



The Signpost Weekly!

November 18, 2018
Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
Fr. Zac Harmon, Vicar
<http://www.stchristophersnh.org>

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church
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Calendar

Sunday, November 18

- ☆ Ministry Minute – Emma Lanseigne
- 8 a.m. Worship Service
- 9:15 a.m. – Adult Formation – Abrahamic Faiths
- 10 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:15 a.m. Worship Service

Monday, November 19

- 9 a.m. Yoga
- 7:30 p.m. Opioid Family Support Group

Tuesday, November 20

- 9 a.m., Morning Prayer
- 9:30 a.m., Exodus Bible Study

Thursday, November 22

- ☆ **THANKSGIVING**
- No Eucharist/Bible Study

Sunday, November 25

- 8 a.m. Worship Service
- 9:15 Adult Formation: Planning a Funeral and Planned Giving
- 10 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:15 a.m. Worship Service
- 4 p.m. Hampstead Annual Thanksgiving Ecumenical Prayer Service

Adult Formation, 9:15 a.m. Abrahamic Faiths

Last week, Jewish faith and Anti-Semitism came up as a topic that was on everyone's mind in the wake of recent events. Our conversation also wandered into what are related concepts in Islam and places of agreement and conflict. While classes, courses and 1,000-page books can easily be written on this subject, we will dive into a preliminary discussion of the three Abrahamic faiths which look to Abraham as their foundation- *Judaism, Christianity and Islam*. Come be a part of this conversation.

This Afternoon, 4 p.m., Hampstead Annual Thanksgiving Ecumenical Prayer Service, Old Meeting House on Emerson Avenue, center of town.

Opioid Family Support Group- Monday @ 7:30 p.m. If you have family or friends struggling with opioid addiction, you are welcome to be a part of this supportive group which meets every third Monday. We keep confidentiality, we pray together and share what we feel like sharing. All are welcome.

Important Message from The Rt. Rev. A. Robert Hirschfeld, Bishop, regarding Statute of Limitations for Clergy Misconduct

Dear Friends in Christ,

In recent years the Church has become more alert to patterns of exploitation of the vulnerable at the hands of the powerful. We continue to hear news reports of how members of the Church, regardless of denomination, have either perpetrated or have implicitly condoned sexual abuse, sexual exploitation or other forms of physical and verbal violence by clergy or those who have enjoyed some privilege of gender or position. Though the Episcopal Church has put many safe-guards in place, including requiring "Safe Church" training extensively, we still hear of accounts of the pain and suffering of those who have survived such damaging behavior.

God's mission is for healing, justice, amendment of life, reconciliation and the flourishing of all God's children. I believe it has been in the life giving and truth-telling Spirit of this mission for health and life that Resolution D034 was passed at the last General Convention. This amendment to our disciplinary canon (Title IV) suspends the statute of limitations for acts of abuse or exploitation that have been committed by members of the clergy. Previous to this resolution, acts alleged to have been committed by clergy over ten years ago would be outside the time limit for Title IV proceedings. From January 1, 2019 until December 21, 2021, this limitation has been lifted. For any act alleged to have been committed against children (defined as anyone under the age of 21), there has been, and continues to be, no statute of limitations. (*Cont. page 3*)

Thanks Giving - What are you thankful for this year? This customary question comes up at many of our family and community Thanksgiving meals. Have you ever been surprised by the answer you or someone else gave to this question? In 1 Timothy 2:1 we are reminded that Thanksgiving isn't just a

Almighty and gracious Father,
 We give you thanks for the fruits of the earth in their season
 And for the labors of those who harvest them.
 Make us, we pray, faithful stewards of your great bounty,
 For the provision of our necessities
 And the relief of all who are in need.
 To the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord,
 Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
 Amen.

day in the year but rather a regular form of prayer. Did you realize that when you list what you are thankful for at a Thanksgiving meal, you are offering a form of prayer? Sometimes our thanksgivings are true and widely shared-food, warmth, employment, friends and/or family, love; sometimes our answers are individual and specific - thanks for someone picking up the phone when we needed someone to talk to and sometimes the answers are a little unexpected - if we talk with kids - thanks for cartoons or pets.

One of the gems of Thanksgiving time is our prayer for Thanksgiving-which holds the many themes we remember on this day so well.

Looking at this year's abundance at St. Christopher's there is much to be thankful for as a church and which we can name in prayer - from the work of our property crew, to

many volunteer ministries of sacristans, choir members, acolytes/LEMS, musicians, committee members, readers, greeters, coffee makers, parish leaders, healing teams and Rhythms of Grace, and so many other ministries. With 28 pledges already submitted and two weeks left to go, there is also much to be thankful for in the sharing of treasure, and also of time and talent There is so much for which we can be thankful as a church community.

The Giving Tree is Back with Tags Naming Christmas Gifts for Food Pantry Recipients!

