saturday, Jan. 6, 8:30AM-3:00PM**

The Boy Scouts will serve at Spirit of Hope Soup Kitchen this month.

## MEETINGS

### St. Martha's Guild Luncheon

**Tuesday, Jan. 9, 12:00PM**

Get it on your calendar now and plan to take advantage of this great program. Detective Sgt. Tom Lance of the Dearborn Police Department will speak to the Guild about personal safety and security issues, such as avoiding scams, answering telephone solicitations and much more. For more information, contact Deborah Taylor at 313.292.2587.

### Outreach Committee

**Tuesday, Jan. 2, 7:00PM**

### Vestry Meeting

**Sunday, Jan. 7, 1:00PM**

### Adult Formation Mtg.

**Tuesday, Jan. 9, 5:00 PM**

### Property Committee

**Wed., Jan. 10, 7:00PM**

### Stewardship Commission

**Sun., Jan. 14, 9:00AM**

### Library Committee

**Wed., Jan. 17, 1:00PM**

### Finance Committee

**Thurs., Jan. 18, 7:00PM**

## MUSIC MINISTRY

*For more information about the music program, contact Assistant Director of Music, Sean Jackman, at seanmjackman@hotmail.com or 313.562.0136.*

### Adult Choir

**Thursdays, 7:30-9PM**

Those interested in joining the choir may attend weekly rehearsals.

## AN EPIPHANY CANTATA: LIGHT TO THE NATIONS

Church School children will begin a musical and theatrical session this month based on script-writing related to the themes of Epiphany – light, stars and journeys. We will also explore the themes of spreading of the gospel, of people coming from far and near, and of the kingdom being open to EVERYONE. We will include all of the children in our Sunday School with speaking, singing and chime parts for all participants, as appropriate. The Cantata will be presented in the service on Sunday, Feb. 11.

Coming in January and February

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> <b>New Year's Day</b> (Office Closed)  8:00 AA	<b>2</b> 5:30 Girl Scouts 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:00 Outreach	<b>3</b> 10:00 Prayer Group 11:00 HE & Healing  6:30 Martial Arts 7:30 AA	<b>4</b> 11:30 AA  7:00 Garden Club Bd 7:30 Choir	<b>5</b> 1:00-2:30 Take-A-Break	<b>6</b> 8:30-3:00 Spirit of Hope Soup Kitchen 10:00-12:00 Baptism Preparation Class 12:00-1:30 AA 4:30 Journey of Faith
<b>7</b> 8:00 & 10:00 HE 10:05 Prayer Room 11:30 Church School, J2A, Rite 13, Forum 1:00 Vestry Meet 3:30 Martial Arts 4:30 MartialArts	<b>8</b> 7:00 Monday Nite Movie 7:00 Yoga 7:00 Scout Leaders 8:00 AA	<b>9</b> 9:30 Quilters 10:00 Prayer Group 11:00 HE 12:00 St. Martha's 5:00 Adult Formation 6:30 Energy Healing 7:00 Boy Scouts	<b>10</b> 6:30 Martial Arts 7:00 Property Meet 7:30 AA	<b>11</b> 11:30 AA  7:30 Choir	<b>12</b> 1:00-2:30 Take-A-Break	<b>13</b>  12:00-1:30 AA  4:30 Journey of Faith
<b>14</b> 8:00 & 10:00 HE 9:00 Stewardship 10:05 Prayer Room 11:30 Church School, J2A, Rite 13, Forum 3:30 Martial Arts 4:30 MartialArts	<b>15</b> <b>M. L. King Day</b> (Office Closed)  8:00 AA	<b>16</b> 9:30 Quilters  12:00 Drbn Min Assn 5:30 Girl Scouts 6:30 Energy Healing 7:00 Boy Scouts	<b>17</b> 10:00 Prayer Group 11:00 HE  1:00 Library Meet 6:30 Martial Arts 7:30 AA	<b>18</b> 11:30 AA  7:00 Finance 7:30 Choir	<b>19</b> 1:00-2:30 Take-A-Break	<b>20</b>  12:00-1:30 AA  4:30 Journey of Faith
<b>21</b> 9:00 Holy Eucharist 9:05 Prayer Room 10:30 Annual Meeting  3:30&4:30 Martial Arts	<b>22</b> 7:00 Yoga 8:00 AA	<b>23</b> 9:30 Quilters  6:30 Energy Healing 7:00 Boy Scouts	<b>24</b> 10:00 Prayer Group 11:00 HE  6:30 Martial Arts 7:30 AA	<b>25</b> 11:30 AA  7:30 Choir	<b>26</b> 1:00-2:30 Take-A-Break	<b>27</b> 9-11:30 LWV 12:00-1:30 AA  4:30 Journey of Faith
<b>28</b> 8:00 & 10:00 HE 10:05 Prayer Room 11:30 Church School, Rite 13, J2a, Forum 3:30 & 4:30 MartialArts	<b>29</b> 7:00 Yoga 8:00 AA	<b>30</b> 9:30 Quilters  6:30 Energy Healing 7:00 Boy Scouts	<b>31</b> 10:00 Prayer Group 11:00 HE  6:30 Martial Arts 7:30 AA			

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• Staff, Vestry, Ministry Listings • Weekly Sunday Readings • Community Highlights • The *Courier*

