



The Signpost Weekly

August 25, 2019
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Fr. Zac Harmon, Vicar

<http://www.stchristophersnh.org>

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church
187 East Rd., Hampstead, NH 03841
Tel. (603) 329-4674

News or Info: signpostweekly@comcast.net

Calendar

Sunday, August 25

- 9 a.m. Worship Service
- 10:15 Followed by adult formation

Monday, August 26

3 p.m. Property Committee:

Sunday, September 1

- 9 a.m. Worship Service
- 6 P.M. LGBT+ Dinner Eucharist

Monday, September 2 LABOR DAY

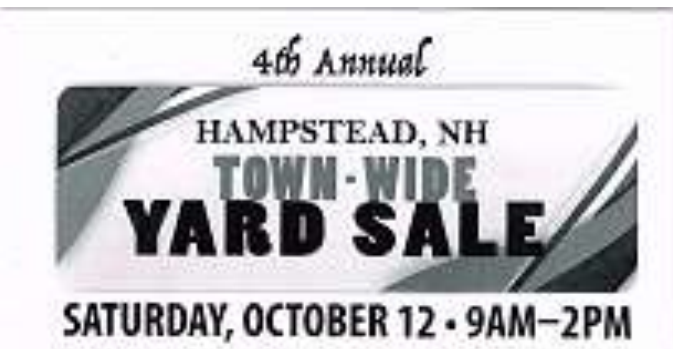
Sunday, September 8

- CHILDREN'S SUNDAY
- 8 a.m. Worship Service
 - 9:15 Adult Formation
 - 10:15 Worship Service

Reminder: We return to two services on Sunday September 8th, one service at 8AM and the other at 10:15 AM. It's also Children's Sunday.

Schedule of ministries (acolytes, readers, etc.) for next few months will be prepared this coming week – contact John (svitakjj@comcast.com or (603) 893-1988) – for Sundays you prefer or can't do by Tue. Aug 27th. Thanks. John

October Yard Sale Update – Don't Forget



Yes, we're still doing it! The Hampstead Community Yard Sale. So, don't forget to keep us in mind with any yard sale items you come across as you do summer cleaning and general clean outs. Summer is such a good time for that. There is a little bit of storage at the church if you want some place to bring your items to between now and then. Yard Sale coordinators are Maggie Heyer and Lyn Rockwell.



Last year's Yard Sale

Important and Exciting News

On Sunday we announced a really exciting and important development. Over the last few months, a family with LGBT+* members came forward looking to see if a group could be brought together of LGBT+ people for support and encouragement. (*LGBT+ stands for Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Transgender people. The "+" is an inclusive symbol for those who might not feel that these terms fit them exactly.)

This group met over a potluck dinner and Eucharist in the early summer, and it served as a wonderful time for connection and support. In the discussion at the meeting, the time was so wonderfully supportive that they wanted to hold another one and invite more widely anyone who wants to come and be supportive.

We're holding a **Dinner Eucharist focused on LGBT+ inclusion and affirmation this Sunday at 6PM.** A Dinner Eucharist is an emerging church liturgy which combines potluck dinner, conversation, discussion and prayer for a Rite III Eucharist. Who knew the Lenten dinners were ahead of their time? All are welcome at God's table. There was excitement at this announcement with some parishioners rushing out to invite their LGBT+ neighbors that very day.

Some might wonder, isn't everyone welcome already? Why be so specific? It's a fair and

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reasonable question. The experience of the church however for LGBT+ people has historically been a painful one of exclusion or being treated as inferior. Being specific in welcoming language makes it clear to LGBT+ people that they are welcomed and affirmed.

This is something The Episcopal Church also sees as in line with Biblical passages such as Galatians 3:28 in that we are all one in Christ: "There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus."

St. Christopher's itself has a rich history of inclusion and welcome of which to be proud. However, this welcome and inclusion has not always been clear to LGBT+ people coming newly to St. Christopher's, and we are striving to be clearer about this welcome so that newcomers aren't left wondering if they are truly welcome.

Last week the Bishop's Committee voted to support the LGBT+ community and this ministry development at St. Christopher's, including being more visibly affirming in those searching our website or online.

Thanks be to God for the welcome that so many feel at St. Christopher's.

Thank you to Brooke LaMonica this summer who help getting our trash bins out for curbside pickup, and bringing them back in on Wednesdays and Thursdays. With the school year starting up, Brooke is headed back to work. So, we could use someone else to step forward to help. Could that be you?

Nursery Summer Clean-up

In this time of summer and break from our Sunday school program, we could use a couple people to step up and sort through toys and clean the nursery. We put this in last week's Signpost and announced it on Sunday, but no one has yet stepped up to help with this. The nursery is getting a little cluttered with too many toys and could use general straightening and some more intensive cleaning. We are gifted with this space and between Sundays and Recovery meetings at church our nursery gets a fair amount of use. A room for small children and families is of utmost importance and a holy ministry to care for. If you have any extra time in August or early September and could help with this important need, it would be much appreciated. Please let Brenda

Getchell or Lyn Rockwell (Property Co-Chairs) know if you could help with this.

Our Pledge payments over the summer – As we vacation and enjoy the summer weather, we tend to delay our giving or making pledge payments. Needless to say, it's important for our finances to stay on an even keel. Whatever you can do to stay current is appreciated.

Prayers of the people

Prayers for **Mark Chapman**. Prayers for **Hannah Collins**. Prayers for Ginette's grandson, **Chase**, and his parents in the face of long-term medical disabilities. Pray for **Angie McCurdy** and her family; for **Gretta**; 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 **Zach**, a relative of a parishioner; **Ellie McCabe**; prayers for **Bob Gleason, Lucille Gigeure**. 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**, and their daughter, **Lisa**. Pray for the repose of **Anita Pauley**, and prayers for her son **Brian Shankey**. Prayers for **Alex Handel**.

Serving in the Military: For Pam Vazquez's son, First Lt. Nicholas J. Vazquez, an Officer in the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, NC; for Del's cousins, Daniel, Matthew and Sandra.



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