

Vestry develops new theme

At their meeting last month, the Vestry of Christ Church developed and decided upon a new directional theme for the coming months: Good Works, Glad Hearts. Initially the group was tied between two themes, "The Year of Good Works" and "The Year of Glad and Generous Hearts." Before The Rev. Daniel Appleyard was forced to cast the tie-breaking vote, resident wordsmith, Kevin Goss (who attended the meeting to discuss the rector's sabbatical) offered the "simpler, more eloquent" theme, said Erika Morrison, Junior Warden.

"What's great about this theme is that it intersects with our previous theme of abundance and our mission statement's commitment to service ministries," said Daniel Appleyard. "And it speaks of joy!"

Erika believes the theme accurately reflects the work of the Vestry this year which involves keeping the church strong in all aspects, including reaching out to others, growing membership as much as possible and planning for a transitional period when Dan will be on sabbatical.

"In part, the "Good Works" portion of the theme comes from our wanting to reach out to those less fortunate than ourselves by continuing our work with Grace Church in New Orleans, Spirit of Hope Soup Kitchen and Christ Church Detroit's Homeless

Shelter. We are also concentrating on doing good works within our church, which will include the church school program and the eco-consciousness of our parish," said Erika.

She said "Glad Hearts" is about being happy and content in ourselves.

"I would personally ask everyone to have a glad heart when doing your commission work, when working through your daily life and when facing obstacles that may seem insurmountable. Find the good in others, be tolerant of your friends and neighbors, be kind to everyone and co-exist in peace."

Senior Warden Stephanie Mulkern agrees that living out this theme really encompasses the whole of our lives.

"For me it means trying to keep in mind and heart the message of Jesus, to love one another and to love Christ. If you can make love the center of your being and the force that directs you, it seems "a glad heart" follows quite naturally," said Stephanie. "There are times when we are challenged and find it difficult to love in the face of hatred, jealousy or fear, but the closer we come to Christ, opening our hearts to others in love, the greater the capacity for gladness."

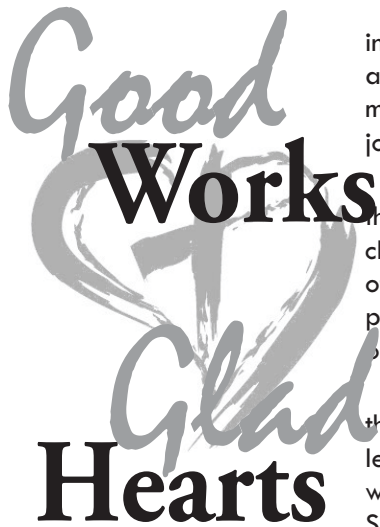
"At Christ Church there is evidence of 'Good Works' all around us. We have many people committed to doing what they are being called by Christ to do both in outreach and by their actions within the church itself," said Stephanie. "It is equally evident of the 'Glad Hearts' that follow, as I have experienced Christ's love from so many. We are truly blessed."

UTO Ingathering Sunday, May 4

BRING your blue box to church on Sunday, May 4, filled with coins, cash or checks for the United Thank Offering (UTO) Ingathering.

The UTO's new vision is to "significantly impact the lives of women and children because of Christ's love." They are focusing particularly on projects that implement significant change toward alleviating profound human suffering as addressed by the Millennium Development Goals, and will work to directly impact the lives of women and children.

The UTO is a ministry of the Episcopal Church that invites God's people to offer daily prayers of thanksgiving to God and outward and visible signs of those prayers which will benefit those less fortunate around the world. UTO monies are distributed to organizations and groups within the Episcopal Church or Anglican Communion through grants.



From the Rector

The Rev. Daniel Appleyard

A Community of Conversation

Dear Friends,

IN my Annual Report last January, I mentioned Diana Butler Bass, and her book, *The Practicing Congregation*, which is in our library. She has analyzed and written about a variety of churches, and in particular about “emerging churches.” Diana is “big” in mainline Protestant circles for her work on how some congregations harness their creative energy. She calls them “vital congregations.”

When she was with us in April 2007, she had a lot to say to our vestry and commission chairs about life at Christ Church and what might be called a “Big Tent” approach to being a parish in the 21st Century. Rather than gathering around “issues,” parishes like ours welcome a diversity of viewpoints. They are more concerned with things like hospitality, living forgiveness, practicing reconciliation, learning to pray, feeding the hungry and caring for the environment. Communities like Christ Church are far more interested in unity than uniformity, and they appreciate diversity in their midst as a sign of God’s dream for humanity. These are the marks of vital congregations.

Well, in March I came across something that reminded me of all of this. It is a wonderful statement from the Episcopal Seminary of the Southwest, where my friend, Prof. Jim Cook, teaches. They have created a statement of purpose for their community. I would like to suggest to you that this “covenant to be a community of conversation” could describe any “vital” Christian community – even ours! Consider their words, and hear them describing what, I believe, is the essence of who we are as a diverse “big tent” community.