**WEEK OF JANUARY 7**

Acolytes TBD  
 Ushers (8am) K. Goss  
 (10am) Team 2 – Ludwig, M. Sallman, D. Leduc  
 Greeters TBD  
 Lector/L.E.M. (8am) N. Lehnert  
 (10am) M. McLeod, A. Johnson, D. Brehob  
 Altar Guild C. Goss, G. Morrison, J. Shaw  
 LEVs S. Mulkern, J. Anderson  
 VPOD E. Simpson  
 Sunday Readings: The First Sunday after the Epiphany  
 Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 89:20-29;  
 Acts 10:34-38; Luke 3:15-16,21-22

**WEEK OF JANUARY 14**

Acolytes TBD  
 Ushers (8am) L. Crane  
 (10am) Team 3 – M. Piernick, R. Kedzo  
 Greeters TBD  
 Lector/L.E.M. (8am) M. McLeod  
 (10am) youth reader, D. Cardwell, R. Groover  
 LEVs B. Hall, S. Quaint  
 Altar Guild K. Hipp, D. Hipp, L. Pedler  
 VPOD J. Connelly  
 Sunday Readings: The Second Sunday after the Epiphany  
 Isaiah 62:1-5; Psalm 96:1-10;  
 1 Corinthians 12:1-11; John 2:1-11

**WEEK OF JANUARY 21**

Acolytes TBD  
 Ushers (9am) Team 4 – J. Groover, D. Young  
 Greeters TBD  
 Lector/L.E.M. (9am) K. Green, B. Hall, A. Johnson  
 Altar Guild K. Green, A. Green  
 VPOD K. Green  
 Sunday Readings: The Third Sunday after the Epiphany  
 Nehemiah 8:2-10; Psalm 113;  
 1 Corinthians 14:12b-20; Luke 4:14-21

**WEEK OF JANUARY 28**

Acolytes TBD  
 Ushers (8am) G. Ebling  
 (10am) Team 5 – D. Brim, M. J. Searles  
 Greeters TBD  
 Lector/L.E.M. (8am) D. Brehob  
 (10am) N. Lehnert, M. Sallman, E. Simpson  
 LEVs A. Johnson, J. Anderson  
 Altar Guild S. McCullen, C. Goss, B. Caldwell  
 VPOD S. Mulkern  
 Sunday Readings: The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany  
 Jeremiah 1:4-10; Psalm 71:1-6;  
 1 Corinthians 14:12b-20; Luke 4:21-32

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# CONGREGATION 2 CONGREGATION

*Journey of Faith Church*

By Mark Jenkins

## Walking backwards into the future

A number of months back, reading the *New York Times*, I discovered the Aymara, a tribal community of the Andes that have an entirely different way of talking about time. “Most of us describe the future as ahead or in front of us, and the past as behind us,” the article claimed. “But the Aymara call the future qhipa pacha/timpu, meaning back or behind time, and the past nayra pacha/timpu, meaning front time. And they gesture ahead of them when remembering things past, and backward when talking about the future.”

*Journey  
of Faith  
Church*

What a fascinating and delightful difference! And, the more I have thought about it, the more I have come to grasp the sense of their way of thinking. After all, we know the events of the past – and thus we can see the past in front of us. The future, however, is as yet unknown, something that we can no more see than the space that lies behind us.

I consider the Aymara as I move into a New Year. Looking “forward” to 2006, I see before me all those great days of work and play and I am grateful to God for every minute of it. And, walking backwards into the misty, as yet, unseen moments of 2007, I pray that this year will bring with it new opportunities and joys. And, if I am at all nervous about walking backward, I at least know that God’s got my back. Yours too!

# MUSIC NOTES

By Sean Jackman

## A fond farewell for Jung Yoo

On December 17, we said good-bye to our organist of nine years, Jung Yoo. Thanks to those of you who contributed to her farewell at the Coffee Hour after church that day.

## Making music at Wednesday Workshops

Our second Wednesday Workshop program attracted approximately 12 adults and children weekly. During our time together, we worked on playing xylophones, chimes and singing. Supper was included as part of the evening, with thanks going to Monica McLeod who provided our meal. Our second workshop culminated in a presentation of Advent songs during the Coffee Hour on Sunday, December 17.

## Children's pageant a hit

*No Room, No Room*, presented by the children of the congregation on Christmas Eve, was an upbeat and family-centered way to begin our celebration of the season. Tess Dowgiallo and I appreciate your support of the Children’s Christmas Pageant.

## Music Party

Susan Ward and Peter Swiecicki hosted our Music Program Christmas party this year. A fun time was had by adults and children with caroling at the piano! Thank you Susan and Peter.

## Join the Open Choir

Starting on Sunday, January 7, we will begin the first of our Open Choir Sundays. This is an idea that people have been discussing for a while as a way to include singers in the congregation who are unable to rehearse on Thursday evenings. Please meet in the choir room at 9 a.m. (sharp) to rehearse a two-part anthem that we will sing in church the same day. I will be selecting music that is accessible and enjoyable to sing – English texts to start, with melodies based on hymns that are familiar. During the service, folks who are joining the choir for Open Choir Sunday will sit with their families, walk up to the steps at anthem time and return to their seats following the anthem. The Adult Choir will process in and out, robed as usual. All singers of middle school age and older are welcome. Please consider joining the members of the Adult Choir for our first Open Choir.

Happy New Year!

# MDG

Millennium  
Development  
GOALS

## Defining the Millennium Development Goals

**#1 Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger** – Reduce by half the proportion of people living on less than a dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger.

**#2 Achieve universal primary education** – Meeting the second goal requires ensuring that all boys and girls complete a full course of primary education.

The United Nations Millennium Development Goals are a set of eight targets for eradicating global poverty adopted by the 191-member states of the United Nations, including the United States, out of the conviction that humanity can build a better and safe world if it is willing to unite.