

Cultivating a Community of Abundance

The season of planning and preparation for the ministry of Christ Church in 2007 has begun. We are all eager for it to be a year of inspired ministry and joyful stewardship as we use the resources and talents God has given us to realize the work God has called us to do together.

The Fall Commitment Campaign is a fundamental component of our preparation and an essential demonstration of our commitment to bring our plans to fruition. The Campaign is a spiritual endeavor. It is an opportunity for the Holy Spirit to work within each of us, within our communities, within our parish. Our pledges are not about raising money. They are about returning to God some portion of the abundance God has shared with us. Our

pledges are part of our conversation with God, both private and public, individually and collectively.

This summer, the Stewardship and Finance Commissions asked each of the committees and commissions within Christ Church to think differently about the "budget process." We asked people to reflect on what their commission or committee is called to do, what ministry they dream of making a reality. Their responses brought an outpouring of current successes and hopes and expectations for the future. This is the Holy Spirit calling us to envision exciting possibilities, to create God's kingdom in our midst. Most importantly, this process has yielded a budget that comes from prayer and call, rather



than the other way around. God has already given us everything we need to fulfill our ministry together. "Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!" (2 Corinthians 9:15)

Everyone's talking about stewardship

This year the Stewardship Commission is taking a generational approach to the Fall Commitment Campaign. Because each generation responds differently to the call to be good stewards of all God has given us, separate events are being planned for each group to hear about the vision and mission of Christ Church and to find meaningful ways to respond. Events for Baby Boomers and Generation X are in the works; those for Builders and Silents are described below.

Afternoon tea for seniors

The Stewardship Committee is sponsoring a "Senior Tea" on Friday, October 20, at 2:00 p.m. in the lounge.



Tea and afternoon snacks will be provided, though we ask that you bring your own tea cup. To RSVP or for more information, contact Angie Keller at 313.565.0729, Jo

Reiner at 313.562.2363 or Luceil Pedler at 313.563.1843.

Breakfast buffet for the silent generation

All those born between 1927 and 1945 and all those who wish to share in the wisdom of this so-called "Silent Generation" are invited for fellowship and a light breakfast on Wednesday, October 18, in the lounge. The breakfast buffet will open at 8:45 a.m. and the program will begin at 9:15 a.m.

In our program, you will hear about the vision and mission of the various church programs for 2006-2007. You will have an opportunity to ask questions and find out how you can support God's challenge to have faith and do good works with your time, talent and treasure. It's all about stewardship — combining the old and new — as we kick off our Fall Commitment Campaign. We're looking forward to a budget that supports the mission and vision we have for the spiritual growth of our congregation.

To attend, contact Martha Amis at 313.724.8845 or marthaamis@hotmail.com, Joyce Faulds at 734.762.8743 or fauldsjoyce@hotmail.com or Toc Dunlap at 313.278.5806 or tocdunlap@yahoo.com. If you can't attend on October 18, but would like to join another group, let us know.

FROM THE RECTOR

Between the Marne River and Munich

Some of you may recall me sharing with you a column written by Billy Rose. It is a story about a young

German soldier, who after his country's defeat at the Marne River began the long walk from France to Germany. It is a story about how a young man's despair shaped the rest of his life and illustrates the power of "ungrateful living."

Billy Rose wrote: "The young soldier walked out on the bridge. The wind sliced through his dirty uniform. He looked down the river. The water was red with the blood of his countrymen - red as the sun going down behind the Bavarian hills. As he stood on the bridge and looked at the icy water, he thought to himself, "why not? Germany is dying. Why not die with her?" A car just then rumbled over the boards. He pressed against the guard rail as it went by. He could see the faces of the French soldiers in it as it passed him. He started walking again... And then he stopped. "Where was he going? To Munich? What was in Munich? More gray faces? More beaten people?" His commanders had said, "Go home." And, now thousands like him - sleepless, hungry and in rags - were heading "home" to an uncertain future!

The soldier turned and looked back. He was alone on the bridge. On the far bank, the sun caught a bit of metal. Someone was fishing. The soldier closed his eyes, rested his hands on the rail - it was cold - and then jumped. As he hit the water, there was a great roaring in his head - like the sound of a crowd calling his name. He felt his boots carrying him down, and down. He felt warmer. Then he saw lights - like torches in a parade.

When he opened his eyes, a strange face was looking down at him. "Easy," the strange face smiled. "Get this inside of you. You will feel better." He was in a kitchen. The soldier took the cup in his hands. He saw an oven, and by the oven, his uniform drying on a chair.

"Lucky I was on the bank when you went under," chuckled the stranger, "You were the only thing I caught today." The soldier pulled the blanket up around him. "Got to be too much for you, eh?" The fisherman went on. "A lot of our men felt that way. But it's no good. There's too much work to be done... You look weak. Why don't you stay here tonight?"