“A seminary community is a school of inquiry and interpretation: Inquiry into the mystery of God in Jesus Christ

and interpretation, in both action and reflection, of God’s creative and redemptive love. Frank, confident, and trustful conversation is an essential part of our common learning. Often, though, we are lead into difficult, even disturbing, conversations as we bring the length and breadth of our assumptions,

hopes, opinions, and certainties, into the formative power of Christian faith. Avoiding the issues around which passion and disagreement reside might well be an easier path, but commitment to remaining in conversation with one another despite our differences is part of our calling as disciples of Jesus Christ.

“In order to mark both our commitment to conversation and our recognition of the challenges, we affirm...

“- that we are all made in the image of God and must, therefore, treat one another with respect and dignity;

“- that we are free to explore different ideas and beliefs as well as to grow and change in our theological convictions and practices of faith;

“- that we share a common sinfulness and, therefore, will understand only partially and may be mistaken frequently;

“- that we do not have to agree in order to love one another;

“- that our conversations, even our most passionate disagreements, take place in the Spirit whom we seek not to grieve.

“and we strive...

“- to approach conversation with a willingness to listen and learn,



acknowledging the value of opposing views;

“- to treat one another as honest inquirers, attempting to discern God’s truth in a complex world;

“- to engage ideas without attacking or dismissing those that hold them;

“- to acknowledge the limited perspective of our own experience and opinions, and be open to the possibility of changing our views;

“- to consider the possibility that we might be mistaken, secure in the knowledge of the love and forgiveness we have all received in Christ;

“- to challenge one another while seeking not to give offense;

- to consider challenges from others while striving not to take offense too readily;

“- to serve reconciliation by sharing when we have been offended;

“- to acknowledge stereotypes, to ask for clarification in order to avoid misunderstandings, and to make room for complexity.”

I continue to thank God for the vitality and diversity of our parish. We do, indeed, have something very precious to share with the community in which we live!

Faithfully Yours,
Daniel

By Kevin Green, Chairperson

WELCOME! That's one of the key words for our Commission. Welcome to Christ Episcopal Church, Dearborn. Welcome to our community. Welcome to our family. Welcome!

In the church bulletin, we say: "Honoring the example of Jesus, we welcome everyone to his table." Similarly, Christ Church welcomes all persons who come through our doors, be they long-time members, new members, prospective members, family, friends or guests; all are indeed welcome.

Okay, who does this welcoming and how? The short answer is that every member of the congregation plays a role by welcoming each other and all others who grace us with their presence. But how does this happen?

In as many ways as you can imagine. Dick Petts and his red hat have been greeting us for years at the front door. Our new Usher/Greeter teams welcome people in the Narthex and at the organ door with a warm smile and hand out our new name tags and lanyards as well as the service bulletin. At the Peace, we greet each other and remind ourselves that it is the "Peace of the Lord" that we are sharing. After the service, visitors are invited to take one of our red information packets (which

are being updated) and everyone is encouraged to join us in the Fellowship Hall for coffee, tea, fellowship and education for children and adults.

What about outside of the service? Here are just a few examples. The new signage that has been strategically placed around our property helps people to find their way, removing some of the navigational problems inherent in a "strange" place. The pictorial directory allows people to put names with faces. On the third Tuesday of each month, a New Member Coffee is held at Au Bon Pain in downtown Dearborn, to which everyone is invited. Periodically, events are held for newcomers. All of these welcoming agents have been brought to you by or under the oversight of the Evangelism Commission.

This month the Evangelism Commission will host the Newcomers Progressive (conservatives are also welcome!) Dinner on Friday, May 30 at 6:00 p.m. We'll start in the Narthex and Balcony with appetizers and drinks and then move throughout the church for the remainder of the courses, each of which will be presented by a different commission of the church. Childcare for children of all ages will be provided.

In early May, invitations will be sent to new members who have not been to previous newcomers' events, as well as to some who have. We will also invite

some members who have been around for awhile, but perhaps have been watching from the sidelines. Watch your mailbox for your invitation.

What about those of us who have been around for more than a few years? We're glad you asked! The Evangelism Commission is planning another event for the entire congregation, which will be held in the fall, as well as a kids-only event to be held in the late summer or early fall. Watch future issues of *The Courier* and *Communicator* for further details.

Evangelism is really the work of the entire congregation, not just the few members of the Commission. You can do your part by playing an active role in projecting the warmth, friendship and love that has been, and will continue to be, Christ Episcopal Church, Dearborn.

Introduce yourself to someone whose name you haven't learned. Assist one of the Commissions with their part of the progressive dinner. Attend a New Member Coffee. Join a team of the Ushers/Greeters. (We are in need of at least three more people to assist with this important ministry. Please contact the church office if you are interested.)