Teaming up with St. Anne's once again, please consider taking a gift tag and picking up something to brighten the holidays for one of our neighbors. Presents can be wrapped or not but must be returned by December 9th. Thank you for your support once again. Outreach Committee

Oh YES!
 We really DO have to talk about snow!

Next Sunday is the last day to bring in Food and Clothing for Liberty House residents.



The collection is a tribute to one of the founding members of St. Christopher's, Roy Jeffery, a Navy VET who was an unarmed MEDIC supporting Marines in the Pacific during WW2. What's needed is protein rich food & WARM clothes.

Upcoming Events

- ☆ **Sunday, Nov. 18, 4 p.m.,** Hampstead Annual Thanksgiving Ecumenical Prayer Service
- ☆ **Saturday, Dec. 1,** Rockingham Choral Concert to be held here @ 7:30 p.m.



ADVENT & CHRISTMAS @ ST. CHRISTOPHER'S LESSONS & CAROLS
 Sunday, December 16

A Holiday Music event, featuring the St. Christopher's Choir & solos



☆ **Sunday December 16,** St. Christopher's Lessons & Carols, (time TBA, but hold early p.m. open)

A huge thanks to everyone who donated to the Children of Incarcerated Parents (ChIPs) program.

The Delegates to Convention delivered 10 toys, 12 books and a check for \$997 which will be used to purchase gifts and books for each and every child in the program. We also delivered a very large box filled with cards the inmates can use, at no charge, to stay in touch with their family members. Many many thanks indeed!

Snow Shoveling weather HAS COME!

It's important that we keep our walkways open and safe when Old Man Winter comes calling It's easy enough. You don't have to come out DURING a storm. It's after it stops snowing, and after the snow plows come to clear our driveway and parking lot, at which time we need to open up the main walkway to the foyer. We have snow shovels, salt, and a really neat snow blower to get the job done. The second part of the job can follow or be done the next day, and that is snow blowing a path along the front of the church, removing snow outside the sanctuary and foyer exits, as well as the parish house exit by the porch. It goes very quickly with one or two other people to work with you as a team. That's ideal. *Soooh...* we need to begin filling up coverage on the sign up sheet in the foyer. There are

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a number of people who do lots of work throughout the year maintaining our property. Let's not call on them to do snow removal too. If you're physically able, this is your time to "step up to the plate." Please. Talk to [Bob Leonard](#), Senior Warden, or [Lyn Rockwell](#) if you have questions.

Thank You!

THANK YOU FOR KEEPING UP WITH 2018 PLEDGE PAYMENTS	
Weekly Budget = Annual Goal \$120,000/52	
W/e Nov: 11 pledge payments received:	\$ 1,899
Budgeted, w/e Nov. 11 pledge payment received	\$ 2,308
To reach our annual goal of \$120,000:	
We budgeted YTD receipts	\$105,019
Actual YTD Receipts	\$103,847

The 216th Annual Diocesan Convention

On Saturday, Nov. 3, 2018, St. Christopher's elected delegates Ann Gerns, Barbara Hughes, Tone Crossman, and Pamela Vazquez, our elected Alternate Delegate, along with Fr. Zac, our priest, attended the 216th Annual Diocesan Convention at Christ Church in Exeter. We voted on three Resolutions, all passing unanimously.

Resolution #1 was the Proposed Diocesan Budget for 2019. The Diocese and the Finance Committee worked very hard to trim every corner they could.

Resolution #2 Renewing Our Faith by Practicing the Way of Love intends to commit the Episcopal Church of NH to joining with the Presiding Bishop and the Episcopal Church in calling each member to "explore the way of love" and renew our commitment to discipleship in Christ and to provide opportunities for all to "turn, learn, pray, worship, bless, go, and rest" as a rule of life. More information will be presented as programs are developed.

Resolution #3 Embracing the Current Call for Mentoring invites every parish to embrace the call of youth mentoring, by partnering with a mentoring organization, such as Big Brother Big Sister of NH has identified over 300 students in the state in need of mentoring.

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Important Message from The Rt. Rev. A. Robert Hirschfeld, Bishop, regarding Statute of Limitations for Clergy Misconduct

It is also in this spirit that St. Paul's School in Concord, along with many Episcopal independent schools, has sought to be deliberate in acknowledging their own histories of abuse. On May 4, 2019, St. Paul's will host a service of lament and forgiveness and offer a time when stories of past trespasses may be shared in

the hope of Christ's healing. As bishop, I look forward to participating in this service and the continuing work it represents. I hope you will continue to keep the St. Paul's School community in your prayers.