But the soldier got up and started dressing. "If you're going to Munich," said the man in the kitchen, "maybe you'll let me help. I have a friend there. I'll give you a letter to give him. What's your name?"

The soldier handed him a damp identification card and went on dressing. Out on the road, he looked at the letter. Under the date, December 21, 1918, it read:

Dear Benjamin,

As a favor to me would you please give food and lodging to this young man until he can find some work? His name is Corporal Adolf Hitler.

Your faithful brother in God,
Israel Cohen

The corporal's life, as the column portrays it, was shaped by Germany's defeat at the Marne, not by Israel Cohen, the Jew who saved his life and offered him hope. Too often the corporal's story is our story... Defeated at our Marne's, with blood red rivers of tragedy flowing over us, we fail to surface and see the face of the God who has saved us, and to show thanks in our lives.

I think his message is incredibly important for us to hear this month as we consider what each of our households are going to offer up for our 2007 pledges.

Will our personal and corporate stewardship be driven by thanksgiving or despair? Will we give abundantly because our lives and the life of our parish fill us with hope for the future and gratitude for the present? Or will we fill out those pledge cards seeing only what we lack, despairing of what we have lost, and complaining about the scarcity of the presence of God in our midst?

Over the next few weeks, I ask you to take the time - in fact, "pledge" with me to take the time - to reflect on how often the compassion and love that other people have offered us have pulled us from the icy waters of despair. Reflect upon the importance of our community for your life and the life of our community in metro-Detroit.

And, in all the days ahead of us, let that be the basis of how you will respond to the financial commitment you will make to our common life for 2007. See the abundance that we have been given, respond generously in gratitude. Let your 2007 pledge be an expression of your thanksgiving for the life of this Christian community because it is a beacon of hope in a river of despair. We are ever at that crossroad between the Marne River and Munich, and your gratitude can bring this place nearer to heaven itself.

Your faithful brother in God,
Daniel



Education program offers something for everyone

Christ Church's education program gets underway this month, offering a variety of learning opportunities to enrich us as individuals and as a community of faith.

EDUCATION FOR ADULTS

Sunday Forums

October 1 — *Mapping the Religious Landscape of Metro-Detroit* with Professor Claude Jacobs of U-M Dearborn. As co-leader (with U-M colleague, William McNeece) of the regional affiliate of The Harvard Pluralism Project, Claude will present a slide show and discuss and answer questions about the religious landscape of metro-Detroit.

October 8 — *You Can't Say That: How to Discuss the Middle East Conflict*. Dr. Ron Stockton will share his experience as a speaker on an inter-faith panel discussing the Middle East as part of the Difficult Dialogues Initiative at U-M, Dearborn.

October 15 — *An Organ Demonstration*. Sean Jackman and Jung Yoo, our two staff musicians, will conduct a demonstration of our church pipe organ — a 1962, three-keyboard Casavant 2643.

October 22 — *On Stewardship*

October 29 — *Proposal 2: The Michigan Civil Rights Initiative*. Toni Tront, president, of the Dearborn/Dearborn Heights League of Women Voters, will help us explore the voting implications of Proposal 2 — an amendment to the state convention to ban affirmative action programs.

Sunday Afternoons

Living the Questions is a 12-week program including a shared meal, video (including conversations with leading theologians, church leaders, sociologists and biblical scholars as well as sermon clips, comedy/satire and lecture excerpts), guided discussion, spiritual exercises for practical applications (such as different forms of prayer and meditation, movement, walking the labyrinth, etc.) and Bible study. The first four ses-

sions will be held at Christ Church on Sunday, October 8, 15, 22 and 29 from 4:00-6:15 p.m. The next five sessions will be offered during Lent and the remaining three after Easter.

“Living the Questions” will help seekers and “church alumni” alike in discovering the significance of Christianity in the 21st century and what a meaningful faith can look like in today’s world. People know that at its core, Christianity has something good to offer the human race. At the same time, many have a sense that they are alone in being a “thinking” Christian and “salvaging” Christianity is a hopeless task. This program provides a safe environment where people have permission to ask the questions they’ve always wanted to ask but have been afraid to voice for fear of being labeled a heretic.

Contact the church office at 313-565-8450 if you want to attend. This will help with meal planning and allow us to give you some materials which must be read before attending the first session. If, however, you are moved at the last minute to attend any of these sessions, know that you will be warmly welcomed.

EDUCATION FOR YOUTH

The Journey to Adulthood program has geared up for another great year. The J2A group, along with their guides Dale Taylor and Susan Gregg, are getting excited about preparations for their pilgrimage next summer. Watch for more information, opportunities to help, and many creative fundraising projects from this crowd of 15 and 16 year olds.