Everyone is also welcome to join us for future Commission meetings and projects as posted in the *Communicator* from time to time. WELCOME!

A thank you to Christ Church from The Rev. Clare Oatney ...



Dear All,

There are so many thank you's that are long overdue (including a stack of blank thank you cards that sit on my desk and mock me!) The good wishes, wonderful words, generous presents and terrific party with which you sent me off from Christ Church warmed my heart. Your continued prayers lift me up.

And the presence of such a terrific assortment of Christ Church members at my Welcoming Service last week

brought me to tears.

I also wanted to share a picture of the beautiful home communion set with which you gifted me on that occasion. It's a stunner, certainly of "suitable weight and dignity," and inscribed "In thanksgiving for Clare Oatney's ministry at Christ Church." I will carry it proudly, as I carry your affection and all the ways in which you have formed me.

Blessings and many thanks to Daniel and all of you! **Clare**

BRIEFLY

Plant a garden at church

It's time once again to play in the dirt at CEC and grow your own vegetables! We have 10x10 plots for \$10 and 10x20 plots for \$20. The money helps cover the cost of the watering and tilling. Call Margaret Green at 313.792.9839 to reserve yours now.



Acolyte coordinator

We are looking for someone who can serve as the acolyte coordinator. This role involves scheduling the acolytes and assisting with training, typically twice a year. If you're

interested, please contact Susan Ward at smw@ameritech.net or 313.791.0483.

Serve the homeless at Spirit of Hope

Please join us as we reach out to those less fortunate than us. On Saturday, May 3, we will prepare a delicious meal and serve clients at Spirit of Hope Church Soup Kitchen in Detroit. If you can help prepare the food, meet in our church parking lot at 8:30 a.m. to carpool to the soup kitchen, or meet us there at 9:00 a.m. If you can help serve the food, please arrive at Spirit of Hope by 11:30 a.m. We typically finish by 2:00 p.m., but if you cannot stay until then, we still would appreciate your help! So please grab your cooking hat or apron and join us. If you have any questions, contact Susan Ward on 313.791.0483 or smw@ameritech.net. Spirit of Hope Church is located at the southwest corner of Trumbull St., Martin Luther King Blvd. and Grand River Ave.

Walk for Diversity with Rite-13

Rite-13 is looking for walkers and sponsors for the Michigan Roundtable for Diversity and Inclusion's (MRDI) annual Walk2Gether on Saturday, May 10, on historic Belle Isle Park. Fun for the whole family, the Walk is either 1 mile or 3 miles. Registration is at 9:00 a.m.; the walk begins at 9:50 a.m. There will be plenty of parking, music and food. This is MRDI's largest fundraiser for their LINC program, which teaches leadership and diversity to middle school and high school students right here in Michigan. Please walk or donate for a good cause! Contact Jeanne Martens for more information at 313.565.4827 or jmartens@wowway.com.

Photo sessions for pictorial directory

Photographer extraordinaire Don Cardwell will be taking pictures for a supplement to the current pictorial directory at the 10 o'clock service on Sunday, May 18, and at the Newcomers Progressive Dinner on Friday, May 30. If you have not had your photo taken for the directory, please join us on one of those days.

Annual cruise benefits soup kitchen

Invite friends, family and co-workers to join you on a Diamond Jack River Cruise along the Detroit River to benefit the Spirit of Hope Community Kitchen at the Gordon Bugbee Memorial Boat Cruise on Sunday, May 18. The annual fundraiser

provides a significant portion of the kitchen's annual budget to feed the hungry in our community all year long. Departing from Hart Plaza, the boat will tour the downtown areas of Detroit and Windsor from 5-7 p.m. Parking is nearby in the Millner Parking Garage. The cruise, including dinner, is \$22 per person. To purchase tickets in advance (recommended), contact Susan Ward on 313.791.0483 or smw@ameritech.net or see Bob Smith.

Spring cleaning

Bring your work gloves and overalls for an afternoon of cleaning and camaraderie on Sunday, May 18 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. We'll be working inside and outside the church to spruce things up now that spring is finally here. Bring rakes and gardening tools for outside work and buckets, rubber gloves and sponges for indoor work. This is a great intergenerational event. Sign-up sheets are posted in the Fellowship Hall and across from the office. Please let us know that you plan to be with us!



