



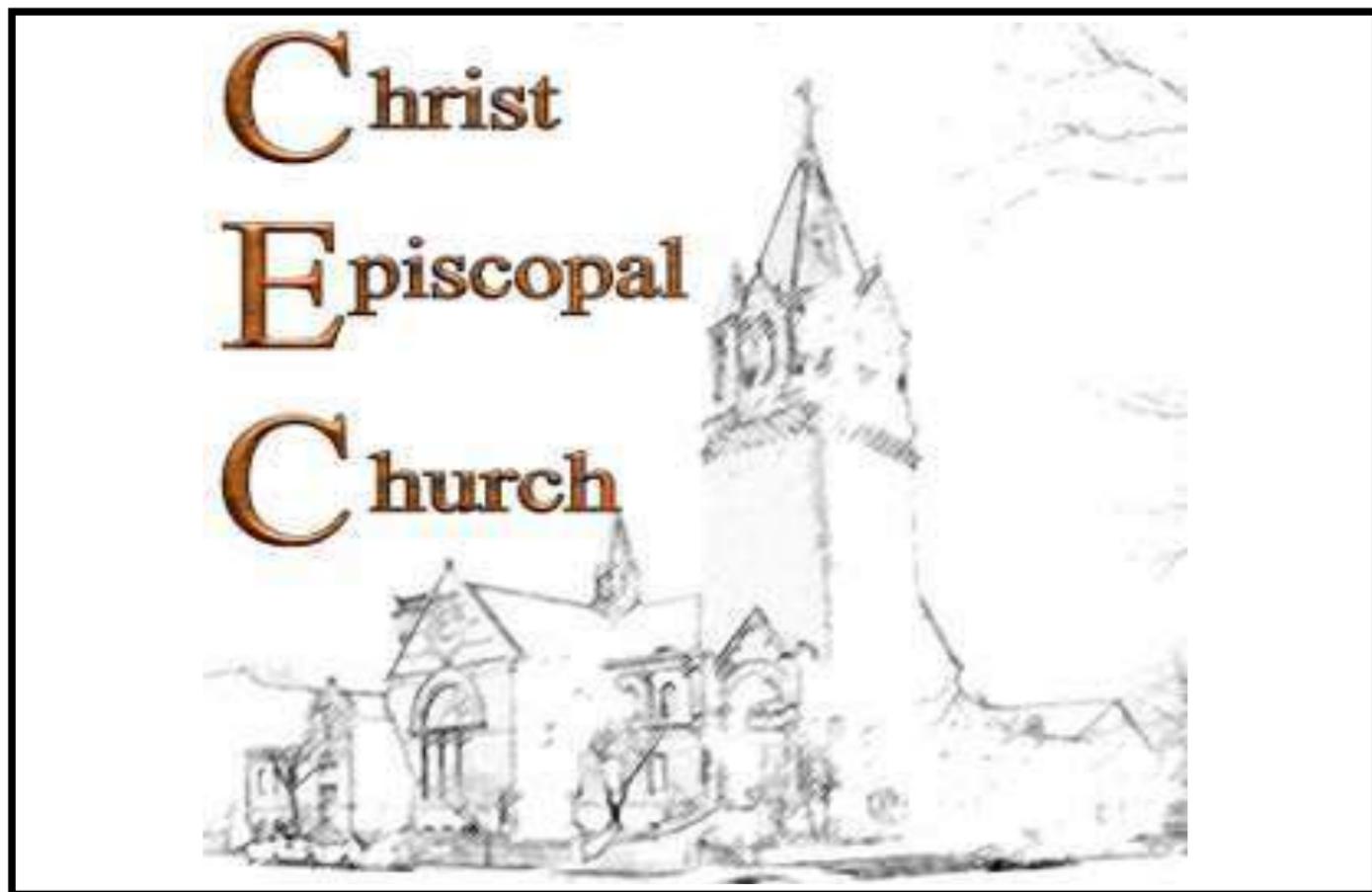
The Belfry

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The Belfry

Christ Episcopal Church

September 2018

Ministry Sunday September 9 - Ministry in the Public Square

The Book of Common Prayer defines ministry in the Church. "The ministers of the Church are the lay persons, bishops, priests, and deacons" (BCP p. 855). God calls not a select few, but **all** members of the church to be the instrument of his grace and love in the most substantial ways: with our time, resources, and gifts. It is the gospel of Jesus Christ that helps us develop our "ministry eyes" and "ministry hearts," to roll up our sleeves and respond according to the needs of those we see around us in our world today. Our tradition is that after Labor Day holiday the next Sunday is our Ministry Sunday. Christian Education for children classes will resume after summer holidays and we begin with our full Fall program year. Most of the work which Christ calls us in the world is of a similar sort: humble service to and interaction with other people who are just as frail and imperfect as we ourselves. Perhaps we can use our work at Christ Church as a kind of dress rehearsal for our Christian work in the world: a way to develop "ministry eyes" and "ministry heart."