In Rite-13, our 12- through 14-year-olds will continue to blow the minds of guides John Porter and Erika Morrison with their energy and insight.

And this year, we are

beginning a one-year bridge program from Church School to the Journey Program, which we are calling Pre-Rite 13 until the kids come up with a new name. It will focus on building the dynamic of trust and attention that is needed for the Journey program. Jeanne Martens, Mark Cookman and David Blake are throwing themselves into this fun and flexible year with a spirited group of kids.

EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN

Last month we introduced a new approach to **Church School** designed to challenge and engage both children and teachers and that complements the stories and crafts of our Prayer Room program. Split into two groups — ages 4-7 and 8-11 — children will participate in music, art, cooking, gardening and other classes, while exploring a biblical story or theme. The first four-week block, which began on September 17 and continues through October 8, involves singing in the children’s choir and playing hand-chimes. On October 15, the theme will be Stewardship and from October 22 through November 5, the children will be cooking up a storm with the help of Isabelle Behm and Margaret Green. Later in November, Erika Morrison will help children create a mural.

EDUCATION FOR EVERYONE

Wednesday Workshops will be an opportunity for children, young people and adults to be involved in music making and fellowship. This new event will meet every Wednesday beginning October 11 through November 8, from

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Eucharist Service and Prayer Group Moves to Wednesday

Weekday Holy Eucharist services have been moved to Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m. to accommodate Clare's new office hours (Monday, Wednesday and Friday). The St. Mary of Bethany Prayer Group will also move to Wednesday mornings at 10:00am.

Education program

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5:30 to 7:00 p.m. The agenda for this first of several workshops throughout the parish year will be:

5:30 p.m. Gather in the Fellowship Hall

5:35 p.m. Chime & Bell Ringing for half the group (all ages) with Tess; Vocal/Choir Activities for the other half of the group (all ages) with Sean.

6:05 p.m. Pizza Supper

6:25 p.m. Groups switch

7:00 p.m. Groups meet and leave from the Fellowship Hall

We will share with the congregation what we have learned and experienced on either Sunday, November 12 or 19.

Wednesday Workshops will occur again on November 29 and December 6 and 13, with a time of sharing in church on December 17. This second workshop will include work with Orff instruments (xylophones) and drama. Small instrumental ensembles will be incorporated as we are able.

Update on the Children of Abraham Project

The documentary Reuniting the Children of Abraham (RCOA) will be presented on Sunday, November 5, at 3:00 p.m. at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 22430 Michigan Avenue, in Dearborn. The event will include dinner and discussion following the presentation.

The RCOA documentary is a creative response to The Children of Abraham Project, to demonstrate the possibility of breaking through long-standing barriers of fear, prejudice and hate. The Children of Abraham Project was created by Brenda Rosenberg, founder of Pathways to Peace Foundation and author of RCOA, and in collaboration with NCCJ Interfaith Partners and the University of Michigan Arts of Citizenship Program. It is an effort by individuals and interfaith organizations in metro-Detroit to educate Jews, Christians and Muslims on their common ancestry and to encourage them to work together for tolerance, peace and civic betterment.

Tickets for this event are \$30 per person. Call 313.792.9389 for more information.

Vestry Reflection

By Kevin Green

Love thy neighbor as thyself. (Matthew 19:19, Mark 12:31-33, Luke 10:27, etc.) Such an easy concept yet so hard to put into practice.

I was reminded (as if any of us needs a reminder) of this commandment recently when reading an article about a gay couple in Birmingham who had their car vandalized on two occasions. The author equated the incident to cross-burning and I thought of many other incidents in the world, both large and small, that seemed just as senseless. Regardless of your personal opinion of the habits, customs, race or appearance of others, can anyone truly justify hate, let alone taking actions based on such hate?

To some extent it was easy for me to cast aspersions on the perpetrators of this crime, but I quickly realized that I am not in a position to judge others unless I am willing to be similarly judged, which I am not. (See, e.g., Matthew 7:1-2 and Luke 6:37.) On the other hand, I am tired of our Church, our city, our country and the world allowing “differences” to be used as justification for hateful actions, be they contempt, ridicule, vandalism, murder or war.

Here’s a simple pet peeve of mine that may illustrate what I mean: election bumper stickers. My view is that once an election is over, so too should be the bumper stickers, both for the victor and for the losers. By keeping them on a vehicle, one may be perceived to be saying (even if not intentionally) that my candidate won (and yours lost). Or, my candidate lost, but at least I’m not responsible for the bozo who got elected. In either case, I don’t see any positive results; the bumper sticker serves to highlight differences, may alienate some people and, in extreme cases, may fuel the fires of hate, as seems to be the case in Mexico currently.