Transgender, bisexual, lesbian and gay event

The TBLG Concerns Committee will hold a retreat at Christ Church on Saturday, May 31 beginning at 12 noon. This afternoon retreat includes a discussion from 1-4:15 p.m. with the Concerns Committee about General Convention 2009. Following the discussion, an Oasis Welcoming Eucharist service will be held with The Rev. Canon Lisa Gray preaching, and then dinner will be served at 5:30 p.m. At 6:00 p.m., the movie "For the Bible Tells Me So," an exploration of the intersection between religion and homosexuality in the U.S. and how the religious right has used its interpretation of the Bible to stigmatize the gay community. The story is told through five Christian families, each with a gay or lesbian child. The stories alternate with talking heads — Protestant and Jewish theologians — and with film clips of fundamentalist preachers and pundits and news clips of people in the street. They discuss scripture and biblical scholarship. A thesis of the film is that much of Christianity's homophobia represents a misreading of scripture, a denial of science and an embrace of quack psychology. The families call for love. You may attend all the events or just those that interest you. Contact Joe Summers at 734.846.3578 or jsummers@umich.edu.

Worldviews seminar

The sixth annual *Worldviews: A Seminar on American Religious Diversity* will be held June 23-28, at the University of Michigan-Dearborn. This is an experience-based seminar designed to introduce participants to foundational information about the beliefs and practices of many of the world's religions. Learn via classroom presentations and visits to religious centers for conversations with their leaders and members. \$450. Pick up a brochure and registration form (due by May 23) in the parish office or visit <http://casl.umd.umich.edu/csrs/>.

Parish Events

SPECIAL EVENTS

United Thank Offering

Sunday, May 4, 8 and 10AM

This is the day we gather together our United Thank Offerings as an expression of our thanksgiving to God and in support of grants for ministries of the Episcopal Church at home and overseas. If you have any questions, please contact Barbara Hall at 313.274.4843



Newcomers Progressive Dinner

Friday, May 30, 6PM

A progressive dinner at the church to welcome newcomers. Each course will be presented by different church commissions and served in a different part of the church. Sponsored by the Evangelism Commission. By invitation only. (See *In the Spotlight* on page 3 for more details.)

TBLG Gathering

Saturday, May 31, 12PM

This afternoon retreat includes a discussion with the TBLG Concerns Committee of General Convention 2009 from 1-4:15 p.m., an Oasis Welcoming Eucharist with The Rev. Canon Lisa Gray preaching, dinner at 5:30 p.m. and the showing of "For the Bible Tells Me So" at 6 p.m. May attend all the events or just those that interest you. Contact Joe Summers at 734.846.3578 or jsummers@umich.edu.

Tigers Game

Friday, June 6, 5PM; (game at 7:05PM)

Plan to join others as we watch the Tigers beat Cleveland at Comerica Park in Detroit. Meet in the church parking lot for pizza and drinks at 5 p.m. Tickets are \$22 each and should be reserved and paid for through Jan Timpko in the church office. **Payment is due to Jan by May 1.** Only 50 tickets are available. For more information, please contact Erika Morrison at 313.585.1170 or erikamorrison@sbcglobal.net.

SERVICE AND OUTREACH

Spirit of Hope Soup Kitchen

Saturday, May 3, 8:30AM-3PM

Join us as we help prepare and serve lunch to those less fortunate than us at Spirit of Hope Soup Kitchen. Sign up on the sheet posted near the church office. For more details, please call Susan Ward at 313.791.0483.

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

Tuesdays, 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

May 4 My First Experience with Justice (Paul Vandevent)

May 11 Movie Night Discussion (Golden Compass)

May 18 Christian Education

May 25 No Forum (Memorial Day)

Movie Night

Monday, May 5, 7PM

Feature Film: **Golden Compass**. "An Academy Award-winning fantasy film based upon *Northern Lights*, the first novel in Philip Pullman's trilogy *His Dark Materials*. The story concerns Lyra, an orphan living in a fantastical parallel universe in which a dogmatic theocracy threatens to dominate the world. When Lyra's friend is kidnapped, she travels to the far North in an attempt to rescue him and rejoin her uncle." (Wikipedia) A discussion of the movie will take place at the Adult Forum on Sunday, May 11 at 11:30 a.m.



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.

JOURNEY TO ADULTHOOD

Rite-13

For youth ages 12-14. Leader: Jeanne Martens and Jon Luke.

J2A

For youth ages 15-16. Leaders: Jessie Riney, Kevin Goss and Martha Amis.

GEL

For young people 17 and up.

FAMILY INTEREST

Baptism

Pentecost Saturday, May 11, 10AM

(Preparation Class: May 10, 10AM)

Preparation class is required for parents and godparents of children being presented for baptism the next day. Call the church office if you're interested.

NEWCOMERS

Tuesday, May 20, 7PM

An informal gathering of new members and visitors to Christ Church, as well as anyone who may just want to ask questions, make suggestions or get more involved with our faith community. Meets at Au Bon Pain, 22219 Michigan Ave. No need to RSVP. Any questions, contact Stephanie Thomas at 313.801.0925 or stephathomas@aol.com.