At Christ Church we practice ministry of all believers. All are welcome to participate in our ongoing ministry inside the walls of our parish and in our larger community and the world. Let me share with you a few examples of how ministry in our parish is carried out by the people of God:

1. Fourteen members of our parish were involved throughout the summer every Tuesday to prepare over 300 lunch bags for children in our community who otherwise may not eat a healthy wholesome meal. It was a time of fellowship, hands on ministry. This ministry is done in partnership with The Salvation Army. Pam Claussen, thank you for leading this ministry.
2. During this year we have assembled at least two hundred Night-Night Bags for young children who live in the Salvation Army homeless shelter. We are grateful to Barbara Newcomer who initiated the Night-Night program. I'd also like to thank all the volunteers who help to make this program successful. At the shelter children are always thrilled; shocked they get to keep everything-including the bag! You put so much love, care and prayers to bless their lives.
3. In the month of August we received request from The Salvation Army to sponsor children in our community to provide clothes, shoes and school supplies. You have been very generous to sponsor several children in our community in La Crosse to receive supplies as they return to a new school year. Thank you very much.
4. Pastoral Care Ministry has been carried by Bill Power, Nancy Melin, Jean Hindson, Kaitlin Earley and Rachel Heiss. Bill Power has break as he is a full-time care provider for Stephanie Power. The Pastoral Care team have been faithfully carrying pastoral care ministry with me. Nancy Melin will be leaving soon to go to Illinois. Nancy thank you for your ministry. We need a few more Pastoral Care ministers to join on our ministry team.
5. Last year In December we received a generous gift in the amount of \$3000.00 for children's education in South Sudan from a donor at Mayo Clinic in Rochester. Sending money to South Sudan is not that easy. We finally found a Church of England missionary society office in Nairobi, Kenya. They have delivered this money to the Archbishop and received a letter this month that funds were given to St. Andrews school children's educational need.
6. Garissa-Kenya: Bishop David Mutiyasa of Northeastern Kenyan Diocese of Garissa is grateful for our ongoing work in one of the most difficult areas of the world. You have provided help for the educational and medical work in the desert of Garissa, Kenya. He is very grateful for your generous gifts. Rev. Diana Gorgos will be with us on Ministry Sunday morning to share stories of her ministry as a nurse and now ordained priest in the Diocese of Garissa. She will return to Garissa on September 11.
7. All Saints Church, Peshawar: Donors on the East coast have provided us with funds for All Saints Church in Peshawar, Pakistan. These funds are for the education of children and treatment of victims of terror attack on the congregation. The Diocese of Peshawar is full of gratitude to us all. They have sent us through the Rector a "Cross of Nails" a gift as a reminder of their witness among daily challenges in an Islamic country. This Cross has been placed on the Alter next to the Beatitude window.
8. Ministry of hospitality is practiced week after week at Christ Church. We are grateful to Jake Delwiche and several members of our parish who help to wash dishes and clean the kitchen.

Our ministry continues within the walls and beyond the doors of Christ Church. You are a part of that ministry. On September 9th we shall celebrate Ministry Sunday. We shall provide you a booklet with a complete list of ministries in our parish. This gives you information about ministry opportunities inside our parish. This is our invitation to you to get involved in the life of your parish and not sit on the periphery to let a few carry the load of every day ministry. The Book of Common Prayer catechism puts it well "bearing

witness to Christ wherever we may be and, according to the gifts given us, carrying on Christ's work of reconciliation in the world." May we be a people, not only of faithful ministry, but of a faithful legacy to honor Christ.

Patrick P. Augustine, Rector

From the Treasurer

Through August, the Ministry Program Operating deficit is expected to be \$15,000.

Remodeling Update

It's unlikely the Heritage Room and Nursery will be available until mid-September. Here's why.

While Borton made it possible for us to be "open" for Bishop Curry's visit, they were not able to correct items on the church's "punch list" (defects needing to be corrected before final payment is made). Since the church occupied the building before curing these defects, Borton's schedule required them to move their crew on to other work. The church is waiting until Borton has a crew available to come back and wrap up. As I write on August 20, a skeleton crew is starting to return.

Two of Borton's sub-contractors are waiting for equipment to arrive so that they can complete the renovation. If all goes according to plan, the air conditioners in the Heritage Room have already shipped and will be installed by Labor Day. A new door frame must also be installed at the back-parking lot entrance to accommodate a new door and the Ban-Koe locking/unlocking mechanism.

Some of the specific items on the "punch list" are listed below.

- The new flooring in the lobby needs to be ripped up and leveled underneath the bench.
- The Handicap entrance automatic opener requires too much force to operate.
- The door to the women's restroom and the door between Jackie's and Fr. Patrick's office were improperly installed and must be replaced.
- Frayed carpeting and exposed tiles underneath the heating unit in the Nursery must be addressed.
- The Nursery Bathroom door must be adjusted so it closes properly.
- New bookcases must be installed in Patrick's office.
- Lenses on overhead lights need to be cleaned/replaced.
- There are paint touch-ups needed and ceiling tiles to be replaced.
- Piping to the heaters under the exterior sloped sidewalks must be connected.
- New HVAC equipment must be integrated with the existing system.
- Because the church occupied the building before completing the "punch list", negotiations are ongoing as to whether the defects were caused by Borton or the church after it took occupancy. This is tedious work.

