



The Signpost Weekly!

November 25, 2018

Last Sunday after Pentecost, Christ the King

Fr. Zac Harmon, Vicar

<http://www.stchristophersnh.org>

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

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News or Info: signpostweekly@comcast.net

Calendar

Sunday, November 25

- ☆ Ministry Minute
- 8 a.m. Worship Service
- 9:15 a.m., Adult Formation – Planning a Funeral and Legacy Giving
- 10 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:15 a.m. Worship Service

Monday, November 26

- 9 a.m. Yoga

Tuesday, November 27

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

Thursday, November 29

- 7 p.m. Eucharist/Bible Study

Saturday, Dec. 1,

- 7:30 p.m. Rockingham Choral Concert at St. Christopher's

Sunday, December 2

- ☆ First Sunday of Advent
- ☆ 2019 Pledge Drive Concludes
- 8 a.m. Worship Service
- 9:15 Adult Formation
- 10 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:15 a.m. Worship Service

We'll also touch on legacy giving as part of the conversation.

Roy Jeffrey Liberty House Drive- Our drive to support homeless veterans in New Hampshire wraps up this Sunday. There's been an amazing level of contribution and participation from the parish. This Sunday is the last Sunday to bring in the canned goods and winter clothing.

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

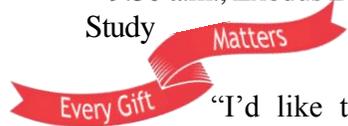
Teaming up with St. Anne's once again, please consider taking a gift tag and picking up something to brighten the holidays for one of our neighbors. Presents can be wrapped or not but **must be returned by December 9th**. Thank you for your support once again. Outreach Committee



Rockingham Choral Society Christmas Concert at Saint Christopher's Church, Sat., December 1 at 7:30 p.m.

This concert will feature "Shout for Joy" a suite of Christmas Spirituals by DeCormier, Fantasia on Christmas Carols by Vaughan Williams, works by Ruth Morris Gray as well as a carol sing along. The Rockingham Choral Society is in its sixty-first year, and under the direction of Alex Favazza.

A second performance will take place on Sunday, Dec. 2 at The Congregational Church in Exeter, NH at 7:30 p.m. Tickets available at the door and at www.rockinghamchoralsociety.org.



"I'd like to thank everyone who has participated thus far in our 2019 Stewardship drive. Members of the Bishop's Committee have all made their pledges – 100% participation! Just a reminder, our 2019 pledge drive ends this Sunday, December 2. Having your 2019 pledge information in hand by then allows us to know the ministry goals we can accomplish and how much we can fund them this coming year. So please make sure your pledge cards are returned by then. God Bless St. Christopher's. *Senior Warden Bob Leonard*



Adult Formation: Planning a Funeral and Legacy Giving With this Sunday being Christ the King and the endings and beginnings of liturgical years, we will be taking a look at the funeral liturgy today. Funerals are not often an easy subject, but the Episcopal liturgy is one of the most beautiful ways to celebrate the resurrected life we have in Christ and guide families through grief. Knowing more about the service and planning options at St. Christopher's can be very helpful.



"Do all the good you can. By all the means you can. In all the ways you can. In all the places you can. To all the people you can. As long as ever you can." John Wesley, English Cleric & Theologian 1703-1791

How your annual pledge funds the Stewardship of St. Christopher's Ministry, Vision and Values, allowing us to make God's love known and being Christ-centered in all we do.

You'll recall from our discussions at the Stewardship Launch, there are different focus areas like 'Prayer & Healing' or 'Spiritual Growth & Discipleship' or 'Systemic Wholeness' which we aim to be centered in Christ and connected like a vine (from John 15). There seemed to be widespread interest in these focus areas the Bishop's Committee had prepared, and they will frame what happens next at St. Christopher's.

Prayer and Healing - Learning about Celtic Prayer and Benedictine Prayer for Adult Formation. For instance, with the strong interest expressed in prayer and healing, during the first 2 Sundays of Advent, Br. David Gerns and Ann Gerns will be teaching about Celtic Prayer and Benedictine Prayer for Adult Formation.

Financial Stability - Legacy Gift Planning. This Sunday we'll be taking a look at another kind of stewardship: legacy gift planning (sometimes called planned giving) in the Adult Formation hour. Did you know that income from endowment legacy gifts of the LeBosquet, Poloian and Harris families continue to have a significant financial impact on St. Christopher's to this day? Many ministries would not have happened without the generosity and stewardship these families shared. You can come hear more at the formation time this Sunday.