As we approach the end of Christ Church’s Year of Fellowship (which I might add is intended simply as a reminder to us to welcome others, not just this year, but always), perhaps we can begin to focus on ways to love each other without regard to our differences (or similarities) but rather just as individuals and God’s children. I know that this is a simplistic or even naïve way to look at the world, but a very good friend of mine has encouraged me to “keep on being this naïve.” I invite all of you to join me in my naïveté.



“Anything that we have, our family, our health, our friends... is no longer ‘ours’ when we learn to truly thank God for it.”

Helmut Thielicke
in *Being a Christian When the Chips are Down*

JOIN US

CROP Walk

Sunday, Oct. 1, 2:00 PM

Fight world hunger by walking in this local fundraiser. The walk begins at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Dearborn. This year Christ Church is serving as a Hospitality Stop along the route. Call the church office at 313.565.8450 for more information or to volunteer to help with the Hospitality Stop.

Animal Blessing

Sunday, Oct. 8, 3:00 PM

Calling all animal lovers. Bring your pets for the Blessing of the Animals given in honor of St. Francis of Assisi, known for his special love for all God's creatures, especially the animal variety.

Wednesday Workshops

Wednesdays, Oct. 11-Nov. 8,

5:30 PM

Adults, young people and children will enjoy this intergenerational time of music making and fellowship. The evening's agenda includes chime and bell ringing, vocal and choir activities and a pizza supper. In November, participants will share with the congregation what they've learned and experienced. (See pages 3 and 4 for more details.)

Breakfast Buffet

Wednesday, Oct. 18, 8:45 AM

One of the events designed to kick off the Fall Commitment Campaign this month. An opportunity for a tasty breakfast and fellowship with those born between 1927 and 1945 – and all those who wish to be enlightened by this wise and faithful age group, as well as to hear about the vision and mission of various church programs for 2006/2007. Please see page 1 for more details.

Senior Tea

Friday, Oct. 20, 2:00 PM

The Stewardship Committee is sponsoring this event as part of the Fall Commitment Campaign Kick-off this month. Tea and snacks will be provided; bring your own tea cup. Call Angie Keller at 313.565.0729, Jo Reiner at 313.562.2363 or Luceil Pedler at 313.563.1843.

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

Wednesdays, 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

(See page 3 for more details)

- Oct. 1** Mapping the Religious Landscape of Metro Detroit
- Oct. 8** You Can't Say That: How to Discuss the Middle East Conflict
- Oct. 15** An Organ Demonstration
- Oct. 22** On Stewardship
- Oct. 29** Proposal 2: The Michigan Civil Rights Initiative

Living the Question

Sundays, 4:00-6:15 PM

A 12-week program including a shared meal; video presentations with leading theologians, church leaders, sociologists and biblical scholars; guided discussion, spiritual exercises for practical application; and bible study.

- Oct. 8** An Invitation to Journey
- Oct. 15** Thinking Theologically
- Oct. 22** Creativity and Stories of Creation
- Oct. 29** Restoring Relationships

To register, please call the church office at 313.565.8450.

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.

Now through Oct. 8: Singing and Handchimes

Oct. 15: Stewardship

Oct. 22 through Nov. 5: Cooking

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. Contacts: Jeanne Martens, Mark Cookman and David Blake.

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.

MEETINGS

Stewardship Committee

Oct. 8, 9:00 AM

St. Martha's Guild

Tuesday, Oct. 10, Noon

Helen Mamalakes from the McFadden Museum will present "Angels." Bring a sandwich; dessert and beverages will be served. Any questions, call Angie Keller at 313.565.0729 or Marian Kachadurian at 313-271-2233.

Property Commission

Wednesday, Oct. 11, 7:00PM

Vestry Meeting

Sunday, Oct. 15, 1:00PM

Finance Committee

Thursday, Oct. 19, 7:00PM

MUSIC MINISTRY

For more information about the music program, contact Sean Jackman at seanjackman@hotmail.com or 313.562.0136.

Adult Choir

Thursdays, 7:30-9PM

Those interested in joining the choir may attend weekly rehearsals.

Handbell & Children's Choir

These choirs will not meet weekly but will have opportunity to participate in singing and playing throughout the year.

HEALTHY OPTIONS

Hatha Yoga — Mondays, 7:00-

8:15PM; Thursdays, 5:15-6:30PM

Lessons are tailored to the individual abilities of participants and include a spiritual-meditation component. \$7 per class, payable on a monthly basis. Contact: Kirsten at 734.558.7625.