New Items

- Cabinetry will be installed on the east wall of the Heritage Room.
- Jackie's workstation will be updated.
- A Scripture Verse will be added on the feature wall in the lobby.
- The TV camera and door-bell at the 9th Street entrance will be re-installed.

Bob Weathers, Treasurer

September Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays: Austin Byars (1); Pat Isely (1); Nick Frye (2); Amy Markos Ruegg (3); John Elliott (5); Scott Shaw (8); Robert Speer (8); Lucas Marcou (11); Markos Kilbey (14); Abigail Hindson (15); Daniel McConnell (15); Sibbie Weathers (16); Sophia Nystrom (16); Christian Gundersen (19); Julie Markos (20); Pete Frye (20); Kenny Kromenaker (20); Zachary Frye (21); Sana Augustine (22); Susan Miller (23); Matthew Kilbey (23); Michael Weaver (23); Gabriella Dellacro (24); Tyler Byars (25); Chris Hanson (26); Ellen Hindson (27); Sigurd Gundersen (28); Mercedes Stickler (28); Dick McGarry (30).

Anniversaries: Robbert and Charlotte Irrgang (1); Gerald and Charlotte Markos Kann (2); Jason and Catherine (Wood) Lippert (9); Scott and Mary Shaw (23); Tom and Megan Johnson (29).

September Acolyte Schedule

Sept. 2	8:00	Ella	10:30	Tim, Lee
Sept. 9	8:00	Ben, Sherry	10:30	Tim, Lee
Sept. 16	8:00	Nate, Michael T.	10:30	Tim, Lee
Sept. 23	8:00	Michael W., Timmy	10:30	Tim, Lee
Sept. 30	8:00	Sherry, Michael T.	10:00	Tim, Lee

Altar Guild for September

Sept. 2	Charlotte, Marsha, Joyce, Nancy
Sept. 9	Mary, Sherry, Cindy
Sept. 16	Kathy, Jeanie and sisters, Dani, Julie
Sept. 23	Sue, Cathy
Sept. 30	Charlotte, Marsha, Joyce, Nancy

From the Sr. Warden

Dear Parish Family,

Father Patrick and Myra are off enjoying a well-deserved vacation to visit with Yahkub and Sarah in their new home in Florida. As Father Patrick usually takes very little time off, he plans a trip that challenges even his super human strength as he never really takes advantage of time off from our busy parish life, to actually relax. I have been assured by Father and of course Myra concurs, that this two-week vacation will be an actual vacation. I believe it could also include a trip to Disneyland. That at least was the rumor the last time I talked to them. Can you just see Father Patrick wearing Mickey Mouse ears? It would truly be a picture.

We have been very busy in our parish this summer. The renovation began early this year and of course, through a lot of dedication and diligence on so many levels, the renovation is a momentous accomplishment. We have so many to thank, I will begin with those who are and have contributed to make this project a reality. I am sure that in mentioning the much-needed thanks, I will miss someone and do apologize if that is the case. Tim Donahue our very talented and hard-working Junior Warden begins the list of those who we can thank for the hard work, time taken from his very busy full-time job and those days/hours he dedicated to meeting with the builders and kept the project on task and deadline focused. Bob Weathers, our very beloved Treasurer also is to be thanked for all he has contributed to every day and every project, to include the renovation. Both Lee Donahue and Sibbie Weathers are not to take a back seat to the thanks that are so deserving. Not only are they the very hard-working spouses of Tim and Bob, they also were involved in the planning stages and helped tremendously with all that is/was involved in the renovation. The planning committee, Domingo and the parishioners who helped in all aspects throughout this year and last to prepare the church and Vinter Hall are to be thanked as well. More formal thanks and details of the work that was done and is continuing to be completed, will occur when Bishop Jay Lambert will bless the re-dedication of Vinter Hall this fall.

The Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's visit this June was historical in so many ways. The visit was enriching and Bishop Curry himself was so inspiring that words can hardly describe the effect and lasting spiritual value the event had on the community and our parish. Thanks to all those who attended, participated in the preparation and enjoyed the opportunity to bond with our local community.

I am hopeful that you are all enjoying this very pleasant summer and taking advantage of all the local festivities that are offered. Please keep those who are healing and are dear to us in our parish, in your prayers and continue to support our parish in any way you are able. As a church family, it is evident that we are close and dedicated to the success of our future, our community and our mission.

Your sister in Christ,

Carla Corbin, Senior Warden

Abstract Paintings in the Undercroft Gallery

Human emotion, physical and mental states come into full view in the newest exhibition in the Undercroft Gallery. Paintings by Ashley Dechant explore personal experiences and invite viewers to find connections between the visible and invisible. Read Ashley's artist statement for more information and join her in conversation about the paintings at a reception on Sun. Sept. 16 at noon - Jennifer Terpstra

Narratives of My Life - Heider Center Art Show

My art show is at Heider Art Center the entire month of September. An Opening Reception will be held on Thursday, September 20th at 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 pm. The show is titled "Narratives of my Life." You are all invited. - Margaret Ewert