MEETINGS

St. Martha's Guild Luncheon

Tuesday, May 13, 10AM

Father Dan Appleyard will be the speaker for this month's meeting, sharing his experiences on a recent trip to Israel. Meet with us in the Lounge at 10 a.m. to hear his presentation, then worship with us in the chapel at 11 a.m. Lunch will be served in the Lounge at noon. Bring a friend and join us for this special time of fellowship. Bring a sandwich; dessert and beverages will be served.

Outreach Committee

Sunday, May 4, 9AM

Vestry

Sunday, May 4, 1PM

Adult Formation

Tuesday, May 13, 7PM

Property Committee

Wednesday, May 14, 7PM

Finance Committee

Thursday, May 15, 7PM

Evangelism Commission

Tuesday, May 20, 7PM

Library Committee

Wednesday, May 21, 1PM

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 11:30 AA	2 1:00-3:00 Take-A-Break 6:30 Girl Scouts	3 8:30-3:00 Spirit of Hope Soup Kitchen 12:00-1:30 AA
4 UTO INGATHERING 8:00 & 10:00 HE 9:00 Outreach 10:05 Prayer Room 11:30 Education 1:00 Vestry 2:00 Martial Arts 3:30 Martial Arts	5 7:00 Movie Night 7:00 Scout Leaders 8:00 AA	6 9:30 Quilters 10:00 Prayer Group 11:00 HE & Healing 7:00 Boy Scouts	7 6:00 Martial Arts 7:00 Martial Arts 7:00 Cycling Club 7:30 AA 7:30 Choir	8 11:30 AA	9 1:00-3:00 Take-A-Break	10 10:00 Baptism Prep 12:00-1:30 AA
11 PENTECOST 8:00 & 10:00 HE & baptism 10:05 Prayer Room 11:30 Education 2:00 Martial Arts 3:30 Martial Arts	12 8:00 AA	13 9:30 Quilters 10:00 St. Martha's 11:00 HE 7:00 Adult Formation 7:00 Boy Scouts	14 6:00 Martial Arts 7:00 Martial Arts 7:00 Property Meet 7:30 AA 7:30 Choir	15 11:30 AA 7:00 Finance Comm	16 1:00-3:00 Take-A-Break 6:30 Girl Scouts	17 12:00-1:30 AA
18 8:00 & 10:00 HE 10:05 Prayer Room 11:30 Education 11:30 Spring CleanUp 2:00 Martial Arts 3:30 Martial Arts	19 8:00 AA	20 9:30 Quilters 10:00 Prayer Group 11:00 HE 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:00 Evangelism 7:00 New member coffee: Au Bon Pain	21 1:00 Library Meet 6:00 Chapel Day Grad 6:00 Martial Arts 7:00 Martial Arts 7:30 AA 7:30 Choir	22 11:30 AA 7:00 LWV	23 1:00-3:00 Take-A-Break	24 12:00-1:30 AA
25 8:00 & 10:00 HE 10:05 Prayer Room 2:00 Martial Arts 3:30 Martial Arts	26 MEMORIAL DAY Office Closed 8:00 AA	27 9:30 Quilters 10:00 Prayer Group 11:00 HE 5:30 Sandcastles 7:00 Boy Scouts	28 6:00 Martial Arts 7:00 Martial Arts 7:30 AA 7:30 Choir	29 11:30 AA	30 1:00-3:00 Take-A-Break 6:00 Newcomers Dinner	31 12:00-1:30 AA 12:00 TBLG Retreat 4:30 Service followed by movie

Did you receive the Courier late last month? That was due to a problem with the postal service. It shouldn't happen again, but we'd like to remind you that you can always view *The Courier* at our website - www.christchurchdearborn.org. Or you can sign up to receive *The Courier* via email. Just email Jan Timpko at office@christchurchdearborn.org and let her know. You may also receive parish news alerts via email as well. Check with Jan to be sure we have your most current email address.

Service Schedule

Week of May 4

Acolytes TBD
Greeters/Ushers (8am) K. Goss
 (10am) Team 3 – T. Hines, L. Hines, M. Piernick, T. Ludwig
Lector/L.E.M. (8am) M. Sallman
 (10am) K. Green, R. Groover, A. Johnson, C. Goss, G. Morrison, M. J. Crane, E. Morrison
Altar Guild
VPOD
Sunday Readings: The 7th Sunday of Easter
 Acts 1:6-14; Psalm 68:1-10, 33-36; 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11;
 John 17:1-11

Week of May 11

Acolytes TBD
Ushers/Greeters (8am) L. Crane
 (10am) Team 4 – P. Owens, B. Owens, M. J. Searles
Lector/L.E.M. (8am) M. A. Zawada
 (10am) M. Piernick, M. Sallman, B. Hall, K. Hipp, D. Hipp, J. Piernick, M. Pellegrino, S. Mulkern, B. Ryan
Altar Guild
LEVs
VPOD
Sunday Readings: The Day of Pentecost
 Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:25-35, 37b; 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13;
 John 7:37-39