Martial Arts — Sundays, 3:30 &

4:30PM; Wednesdays, 6:30PM

ShitoKan martial arts for children and adults designed to address the body as a temple of spiritual life. Contact Michael Mroczyk or Martha Amis at 313.724.8845.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 8:00 & 10:00 HE 10:05 Prayer Room 11:30 Church school, Rite 13, J2A, Forum 3:30 Martial Arts 4:30 Martial Arts	2 7:00 Scout Leaders 7:00 Yoga 8:00 AA	3 9:30 Quilters 6:30 Energy Healing 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:00 Altar Guild	4 10:00 Prayer Group 11:00 HE & healing 6:30 Martial Arts 7:30 AA	5 11:30 AA 5:15 Yoga 7:00 Garden Club Bd 7:30 Choir	6 1:00-2:30 Take-A-Break	7 11:00 Journey thru Grief 12:00-1:30 AA 4:30 Journey of Faith
8 8:00 & 10:00 HE 9:00 Stewardship Comm 10:05 Prayer Room 11:30 Church school, Rite 13, J2A, Forum 3:00 Animal Blessing 3:30&4:30MartialArts 4:00Living the Question	9 7:00 Yoga 8:00 AA	10 9:30 Quilters 12:00 St Martha's 6:30 Energy Healing 7:00 Boy Scouts	11 10:00 Prayer Group 11:00 HE 5:30 Wed Workshops 6:30 Martial Arts 7:00 Property Comm 7:30 AA	12 11:30 AA 5:15 Yoga 7:30 Choir	13 1:00-2:30 Take-A-Break	14 11:00 Journey thru Grief 12:00-1:30 AA 4:30 Journey of Faith
15 8:00 & 10:00 HE 10:05 Prayer Room 11:30 Church school, Rite 13, J2A, Forum 1:00 Vestry Meet 3:30&4:30MartialArts 4:00Living the Question	16 7:00 Yoga 8:00 AA	17 9:30 Quilters 6:30 Energy Healing 7:00 Boy Scouts	18 8:45 Breakfast Buffet 10:00 Prayer Group 11:00 HE 1:00 Library Meet 5:30 Wed Workshops 6:30 Martial Arts 7:30 AA	19 11:30 AA 5:15 Yoga 7:00 Finance Comm 7:00 LWV 7:30 Choir	20 1:00-2:30 Take-A-Break 2:00-4:00 Senior Tea	21 11:00 Journey thru Grief 12:00-1:30 AA 4:30 Journey of Faith
22 8:00 & 10:00 HE 10:05 Prayer Room 11:30 Church school, Rite 13, J2A, Forum 3:30&4:30MartialArts 4:00Living the Question	23 7:00 Yoga 8:00 AA	24 9:30 Quilters 6:30 Energy Healing 7:00 Boy Scouts	25 10:00 Prayer Group 11:00 HE 5:30 Wed Workshops 6:30 Martial Arts 7:30 AA	26 11:30 AA 5:15 Yoga 7:30 Choir	27 11:00-2:30 Take-A-Break	28 Diocese Convention 11:00 Journey thru Grief 12:00-1:30 AA 4:30 Journey of Faith
29 8:00 & 10:00 HE 10:05 Prayer Room 11:30 Church school, Rite 13, J2A, Forum 3:30&4:30MartialArts 4:00Living the Question	30 7:00 Yoga 8:00 AA	31 9:30 Quilters 6:30 Energy Healing 7:00 Boy Scouts				

WEEK OF OCTOBER 1

Acolytes A Green, S Matthews, E Hines, M Swiecicki
Ushers (8am) G Borgeson
(10am) Team 2 – Ludwig, Sallman, D Leduc
Greeters TBD
Lector/L.E.M. (8am) M McLeod
(10am) B Hofmann-Porter, D Cardwell, B Hall
Altar Guild S McCullen, K Green, A Green
LEVs A Johnson, J Anderson
VPOD J Connelly
Sunday Readings: The 17th Sunday after Pentecost
Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29; Psalm 19:7-14;
James 4:7-12; Mark 9:38-43,45,47-48

WEEK OF OCTOBER 8

Acolytes A Joens, C Bell, E Brehob, B Green
Ushers (8am) K Goss
(10am) Team 3 – M Piernick, Prokopp, Kedzo
Greeters TBD
Lector/L.E.M. (8am) M Amis
(10am) B Simpson, R Groover, A Johnson
LEVs A Angel, M Shelton
Altar Guild C Goss, J Piernick, B Caldwell
VPOD S Mulkern
Sunday Readings: The 18th Sunday after Pentecost
Genesis 2:18-24; Psalm 8; Hebrews 2:9-18; Mark 10:2-9

WEEK OF OCTOBER 15

Acolytes B Games, T Morrison, T LeDuc, C Kappauf
Ushers (8am) D Baker Sr
(10am) Team 4 – J Groover, D Young
Greeters TBD
Lector/L.E.M. (8am) D Brehob
(10am) M McLeod, M Sallman, E Simpson