1. **Growing as an Intergenerational Community**
(children, teens, young adults, family's w/kids, adults & seniors each having a ministry that connects them)
2. **Missional Outreach & Inreach**
(both responding to needs in our community and the world as well as proactively working to change/address them)
3. **Systemic Wholeness**
(forming organizational structures which encourage our parish to thrive and that prevent volunteer burnout)

4. **Welcome/Newcomers/Evangelism**
(Being known in the community, sharing our faith and sharing God's Love)
5. **Prayer, Music & Healing**
(Continuing as a parish which values each.)
6. **Financial Stability**
(This comes in part by living out the above listed goals but does also take care and planning).



How do you see it?

From the Stewardship Launch and at the Bishop's Committee discussion which followed, there is a 'chicken or egg' view of the budget: focusing on improving our church's finances to fund the work of our Christ-centered community or doing the work of Christ and trusting that funding will follow. Which way do you see it?

2019 ANNUAL MEETING

Our 2019 Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 13, 2019, with a

snow date of the following Sunday, January 20

As is our custom, we will have one service on that

day at 10 am. New members of the Bishop's Committee, Delegates to Convention and Assessors will be voted in. A week before the meeting you will receive a PDF of the new Annual Report via email.

"Hard copies" of the report will also be available at church. This is a very important meeting for the church, one you will want to attend

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. The second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

Thank You!

**THANK YOU FOR
KEEPING UP WITH YOUR
2018 PLEDGE PAYMENTS**

Weekly Budget = Annual Goal \$120,000/52

As of the week ending November 18

Our <u>budget</u> calls for pledge payments received for the week to total	\$ 2,308
We <u>actually</u> received pledge payments this week totaling	\$ 1,290
Our <u>budget</u> calls for pledge payments received Year-to-Date to total	\$ 106,565
We have <u>actually</u> received pledge payments Year-to-Date totaling	\$ 106,154



Christmas Schedule

With Thanksgiving over, the days of Advent and Christmas will soon be here. These are some of the highlights you can anticipate this year from St. Christopher's.

Lessons & Carols, Sunday, December 16

The experience of Lessons and Carols is like a sacred concert with readings, carols and prayers which reflect on Christmas. The choir was outstanding last year, and it is sure to be an uplifting experience this year as well.



**ADVENT &
CHRISTMAS @
ST. CHRISTOPHER'S
LESSONS & CAROLS**
Sunday, December 16
A Holiday Music event, featuring the
St. Christopher's Choir & solos



Blue Christmas, Thursday, December 20, 7 p.m.

For some Christmas can be a harder time of year where losses from the last year or difficult memories surface. If this is the case for you or a family member or friend, this service makes space for prayer and the gift of Christ in the midst of that time.



Family Christmas Eve Service w/Pageant, 4 p.m.

This celebration of Christmas Eve will be child and family focused with both room for the jubilation of children and the holy stillness of songs like Silent Night. The pageant will be simple and enjoyable. Children who would like to participate in the pageant should arrive by 3:30 p.m. for a costume fitting.

Christmas Eve Service, 9 p.m.

This is our full and festive service with candle light.

Christmas Day Service, 9 a.m.

The holy quiet joy of the Christmas Day service can be a beautiful and delightful part of celebrating this season, if you would like to include this in your celebration of Christmas this year.

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: Robin and Stephen Flynn; Julia and David Forbes; Oliver and Mary Ford; Natalie Gallo

Attendance

Sunday, 11/18, 8 a.m., 22; 10:15 a.m., 45

*"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.
This is the greatest and first commandment. The second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'
On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."*

2019 NOTICE OF FINANCIAL INTENT

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church
187 East Road, Hampstead, NH 03841



Name:

Address:

Children's names:

Email Address(es):

Cell Phone(s):

Home Phone:

Another Address:

Another Phone:

I/we offer this pledge a symbol of my/our commitment to do God's work through St. Christopher's Episcopal Church by transforming our money into ministry.

We give to provide a safe place to explore and grow our relationship with God, to provide space for worship, to offer pastoral care to those who turn to us for support, to educate our children and adults, to minister to the homeless, and to offer gathering rooms for outreach programs. These are a few of the ministries that use the money God has given us, to follow God's vision for a more perfect world ... a world where we worship, care for each other, learn, and reach out to those less fortunate.

AND SO ...

I/we want to do our part to keep St. Christopher's Church on a strong financial path.

In faith and prayer my/our total pledge commitment for 2019 is \$ _____ .

I/we would like envelopes_____

I/we realize that in the event of an unforeseen life event and/or financial consideration in this giving year, I/we may increase or decrease our pledge intention by filling out a revised Notice of Financial Support form and sending it to Pledge Secretary Nancy Hickey.

ALL PLEDGES ARE STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL.

At the completion of the pledge year for tax purposes, January 2020, you will receive an itemized statement of all pledge payments as well as any other gifts to St. Christopher's during 2019.

Signed: _____

Please bring your offering to a worship service on Sunday and place it in the offering plate.

Or mail it to

Pledge Secretary Nancy Hickey, St. Christopher's Episcopal Church, 187 East Road, Hampstead, NH 03841.