If you have an experience to share, we are prepared to provide listening ears and pastoral care. Canon Tina Pickering and the Rev. Caroline Hines are our Title IV Intake Officers and are available to listen and respond if you have anything to share about clergy who have not upheld appropriate standards of conduct. For more information about Title IV and clergy standard of conduct, click [HERE](#). The Rev. Louise Howlett serves as the Bishop's Assistant for Pastoral Care and is also available for support, pastoral care, and referrals if you have experienced harassment, exploitation or assault of any kind. Faithfully Yours in Christ, The Rt. Rev. A. Robert Hirschfeld, November 16, 2018

Prayers of the People

Prayers for **Jeff Waymouth**; Ingrid and Mark Chapman ask for your prayers for their daughter **Lisa**. Please pray for **Nick**, Anne Darrah's cousin's husband; please pray for **Angie McCurdy** and her family; please pray for **Lincoln**, Christine Collins' cousin's young son who is ill; and for **Aaron, Alex & family** in their time of grief. Prayers for healing and relief from pain for **Pat Williams**; for **Zach**, a relative of a parishioner; prayers for **Noelle Schreiber**; **Ellie McCabe**; prayers for **Bob Gleason**, **Lucille Gigeure**. For Dave Darrah's brother, **Tom**; for **Deb**; for **Roy Jeffrey**; **Ann Donovan**; **Kate**; **Brayden**; **Matty**; **Ian**; prayers for **Howie**; for **Cheryl**; for **Ryan**; for **Jacqueline**; for Natalie's brother **Lorin**; for Mark and Ingrid's son **Eric**.

Serving in the Military: Pray for Pam Vazquez's son, **Army 2nd Lt. Nicholas J. Vazquez**, for Del's cousins, **Daniel, Matthew and Sandra**.

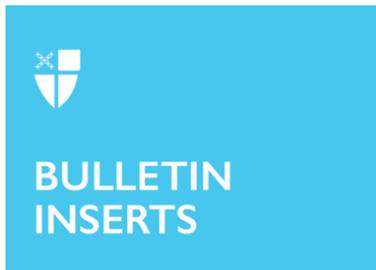
Parish Cycle of Prayer: Ginette Duchaine; Shelly, Brandon, and Elizabeth Dubos; Dolores Dooling and Joan Fettes; Corinne Dodge.

Attendance

Tuesday, 11/6, 9 a.m., 5; Thursday, 11/8, 7 p.m., 10
Saturday, 11/10, 2 p.m., 8; Sunday, 11/11, 10:15 a.m., 44



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Young Adult Service Corps Application Available

The Young Adult Service Corps (YASC) offers exciting opportunities to serve, learn, and share while spending a year living and working with communities around the world.

“From working as ship-visiting chaplains with the Mission to Seafarers in Hong Kong and New Zealand to teaching in church-run primary and secondary schools in Costa Rica and Tanzania or supporting the transformation of sustainable development work in the Philippines, YASC volunteers build relationships with communities around the Anglican Communion and develop global perspectives on life and faith that stay with them for a lifetime,” said Elizabeth Boe, Episcopal Church Mission Personnel Officer. “We see this ministry as a way to support young adults in leadership development as they explore their faith in new ways, engage with diverse viewpoints, and offer their gifts and skills in new contexts.”

Open to Episcopalians ages 21-30, applications are now available for 2019-2020 placements with the Young Adult Service Corps, the international missionary program of the Episcopal Church. YASC volunteers are currently serving throughout the worldwide Anglican Communion, working alongside partners in administration, agriculture, communication, development, and education. They are serving with ministries in Costa Rica, England, Hong Kong, New Zealand, the Philippines, Puerto Rico, and Tanzania. Potential placements for 2019-2020 include (but are not limited to) Brazil, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, England, Honduras, Hong Kong, Panama, the Philippines, South Africa, Taiwan, and Tanzania.

The application for a 2019-2020 placement with additional information and instructions is available at bit.ly/YASCapp. The application deadline is Friday, January 11, 2019.

Former YASC volunteer Jared Grant describes his YASC experience as “a completely transformative experience in every way possible. I came into the program with the pessimistic view of ‘mission work’ being something that was outdated, ill-informed, and out of touch with the Church that I knew and loved. YASC provided me the opportunity to work with and develop ministries that respect the humanity in all of us, ministries that protect the sanctity of creation, ministries that seek the crazy idea of peace in a world that seems determined to head the other way. It turned out that my idea of ‘mission work’ was the thing that was outdated, not mission work itself. I’m still proud to call myself a missionary of the Church.” Following his YASC service in Lesotho and Italy, Grant chose to explore a theological education at Virginia Theological Seminary where he is now a student.

The Rev. David Copley, Director of Global Partnerships and Mission Personnel, noted, “YASC builds on the foundation of faith, knowledge, education and experience that young adults bring with them when they serve and offers opportunities to be challenged and transformed by being fully present in another part of God’s world. Missionary service is first and foremost an act of faith and a way of being Church.”



Additional information about YASC, videos, and blogs are available at episcopalchurch.org/yasc.