



The Signpost Weekly

July 2, 2017

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

The Rev. Canon Hannah P. Anderson, Interim Vicar

Visit us at: <http://www.saintcs.org>

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

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Calendar

Sunday, July 2

- Eucharist, 9 a.m.
- Coffee and Conversation, after 9 a.m. service

Monday, July 3

- Monday Morning Yoga, 9-10 a.m.

Tuesday, July 4

- Al-Anon, 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, July 8

- Eucharist, 4 p.m.

Sunday, July 9

- Eucharist, 9 a.m.
- Coffee and Conversation, following Eucharist

A Friendly Reminder

During the summer months, please remember that we still have bills to pay. We appreciate your pledges, and hope that you continue to send them in during the summer months. Thank you so much.

The Mayflower Spirit



Dear friends and members of St. Christopher's, Recently I read an article by Diana Butler Bass, a woman of deep faith and curiosity about the shifting nature of Church. In it, she suggested that on our spiritual journey we consider being on the Mayflower, not the Titanic! In other words, we are together in unknown waters, heading to unknown territory but with a sense of adventure, collective memory and eagerness for arrival.

Last night, Thursday, I heard this interest for a Mayflower voyage from six young women from St. Christopher's, all mothers of children who have been an integral part of the church and Sunday School. We spent two hours together sitting in a circle in the sanctuary as they shared stories, disappointments, hopes and dreams. What I discovered is that they want to be in the boat of St. Christopher's. Please listen again: *They want to be*

Summer Wish List Ecumenical Food Pantry

Juice, Spaghetti Sauce, Microwave Popcorn, Jelly/Fluff, Pudding, Tissues, Paper Towels, Body Wash, Bar Soap, Deodorant (M & F),

in the boat. Do you realize what a miracle that is in this day in age? Young parents with children actually want to be part of a church!

As I listened and asked questions, I realized that their desire to be in the boat for a Mayflower journey is coupled with an honest concern about how welcome they and their children are in the boat. Children, especially little ones, are energetic and can make noise. Without nursery care available, parents who want to worship are faced with the dilemma of how to attend church while managing young children.

They spoke about their interest in having the Children's Sunday (second of the month) really geared toward children through music, liturgy, and the lectionary readings (read by youth) from *The Message* in order to make it more accessible to the younger generation. While the soft space for children by the rocking chairs is wonderful to have, is there another space in the sanctuary that could be designated as a quiet zone for children and parents? I think of the space where the Garden of Gethsemane is set up in Holy Week. How might those objects be stored so that what is potentially a danger zone (rocks, fragile objects) for children could be re-created for them as a welcoming place?

I also heard a deep desire from these parents to connect with the older generations of people in the church to form friendships and make connections. (Older generations: 45+ years old.) Being a part of community and having opportunities for fellowship/service with other generations is key to their love of St. Christopher's. They want to make St. Christopher's the best church it can be—living fully into the mission statement we read each Sunday about welcoming children, in particular.

A few Sundays ago in Coffee and Conversation, I asked for the name of the youngest member of the church? Someone mentioned the name of Emma. I wrote her name and placed it on the top of the flip chart. ALL the conversation and decisions being made at St. Christopher's must be for Emma now. She, along with other children and teens, are the future of the church. The Mayflower is for them and it is our responsibility as elders to make room in the boat. Space not just for sitting; space for wiggling. Space for new ideas and new leadership. Space for decisions that may cause us discomfort.

The Mayflower is setting sail and the conversations on board between young and old passengers are bound to be rich. There are families who want to be part of the journey, too. Let's welcome them in new ways. In Christ's love, Hannah+

Ice Cream and Fr. Zachary-Friday, July 14th, starting at 5:30 pm

We will be hosting a week-end of welcome with the Rev. Zachary Harmon, from Oregon. He is coming to visit St. Christopher's on Friday, July 14 through Sunday, July 16. Bishop Rob would like everyone at the church to meet Zachary who is a candidate to be your new priest. On Friday, July 14 there will be an Ice Cream celebration with Zac at the church, beginning at 5:30 for one and all! Please plan to bring either a pint or half gallon of ice cream or a topping. Christine Mason and Hannah Anderson will help coordinate the event.

If you are unable to come to this event, Zac (and Hannah) will be at St. Christopher's on Saturday, July 15 from Noon through the 4:00 service which he will lead. He'll spend Saturday afternoon looking around the church, learning about its history and talking with any of you who would like to stop by. Zac will preach and preside at the Sunday 9:00 am service, July 16th.

Update on Team Ministry Accomplishments!

Thank you for new people who have come on board to serve on our Ministry Teams! Items and documents are being cleaned out, organized, updated and refiled in the Church Office. The hundreds of books that have been donated over the years but no longer used are in the sanctuary for people to choose from before being given to the local library for their sale. You may notice changes in the playground space which, thanks to a generous

donation from the Darrah's, will have new mulch to provide safety for our children and make the space more attractive. The old welcome sign by the parking lot has been removed. There are also plans to replace the road sign on East Road so that it is updated and beautiful to catch the attention of those who drive by. New flowers are in the garden at the end of the driveway now. Bushes and shrubs outside the kitchen have been removed, offering new sunlight to the inside of the parish house. A broken gutter was removed and repairs are being planned. Kudos to John, Brenda, Edie, Lyn, Marcia, Oliver, Dave C., Anne, David, Matt, Denise, Barbara, Peggy, Karen and Wayne. Gratefully, Hannah+

Prayers of the People

Prayers for Dave Darrah's nephew **Peter** who has been diagnosed with cancer and will be going through various treatments for the foreseeable future. Please pray for **Elaine**, a friend of Danielle LeClair; for **Deb**; for the **Ritzer Family**; for Anne Darrah's cousin, **Eva Brown**; for the **Steinhoff Family**; for **Zach**; for **Judy McCabe**; for **Roy Jeffrey**; **Liz Naters-Gamarra and Carmen**, Miriam's daughter and mother; for **Miriam**; **Ann Donovan**; **Kate**; **Brayden**; **Matty**; **Ian**; for **Cheryl**; for **Ryan**; for **Jacqueline**; for Natalie's brother **Lorin** and for **George Gallo, Jr.**; for Mark and Ingrid's son **Eric** who with God's grace has been found and getting medical care, nourishment, and help in the many ways that he needs.

Serving in the Military: Please pray for Del's cousins, **Daniel**, **Matthew** and **Sandra**, for **Paul**.

Parish Cycle of Prayer:

Laura Madison and Paul Nowick; Danielle, Kaitlyn and Nathan LeClair; Marlana LeSage; Eva Lawrence.

Attendance

Thursday, 6/22, 8;
Saturday, 6/24, 16; Sunday, 6/25, 35

Pledge Gifts/Intents as of Sunday, June 25, 2017, expected and received.

Expected weekly pledge gifts	\$2,347.35
Actual pledge gifts last week	\$848.65
Expected total gifts thru June	\$61,031.00
Actual total gifts thru June	\$53,914.00