LEVs B Hall, S Quaint
Altar Guild L Pedler, J Shaw, L Boyar
VPOD S Quaint
Sunday Readings: The 19th Sunday after Pentecost
Amos 5:6-7, 10-15; Psalm 90; Hebrews 3:1-6; Mark 10:17-27

WEEK OF OCTOBER 22

Acolytes A Piernick, L Culp, E Hines, E Sallman
Ushers (8am) L Crane
(10am) Team 5 – Brim, Searles
Greeters TBD
Lector/L.E.M. (8am) R Groover
(10am) M Farquharson, M Amis, D Cardwell
Altar Guild G Morrison, S McCullen, C Goss
LEVs A Johnson, M Pellegrino
VPOD S Cookman
Sunday Readings: The 20th Sunday after Pentecost
Isaiah 53:4-12; Psalm 91; Hebrews 4:12-16; Mark 10:35-45

WEEK OF OCTOBER 29

Acolytes J Swiecicki, A Behm, J Pellegrino, M Swiecicki
Ushers (8am) G Ebling
(10am) Team 1 – R Baker, Garris
Greeters TBD
Lector/L.E.M. (8am) D Cardwell
(10am) K Green, D Brehob, R Groover
Altar Guild K Hipp, D Hipp, J Reiner
LEVs S Quaint, S Mulkern
VPOD M Amis
Sunday Readings: The 21th Sunday after Pentecost
Isaiah 59:9-19; Psalm 13;
Hebrews 5:12-6:1, 9-12; Mark 10:46-52

BRIEFLY

Miter meetings with Bishop Gibbs

Bishop Gibbs and the Bishop's Executive Staff are coming to a parish near you. A series of "Miter Meetings" will be held throughout the diocese as an opportunity to hear an overview of the mission and ministry of the staff, ask your questions and receive your input on our common ministry. Meetings in October include Sunday, October 1, from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. at St. Andrew's, Livonia and Wednesday, October 11, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. at Christ Church, Detroit. A brief presentation will provide an overview of Diocesan Mission Priorities and accomplishments. The rest of the agenda is up to you. These sessions are not just for clergy and deanery representatives. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. If you have any questions or comments, please call the Bishop's office at 313.833.4435.

Attend the Diocesan Convention

You read about it in *The Record*, now experience it for yourself. You don't have to be a delegate to attend the 172nd Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Michigan on October 27 and 28 at the Hyatt Regency, Dearborn. Everyone is invited to come together for worship, to explore outreach opportunities and to observe convention activities. This year a special pre-convention program has been designed to give Diocesan delegates and parishioners an opportunity to get to know one another better and to learn what other parishes in the diocese are facing and doing. Called "Breaking Down the Walls of Hostility: Reflecting

on our Fifth Baptismal Covenant." The event will be held on Friday, October 27, from 2:00-4:00 p.m. Dr. Mary Nelson, convention banquet speaker, will speak briefly on "The Biblical Imperative," followed by four one-hour workshops and a regathering for final reflections. Registration forms may be found in the church office and are due at the diocese no later than October 18. For more information, contact JoAnn Hardy at 313.833.4422. For more details on other convention activities, please visit www.edomi.org.

Diocesan Altar Guild Fall Meeting

The Rt. Rev. Wendell Gibbs will be the guest speaker at the Diocesan Altar Guild Fall Meeting on Saturday, October 14. Registration with refreshments will begin at 10:00 a.m., followed by a business meeting at 10:30 a.m., Eucharist at noon, lunch at 12:45 p.m. and Gibbs' presentation at 1:15 p.m. Tickets are \$7 per person. To make your reservation, pick up a form in the church office and return to Liz Coghill no later than Friday, October 6. Any questions, call 248.334.4571, 248.363.2925 or 313.682.1726.

Learn about the Michigan Civil Rights Initiative on ballots this November

The League of Women Voters, Dearborn-Dearborn Heights will host a gathering on Proposal 2, (the Michigan Civil Rights Amendment) on Thursday, October 19 at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The speaker is Marilyn Hobs of One United Michigan, a coalition of many individuals and groups working to defeat this proposal.

SPOTLIGHT: THE MISSION OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

By Matt Sallman



The Finance Committee is charged by the Vestry to monitor the financial health of Christ Church. Our regular mission is to gather the third Thursday of each month to review the accounts for the previous month. Toby Hines and I are Co-Chairs of the committee. Our regular members are Andy Angel, Bob Buzby (former Committee Chairman and Treasurer, who continues to serve) and Doug Brim. Jamie Connelly, our Senior Warden, continues to attend our meetings after serving as Vestry Liaison last year. We are also joined by Susan Ward, the church Treasurer, and Carrie Serfass our current Vestry Liaison.

Each month the Treasurer provides us with a consolidated Treasurer's Report and more complete listings of the status of all the accounts in the church's budget. We discuss whether our income is keeping up with our expenses and send advice to the Vestry when we feel that things are

going better or worse than expected. Business that we have recently discussed includes where the church's accounts should be deposited, Direct Deposit of pledges, and what form of annual audit the church should perform. I mention that we discuss items, because we do not have the authority to actually place funds or approve any expenditure. That authority rests solely with the Vestry; we are there to give them recommendations.

Currently Toby and I have been working with the Stewardship Committee to prepare a budget proposal for 2007. This task is being handled differently this year. Instead of just asking commission leaders to give us a dollar amount that they need, we have asked them to provide a list that includes needs along with their wishes and hopes - additional expenditures that will allow us to grow into the church that we see ourselves becoming. With the Stewardship Committee, we have asked for stories to go along with the numbers to tell us what these additional expenditures will mean to our church. We look forward to being able to share this new process with the congregation over the next few months.

By Mark Jenkins

Not long ago, the Baylor Institute for Studies of Religion released the results of a major survey on religion in American life. The survey contained 29 questions about God's character and behavior. From the answers to these questions, some very disturbing conclusions were drawn about the God that Americans believe in.

- 23 percent of those surveyed believe in a Benevolent God, a God who is actively engaged in our daily lives and is a positive force that is unconcerned with condemning or punishing individuals.
- 24.4 percent believe in a Distant God, inactive and unconcerned about the world or human activity.

• 16 percent of those surveyed believe in a Critical God who does not interact with our world but nonetheless views our current state unfavorably. These individuals feel that God's displeasure will be felt in another life.

• And 31.4 percent believe in an Authoritarian God. This God is viewed as highly active in our daily lives and world affairs, both helping us in decision making and, at the same time, responsible for global events like economic upturns or tsunamis. They also believe that God is angry with us and metes out punishment to those who are unfaithful or ungodly.

If this survey is accurate, and there is no reason to think it is not, taken together, those who see God as Critical or Authoritarian, angry and judgmental,

constitute almost half of the population of the United States. And if we add to that figure those who either think that God doesn't exist or isn't concerned with us, the number reaches over three quarters of the American people.

That's staggering! It means that large numbers of people in this country worship a God who sounds and acts more like Thor, the Norse God of Thunder, than the God whom Jesus called "Abba."

So, what does it say about the way we reach out to those around us? Imagine what it must be like not to know and worship a loving, benevolent God. Then imagine how we, at Christ Church and Journey of Faith, can work together to reach out and share our experience of that benevolent God with others. Clearly, we've got our work cut out for us!

Music Notes

by Sean Jackman



Choir

Choir has begun for the fall and we are pleased to welcome several new members to our group. October is a great month to join us.

Wednesday Workshops

Our Wednesday Workshops have taken shape and begin on Wednesday, October 11. These workshops will be an opportunity for children, young people and adults to be involved in music making and fellowship. Take a look at the article on pages 3 and 4 for details.

Schubert Mass in G Major

On Sunday, November 19, at 3:00 p.m. church choirs in West Dearborn will participate in a performance of Schubert's **Mass in G** with string quartet and organ accompaniment. The concert will be held at St. Paul's Lutheran

Church (corner of Monroe and Beech) and conducted by John Haury of St. Paul's. The hour-long concert will also include several vocal and organ solos to complement the Schubert Mass. A reception will follow.

I will be rehearsing much of the music during regular choir rehearsals at our church and the choir will sing excerpts from the work as our anthems throughout the fall. There will only be one mass rehearsal at St. Paul's on Saturday, November 18 from 10:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m., with a lunch break at the church.

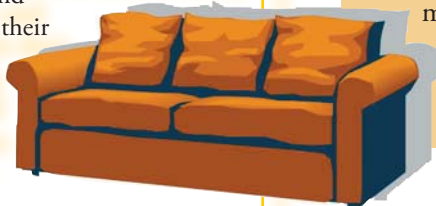
Please see me if you have any questions about upcoming musical events.

Yours in Music Ministry,
Sean Jackman

**THE YEAR OF
FELLOWSHIP:
Building
Community
with Open
Hearts**

Seating needed for new Pre-Rite 13 class

The newest addition to our Journey to Adulthood Program, Pre-Rite 13, is in need of comfy couches and chairs for their meeting room. If you have ones to donate, please call the church office at 313-565-8450.