Week of May 18

Acolytes TBD
Ushers/Greeters (8am) G. Borgeson
 (10am) Team 5 – I. Behm, B. Ryan, P. Snyder, J. Garris
Lector/L.E.M. (8am) E. Simpson
 (10am) Youth reader, D. Cardwell, D. Brehob, J. Shaw, E. Boyar, E. Brehob, C. Kappauf, B. Hall, E. Simpson, T. Kappauf
Altar Guild
LEVs
VPOD
Sunday Readings: Trinity Sunday
 Genesis 1:1-2:4a; Psalm 8; 2 Corinthians 13:11-13;
 Matthew 28:16-20

Week of May 25

Acolytes TBD
Ushers/Greeters (8am) T. Foster
 (10am) Team 1 – N. Bell, E. Bell, D. Brim, (8am) D. Brehob
 (10am) N. Lehnert, M. Amis, R. Groover, K. Green, R. Green, J. Reiner, S. Wever
Lector/L.E.M.
Altar Guild
VPOD
Sunday Readings: The 2nd Sunday after Pentecost
 Isaiah 49:8-16a; Psalm 131; 1 Corinthians 4:1-5;
 Matthew 6:24-34

Vestry Reflection

By Anthony W. Johnson

A Gift of Love and Friendship

BEING a member of Christ Church, has become a blessing. Singing in the choir, being involved with many activities, socializing with many different cultures having been blessed to be a Lay Minister — all this has made me feel closer to God, under a lot of direction from the priest in charge.

I love my sisters and brothers in Christ, being able to share love and friendship with different nationalities. I think back to the song, "How Great Thou Art," a song I remember from childhood, and to this day, I still remember it. People from this church have been there for me in times of joy, happiness and sadness.

Some people come into our lives and we don't know why, but they support us anyway. I see friendship and love in the service each Sunday when I look out in the pews. I thank God for all the blessings He has bestowed on me and I pray that He will always give me directions to continue to do His will.

A friend in need is always a friend indeed. I love you all.

Stewardship Moments

MORE than likely you heard the news about the Congress and the President creating a bill that will provide tax rebates to 137 million people. Single filers making less than \$75,000 will receive \$600. Couples making less than \$150,000 will receive up to \$1,200. In addition, parents will receive \$300 per child. Tax filers who do not owe income taxes, but have at least \$3,000 in income, will get \$300.

"The IRS will start sending out checks in early May," said Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson in a statement. "Payments will be largely completed this summer, putting cash in the hands of millions of Americans at a time when

our economy is experiencing slower growth."

This means a majority of folks will be receiving a "freebie" of cash in the mail pretty soon.

This is really going to be a test of stewardship for all of us. The Lord has blessed us with extra income. Now, how are we really going to use it?

Will you pay down some debt or spend it on a new TV, furniture, home repairs or a vacation? Will you put some away in savings? In addition to these possibilities, may you also consider giving a portion of the "freebie" to the Church.

The Old Testament standard was 10 percent (a tithe) of income; however,



the New Testament standard is a Gospel response, a love response. Please consider an offering response of 2 percent, 5 percent, 10 percent or even 15 percent plus. In doing so, you will be supporting our service ministry to the world and the programmatic life of our congregation.

TAX TIME: A good time to plan your legacy

By Edwina Simpson

IN April most of us filed our 2007 income tax returns. Reviewing our returns is a good time to make sure we have our financial affairs in order—a good time to do the following:

1. **Assess our net worth** — List assets — house, cars, bank accounts, stocks, bonds, jewelry (whatever you call "mine")—adding up their value, and subtracting debts (mortgage, car, credit cards), whatever we owe.

2. **Create a budget** — Figure out how much we earned and how much of our income (including how much we gave to the church and other charities) we spent last year, and then use that information to make a plan to for income and expenses for the next couple of years;

3. **Create an estate plan** — a plan for our "stuff" when we don't need it anymore, including a gift for the church. Only by making

an estate plan can you make sure your wishes are carried out. Only through an estate plan can you discover the joy of leaving a lasting legacy to Christ Church, the Diocese or a favorite Episcopal agency.

For more information about ways to make a planned gift, please contact the Christ Church office, 313.565.8450 or office@christchurchdearborn.org.

Planning for the Annual End-of-Year Picnic

THE end of the school year is fast approaching and we want to have a grand "End-of-Year Picnic"



on Sunday, June 8 after the 10 o'clock service. We will be grilling, sampling lots of salads and side dishes and treats. There will be games for all ages! Everyone is welcome. Please make a dish to pass. Sign-up sheets will

be posted in the Fellowship Hall. Volunteers are needed for set-up, grilling and clean-up. For more information, contact Jeanne Martens at 565.4827 or jmartens@wowway.com. See you there.