There are many gifts among us as we together strive to live into God's call. Sean Quaint shares this gift with us:

"One of the first Lay Eucharistic Visitor (LEV) visits I made was to David Hall. David was not having a good day that day. He was in and out of sleep most of the visit, and I was wondering how much he was getting out of the entire experience. Then, when we came to the Lord's Prayer, I noticed that as the other LEV and I prayed, David was mouthing the words of the prayer, with his eyes closed, along with us. I realized then that no matter how much life pulls us down, no matter how ill we become, no matter how much the physicality of our nature can wear on us and degrade us, there is something that God can give us that cannot be taken away. Despite what we could see, David was there with us during that service. Thank God we could be there with him, too."

LOG ON TO: www.christchurchdearborn.org

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FINANCIAL CORNER

Income & Expenses as of August 31, 2006

	YTD <u>Actual</u>	YTD <u>Budget</u>
Income (Pledges & Offerings)	\$235,566	\$232,959
Other	\$18,799	\$16,090
Total Operating Income	\$254,365	\$249,049
Less Operating Expenses	\$260,737	\$267,693
Surplus / Deficit	\$(6,372)	\$(18,644)

"It is the root of all religion that a man knows that he is nothing in order to thank God he is something."

G. K. Chesterton

PASSAGES

BIRTHDAYS

10/02 Noah Grochulski
 10/04 Kannon Brockert-Kress, Betty Lou Neidigh
 10/08 William Drake
 10/11 Michele Carroll-Pearce
 10/12 Donna Behm, Gary LeBlanc, Autumn Skye Percy
 10/13 Daisy Norat, John Porter
 10/15 Julian Appleyard, Douglas Baker, Marian Kachadurian
 10/17 Kathy DeGiulio, Walter Gardner, Shirley Krause
 10/18 Keelyn Blake, Neile Gauthier, Todd Kappauf, Julie Leidel
 10/19 Shannon Giberson, Bill Poceta
 10/20 Tammie Lowery

10/22 Hailey Leidel
 10/23 Carol Kery
 10/24 Ed Drazga, Elizabeth Lowery, Ronald Masseur
 10/25 Roberta Garrison
 10/26 Jan Motsinger
 10/28 Elizabeth Leduc
 10/31 Mary Trimble

ANNIVERSARIES

10/06 Kevin & Chris Goss, 34 years
 10/7 Jeffrey & Julie Wojtowicz, 6 years
 10/8 Keith & Cynthia Kibilko, 30 years
 10/10 Ray & Carol Ward, 7 years
 10/12 Jamie Connelly & Jeanne Martens, 15 years
 10/16 Harold & Betty Lou Neidigh, 52 years

10/18 Wayne & Patricia Hamann, 43 years
 10/19 Don and Rhonda Cardwell, 10 years; Richard & Gillian Woods, 10 years
 10/20 Daniel & Erika Stanis, 5 years
 10/26 James & Julie Leidel, 15 years
 10/27 Wesley & Angela Larsen, 4 years
 10/28 Nick Bell & Carolyn Blackmore, 18 years; Stephen & Andrea Flaig, 6 years

DEATHS

Katherine Bowers, 8/23
 Valla Lowery, 9/9

PERIODICAL

PERIODICAL
POSTAGE
PAID

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SAY "CHEESE" EVERYONE!

WE'RE DEVELOPING A CHRIST CHURCH PHOTO DIRECTORY

Don Cardwell is taking fabulous photos of our members so that we can put them together for a new pictorial directory. If you don't manage to get a picture taken during one of the informal sessions after church, we will call you to schedule an appointment. We will produce the directory in-house, which will allow



Isabelle, Andrew, Annie, Peter and Jerry Behm

us to publish timely updates as our community expands and changes over the years.

Staff

The Rev. Daniel S. Appleyard, *Rector*
The Rev. Clare L. Oatney, *Associate Rector*
Jan Timpko, *Parish Administrator*
Bob Smith, *Sexton*
Josh Groover, *Assistant Sexton*
Jung Yoo, *Organist*
Sean Jackman, *Assistant Director of Music*
Tess Dowgiallo, *Children's Choir Director*
JoAnn Amicangelo, *Freelance Editor/Designer*

Vestry

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Diana Brehob, *Property*
Jamie Connelly, *Senior Warden*
Sine Cookman, *Outreach/Service*
Kevin Green, *Junior Warden*
Ross Groover, *Communications*
Anthony Johnson, *Outreach/Service*
Stephanie Mulkern, *New Member Ministry/Evangelism*
Sean Quaint, *Christian Formation*
Carrie Serfass, *Finance*
Edwina Simpson, *Outreach/Service*

Officers of the Vestry

George Morrison, *Clerk of the Vestry*
Susan Ward, *Treasurer*
Maggie Pellegrino and Michele Nolan, *Recording Secretaries*

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