Earth Corner

From the Greening Committee

Documentary on Fossil Fuels

“Crude Awakening,” a documentary about the rapid guzzling of the diminishing supply of fossil fuel, has just been released. Some say the planet has only 20 years of supply left; others say it’s only 10 years, as more and more are demanding a share. Almost every Chinese person expects to own a car within 10 years, for example. This documentary explores the issue.

In the film, the producers analyze the few remaining big sources of fossil fuel in some of the most unstable places in the world. For instance, the average annual income in Saudi Arabia for the last 20 years has been about \$20,000, but now it is closer to \$800 — except for the oil billionaires, whom the US military protects to assure our access to oil. Saudi Arabia’s most ominous export has become Wahabi fundamentalism, fueling conflict throughout all oil-rich countries. Some say that the genocide

in the Sudan is a deliberate attempt to lay claim to the oil.

Most people are in denial about the risk of society’s collapse as the oil runs out. What public voice does the Episcopal Church have in these regards?

The earth sustained human life for thousands of years with no trouble. Oil was unimportant to our way of life until less than 200 years ago. The oil glut of the last 100 years has completely changed the way we live.

Will we be able to live more simply again, or will we destroy the planet in competing for the last barrels of crude?

Almost all of our other ethical concerns pale if we cannot find a way to live within the means of the good earth that God has provided us.

Do watch this film. It’s available through Netflix. And, see other films recommended by Episcopalians at <http://tinyurl.com/oac8d>.



Recycling Initiatives from Kroger

Our stores, manufacturing facilities, distribution centers and offices participate in a number of recycling programs that divert materials away from landfills and promote better environmental stewardship. Among the items being recycled are old corrugated cardboard, plastic bags and shrink wrap, scrap metal, glass, office paper, aluminum, newspaper and other materials.

Some examples of our recycling initiatives within our Kroger Family of Stores include:

- In California, our Ralphs and Food 4 Less stores compost their produce trim and culls along with out-of-date bread and deli items. This program diverts tons of trash from state landfills. In 2006, Ralphs and Food 4 Less composted nearly 59,000 tons.
- At our Kroger Great Lakes division in Columbus, Ohio, old pallets are recycled for mulch, animal bedding, fuel and other uses.
- Our Kroger Mid-South division, based in Louisville, Kentucky, recycled more than 30,200 tons of cardboard in 2006.

We appreciate and respect that our customers increasingly recognize us as a leader in helping them to do their part regarding environmental stewardship. In facilitating our customers’ efforts, many of our divisions participate in recycling efforts in local communities where we operate. Plastic bags, for example, that are returned to our stores are recycled into a variety of items, including plastic bags, landscape bricks and plastic lumber.

Music Notes

Sean Jackman

Director of Music

Tess Dowgiallo

Children’s Choir Director

Children’s Music

We are working with the children of Church School towards a musical sharing in church on Pentecost Sunday, May 11. We began practicing on April 20 and will continue until the day of the presentation.

Open Choir

Open Choir continues successfully at Christ Church! This is for anyone who wants to sing in the choir, but can’t attend practices on a weekly basis. We were pleased to be able to offer a three-part anthem on the Second Sunday of Easter. Next dates are May 4 and June 1. Please meet in the choir room on the day of the service. All are welcome.



Thank You

Thank you to Bruce Simpson, violinist, who played the beautiful *Arioso in G* by J. S. Bach during the offertory time on April 13. In April, we were also pleased to welcome to our sanctuary Donna Olkowski, flutist, and two of her students, Becca Green and Ellie Bell in a flute trio. We are fortunate to be able to welcome instrumentalists to enrich our worship – both members of the parish and guests. We appreciate their contribution of time and talent.

Register soon for the Summer Arts Camp for children. See the back cover for more details.

Parish Events

continued from page 5

MUSIC MINISTRY

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

Adult Choir

Wednesdays, 7:30-9PM

Weekly choir rehearsal.

Open Choir

Sunday, May 4, 9AM

This choir gives you the opportunity to participate in singing with the choir throughout the year, without having to attend practices weekly. Meet in the Choir Room at 9 a.m. and sing at the 10 a.m. service.

Summer Arts Camp

June 16-20, 9AM-3PM

Register now for this week of fun-filled opportunities for children and youth, including music, art, dance, recreational activities and a special field trip on Friday. Registration applications available in the church office. See Briefly section on page 4 for more information.

Music Theater Day Camp

June 23-27, 10AM to 2PM

Register for this additional opportunity for children and youth that culminates in the presentation of a musical. Participants will receive coaching in drama and singing; some will also dance or play instruments or may help with set design and construction, props, costuming, lighting and sound reinforcement. Offered by St. Paul Lutheran Church; \$45 per person. Registration forms are available in our church office.

PASSAGES

MAY BIRTHDAYS

5/01 Isabelle Appleyard, Sarah Fisher,
5/03 Ethan Kendra
5/05 Bettina Caldwell
5/08 Eric McCutcheon
5/09 John Anderson
5/11 Phyllis Brim
5/12 Amie Woolever
5/13 Kathryn Boyle, Teddy Morrison,
Laura Poske
5/14 Zacchery Burns, Rylie Lowery
5/15 Robert Laux
5/17 Marie Lamb
5/19 Andrew Angel, Bruce Simpson
5/20 William Snyder
5/21 Christine Goss

5/23 Mary Jo Crane, Violet Kalman
5/24 Charlie Groover
5/25 Gregory Stuber
5/26 Victoria Bell, Connor Nolan
5/27 Lindsay Culp
5/28 Richard Audi, Robert Loreto
5/29 Joseph Cwiek
5/30 Alexander Green

ANNIVERSARIES

5/01 Mike & Jennifer Doumanian,
4 years
5/06 Robert & Barbra Loreto, 4 years
5/08 Eric & Tammie Lowery, 9 years
5/09 Kevin & Margaret Green,
16 years
5/14 Jack & Luceil Pedler, 59 years

5/16 Richard & Barbara Markowski,
49 years
5/18 Bohdan & Rebecca Ukrainec,
12 years
5/23 Kevin & Sandra Garrison,
10 years
5/25 Roland & Karen Kaven, 7 years
5/25 Stanley and Sandra Witt,
40 years
5/30 Joe and Maggie Pellegrino,
27 years

DEATHS

4/10/08 Stephanie Ebling
4/22/08 John M. MacKinnon
4/25/08 Jewel Beckstrom

ETCETERA



Thank You

Our sincere thanks to Joe Hines for the assistance and expertise he provided in producing our new signs. The signs look wonderful and your willingness to help is greatly appreciated!

**Chapel Day
Preschool**

FINANCIAL CORNER

Income & Expenses as of March 31, 2008

	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Income (Pledges & Offerings)	\$86,791	\$87,200
Other	\$7,053	\$7,800
Total Operating Income	\$93,844	\$95,000
Less Operating Expenses	\$104,623	\$109,872
Surplus / Deficit	\$(10,779)	\$(14,872)
2007 Carry-over Cash	\$20,431	\$20,431

Summer Courier

The next issue of the Courier will cover events during June, July and August. Please look ahead to what your commission and committees have planned this summer and submit your news and articles by May 15 to JoAnn Amicangelo at joamicangelo@wi.deopenwest.com.

mark your calendar

Rite-13 Celebration Ceremony

Sunday, June 1, 10AM

Plan to be a part of this ceremony for Alex Green and Lindsay Culp as they celebrate the completion of this portion of their Journey to Adulthood.

Don't Wait

Three quarters of the people in this country die without valid wills. Do you know why? PROCRASTINATION! Get one in writing today. And don't forget to include Christ Church as one of your heirs!

4th Annual Summer Arts Camp

June 16-20
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Christ Episcopal Church

Register by
June 1!

An all-day experience in the arts for children

- Children and youth will be involved in supervised arts experiences including singing, chime playing, dance, visual art and drama.
- Friday Field trip
- One-hour celebration on June 19 at 5 p.m. in the church sanctuary to highlight the activities of the camp.

For children ages kindergarten through 8th grade (as of September 2008). The cost is \$75 and includes lunches, drinks and snacks throughout the day. The cost without the field trip is \$65. Brochures and enrollment forms are available in the church office.

Staff

The Rev. Daniel S. Appleyard, *Rector*
Jan Timpko, *Parish Administrator*
Bob Smith, *Sexton*
Josh Groover, *Assistant Sexton*
Sean Jackman, *Director of Music and Organist*
Tess Dowgiallo, *Children's Choir Director*
Margaret Green, *Office Staff Volunteer*
JoAnn Amicangelo, *Freelance Editor/Designer*

Vestry

Julia Garris, *Stewardship*
Chris Goss, *Stewardship & Greening*
Anthony Johnson, *Children's Education*
Todd Kappauf, *Strategic Plan*
Erika Morrison, *Junior Warden & Children's Education*
Stephanie Mulkern, *Senior Warden*
Les Nolan, *Children's Education & Strategic Plan*
Robert Ryan, *Stewardship & Greening*
Caroline Serfass, *Strategic Plan & Greening*
Shirley Wever, *Greening*

Officers of the Vestry

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

The **Courier** (USPS 564320) is published monthly by Christ Episcopal Church, 120 N. Military, Dearborn, MI 48124-1099. PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID at DBN. MI 48120. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: Christ Episcopal Church, Courier, 120 N. Military, Dearborn, MI 48124-1099.

the COURIER

May 2008

PERIODICAL



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CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH