

# the COURIER

Established  
1866

The Newsletter of Christ Episcopal Church  
Dearborn, Michigan

MAY 2019  
VOLUME 53.05

## Life Around the Table

Yesterday I ordered sweet potato slips from a sweet potato farmer in Tennessee. I've never done this before so I don't really know what I am doing. But, from what I understand the slips are small dried looking pieces of sweet potato that when planted become sweet potato vines and hopefully produce sweet potatoes. They'll be shipped to me the end of May and if they take root and grow I hope to have a harvest of sweet potatoes in time for Thanksgiving. I learned about sweet potato slips and where to order them from a number of parishioners and community people talking about gardening on the Facebook page for Christ Church's community garden the, "CEC Garden Club". We aren't really a club, anyone can like the FB page and follow our stories of gardening successes, failures and struggles. We share some of our harvest with the parish at our fall pot luck in September.

I'm thinking of gardening and eating in a particular way because of the retreat I am attending at Kanuga, an Episcopal retreat center outside Hendersonville, NC, near Asheville. The retreat is an event teaching a number of us to be facilitators of the "Life Around the Table" practice of eating faithfully by eating food that L.A.U.G.H.S. The idea is to share meals with a group of people who reflect on scripture while having conversations that deepen one's awareness of one's self and faith, and also growing relationships with others around that table. Theologically this is grounded in the idea of being good stewards of God's creation. Food that LAUGHS is Locally grown, Affordable, Uncomplicated, Good, Healthy and Seasonal. At this retreat we are being formed by a framework for conversation that grew out of the observations and questions of the "Eating Together Faithfully" (ETF) Founding Director, Grace Hackney. She believes that conversations about food need to begin with God. Among other questions, she's wondered about:

- Why has the church focused so much attention on our souls and not on our minds and bodies?
- Why are people hungry when there is enough food to feed all?
- Why is obesity the new look of poverty?
- What difference does our participation in Holy Communion make in the ways we eat and invite others to eat?

These questions are particularly relevant to me because we have just come off of our Lenten journey and our Thursday night Lenten suppers. This year we shared a meal, a Bible study, and conversation with members of Christ Church, St. Paul Lutheran and Mother of the Savior Lutheran. The con-

versations included guided reflections on what we were hearing in the scripture readings and what each person heard God calling them to "be, do, or change" through the text. Using a gracious process of sharing called Mutual Invitation one person would share their thoughts then invite another person to share until all who wanted to share had had the opportunity to do so. This process enabled each voice to be heard and over time deeply personal conversations happened. Our relationships with one another, with ourselves, and with God deepened.

I'm convinced that when we say that Christ Church feeds people in mind, body, and spirit, that we have articulated something profoundly true about who we are. I believe this truth is deeply sacramental, sacred and authentic to who we are at Christ Church. This is because feeding people in mind, body, and spirit is rooted in Jesus and the meals he shared with people in his lifetime. Jesus ate with everyone, he ate well and heartily, and he believed that eating together was holy, sacred and healing. Now, as followers of Jesus, we gather around a table and share a particular holy meal. The holy meal is intended to inspire us to feed others. But it is not just literal food, or sacramental food, it is also deeply connected to all the ways that people come into Christ Church every day of the week, are fed. This is true whether one comes for AA, music, martial arts, yoga, centering prayer, the food pantry, League of Women Voters, Tai Chi, or any of the many ways that people gather in the church and on the property. Even though food may not be literally involved, people are being fed because this church, and we, as a community of faithful people, are here. We are here building relationships and offering a place for others to come, gather, build or deepen relationships. In the near future the Baptized for Life (BfL) committee will learn more about Eating Together Faithfully and Life Around the Table. At the end of May the BfL members are traveling to Clagget Retreat Center in Maryland to join with people from twenty one other Episcopal Churches to talk about our BfL ideas and projects. We suspect that the project for Christ Church will involve food, relationships, and reflecting on God's holy word. We suspect it will connect us more deeply to feeding people in mind, body, and spirit. Look for more on our BfL project over the summer and into the early fall. But between now and then, think about your own table, who gathers around it and how might it be a place that invites you more deeply into your faith life?

*In Peace,  
Pastor Terri*

---

## A WORD FROM OUR CURATE

*By Curate Halim*

I met Darrell when I first visited Christ Church in March 2018. I knew then that I would find a warm, supportive friend. I was blessed and honored when Darrell came to my ordination with beloved people of Christ Church, it was such a special day in my life to be surrounded by wonderful friends. Darrell sent me pictures and video from my ordination with wonderful words and wishes.

As I moved to my own apartment last August, Darrell was so generous to give me wonderful gifts for my kitchen and to send a card. These meant a lot to me, moving to a new place and being surrounded by caring people such as Darrell, helped me to settle in and feel welcomed.

I will always remember our coffee times at Common Grace when Darrell talked about the history and community of Dearborn. He always appreciated the wonderful diversity presented here and how we can learn from each other cultures.

Darrell told me wonderful stories about the Polish culture, food and we shared how there are lot of common grounds between Arabic culture and Polish culture. We were always

amazed when I mentioned our Christian celebrations back home in Lebanon and how these celebrations were similar to the celebrations in Poland.

Darrell was a warm, welcoming, kind person with a positive outlook at life and a fundamental faith in humanity. He could always tell wonderful stories which had great visions for a better world.

His vision and support to the Arabic American Community will always be remembered and especially for supporting the congregation of Mother of the Savior by attending the joint services and getting to know each member.

Darrell was a friend and faithful parishioner and his company was enriching, thoughtful and filled with compassion.

May his memory be eternal through remembering and continuing the good work he started here in the community.

Goodbye, my friend. We'll all miss you a lot. Thank you for everything.

---

# Episcopalooza

is coming to Christ Church September 7th.

This is a back to school carnival sponsored  
by the Youth and Young Adult Ministry  
(YAYA)

of the Diocese of Michigan.

---

**kroger** community   
**rewards**



Did you know that you can link your Kroger Plus card to Christ Church and each time your card is swiped Kroger will donate a percentage of your total sales back to Christ Church without sacrificing your awards points. Participation is easy and free!

Simply go to <http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com> Click on Michigan and enroll.

Enter our number: 84989 (Christ Episcopal Church of Dearborn will appear next to the number)

If you do not have a Kroger card, simply pick one up at the register. Contact the church office with any questions.

\*Kroger does not sell, trade or rent your information to outside companies or marketing firms.

---

---

# A NOTE FROM OUR INTERN

By Mitch Yudasz

What a busy few weeks! It seems that I was just writing the last article and all of a sudden May is here! It was such an incredible Holy Week and Easter this year - probably made even more special because it is the first for me being ordained. It was extremely humbling participating in the Passion, reading the Gospels, and being a part of the service of the Triduum (remember - three days, one service!) The Good Friday evening service done according to the Eastern Rite was especially intriguing. It was a beautiful service (thanks Halim, for all the hard work to make it possible.) I was so moved by it, that I can see adopting that as a Good Friday service in the future. Sharing services on Friday and Saturday with the wonderful folks from Mother of the Savior made it even more special. Saturday's Great Vigil was very moving. I was given the privilege of chanting the Exultant or Easter Proclamation. This is traditionally a function of a deacon, and I'm glad that I had the opportunity to do this for the one Easter that I am a deacon (thank you, Terri!)

At this point, we are about six weeks from ordination. Actually 38 days, 15 hours, and 9 minutes at the time I'm writing this! It is coming up very fast. Thankfully, Terri and Halim are there for this final portion of my formation and as your intern. They are working with me on the proper ways to do all parts of worship. So what does this mean? It means that I will be doing almost the entire service, including the sermon, for all the Sundays of May.

Until I am ordained a priest, I am unable to do what is known as the "ABC's": Absolution, Blessing, and Consecration.

While I'm able to do most of the service, I am not able to:

- Offer the peace: This is the peace of Christ offered to the people through the priest.
- The Epiclesis: While I'm able to do a significant portion of the Liturgy of the Eucharist, I am unable to do the Epiclesis. This is where the priest puts hands over the bread and wine, and also toward the congregation ("sanctify these gifts.....sanctify us"). This is the calling of the Holy Spirit down upon the gifts and upon the people.
- The final blessing.

You will see Terri or Halim step in at the parts which I am unable to do. You will also notice that I am not chanting the Sursum Corda ("The Lord Be With You") at the beginning of the Liturgy of the Eucharist. I will chant that at my first service on June 9th - Terri and I agreed that this would be something that would be special for my first service - in addition to everything else about it!

There will be feedback forms available as I move through May. I ask that you provide me constructive feedback (not just "did good"), that I can incorporate through the rest of this formation.

I very much appreciate your love and support. I can't say enough about what my family at Christ Church has done for me for the last 3½ years. Please keep me in your prayers as I prepare for my ordination in a few short weeks.

---

## CHURCH PICNIC

The annual end of the year church picnic will be June 9th following the 10am service. Please bring side dishes and desserts to share. Also, please bring your beverage of choice. Help is needed to clean up and return tables and chairs to the Fellowship Hall.



## LIFE TRANSITIONS

On June 9th we will celebrate "Life Transitions" in the 10am service. If you or a family member have a life transition you'd like us to pray for, such as a recent graduation from high school, college, or graduate school, or a job change or a move or some other transition, please email Erin so we can include you in the prayers.

---

## MUSIC TO CELEBRATE AND INSPIRE

By Carolyn Blackmore



We hope you are enjoying the anthems performed by the choir most Sundays; from Godspell to Mozart, Handel to contemporary.

The choir is rehearsing hard to enrich our shared worship with music and harmony that has inspired generations, and brings us all a little closer to God.

Anthems for the Easter season:

- |          |  |
|----------|--|
| April 28 | HERE I AM LORD<br>by Dan Schutte                     |
| May 12   | MY SHEPHERD WILL SUPPLY MY NEED,<br>Southern Harmony |
| May 26   | I WAITED FOR THE LORD<br>by Mendelssohn              |
| June 9   | GRACIOUS SPIRIT<br>by Dave Jepson                    |
| June 9   | HALLELUJAH CHORUS<br>by Handel                       |

---

---

## VESTRY REFLECTION

*By Nick Bell*

My reflection is on the Christian community here at Christ Episcopal Church Dearborn and the importance of that community in my life and to my faith.

My wife and I were made to feel welcome and a valued part of the congregation from the very first day we came to worship here at the corner of Cherry Hill and Military. Many of you have said similar things about joining this congregation and becoming a member. Our family has been blessed to have grown up in this congregation, and it has been a joy to watch and be part of the journey of many children grow into young adults within our Church family.

Faith and spirituality are personal in terms of the individual practices of our faith and our spiritual growth. Even so, shared worship is at the heart of our lives as Christians; we sing, pray, listen to God's word and share the Eucharist together. It is also the case that we Episcopalians find fellowship and joy when we come together at a meal! The joy of our Easter Sunday service was made even better by the many

people who joined us for the celebration of the Resurrection. In some services we are fewer in number, but as Jesus said, 'For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them' (Matthew 18:20).

Christians are like parts of one body of Christ with different functions and all of them important (Romans 12:4-8) and there are many references in the New Testament to the different spiritual gifts given to Christians (examples: 1 Corinthians 12: 8-10 & 12:28). We become a more complete community when each of us use the gifts we have to the best of our abilities in service of each other, the Church and the world.

I would like to make a request for when we enter our shared worship space, let's move towards the front of the Church and not leave empty or near-empty pews. This will strengthen the feeling and reality of one body, enhance our shared worship and our fellowship with each other.

---

---

## FINANCIAL CORNER

*By Kevin Green, Treasurer*

We had another good month, beating the budget year to date by approximately \$1,500 (see accompanying table). We also expect that April will be at or better than budget, all of which is good news. Thank you to all! Summer is typically when we start to experience income shortfalls due to decreased attendance because of vacations, weekend trips and other activities. Please remember that you can stay up to date on your pledge even when you're not physically present by using the online giving option on the Church website. Also, we

welcome you to join us for future Finance Commission meetings (watch the Communicator for dates and times).

3/31/2019	YTD ACTUAL	YTD BUDGET	2019 BUDGET
<b>INCOME</b>	\$68,684.21	\$69,211.88	\$286,513.00
<b>EXPENSE</b>	\$79,886.20	\$82,006.23	\$318,879.00
<b>NET</b>	(\$11,201.99)	(\$12,794.35)	(\$32,366.00)

---

---

## A NOTE FROM YOUR SEXTON

*By John Jones*

Happy spring Christ church family! Yes, it is actually spring. April showers bring May flowers. To which I would like to remind people of all the outdoor landscaping/beautification opportunities. There are many areas around the church that could use flowers planted, vegetation, small shrubs, etc. These are small areas including large planter pots by front doors of church for example, or an area beside the ramp entrance steps. Some bare areas that are just crying for some love. So if you would like to "adopt a plot" get with me and we'll discuss. As many of you know, it is a rather large task for me just to maintain lawn mowing, trimming, edging. So any help I can get is greatly appreciated. I believe it is a great way for people to honor the house of God, to feel part of, to take ownership of, to be able to give of time and talents. I don't like to use the word pride, but honor. That best describes the feeling I get when I complete a project, turning

something plain and ordinary into something beautiful. I assure you that you too can have that feeling by simply planting flowers and maintaining your plot. I state that jovially, but is also very true.

Another project I am hoping to get support for is the Labyrinth. It needs rebuilt in a bad way. I am drawing up plans, and a proposed project outline but am in very early stages. It will require a good amount of labor so I am hoping I can rally parishioners around the project. More to come on that later.

Once again, I thank you all for the continued opportunity, the support and encouragement of me, and all that you do and all that you are. I still am honored to serve God and his people according to his will. Peace, light, and love.



Telegraph Blues



Jeff Karoub



Silverstrings Dulcimer



Littlefield Folk



Robert Jones &  
Matt Watroba

## SUMMER CONCERT SERIES 2019 6-8PM

Free and open to the public. Funded by proceeds from the annual Homecoming parking and Thrivent Financial. Please bring your own lawn chair, a meal, and a beverage of your choice, and enjoy four lovely summer evenings outside accompanied by these delightful local musicians and singer songwriters. Robert Jones and Matt Watroba courtesy of David Tamulevich at Tamulevich Artist Management [www.Tamulevich.com](http://www.Tamulevich.com)

**July 19: Telegraph Blues**

**July 26: Jeff Karoub**

**August 9: Silverstrings Dulcimer  
& Littlefield Folk**

**August 16: Robert Jones & Matt Watroba**

Christ Episcopal Church 120 N. Military Dearborn, MI  
313-565-8450 [www.christchurchdearborn.org](http://www.christchurchdearborn.org)

## "COME AS YOU ARE" SUMMER SERVICES

Beginning June 16 through September 1 (Labor Day weekend) we move into our casual, come as you are, summer services.

The 8am service will be held in its usual fashion in the Chapel. This simple said service is popular in the summer because the Chapel is air conditioned.

The 9am outdoor service will be held on the exterior plaza. As usual it will include music using our portable electric keyboard and a portable speaker system. The service is designed especially for families. The service will be shortened to about twenty-five minutes, including Holy Eucharist. Hospitality time with coffee, water, juice, and tea, will be offered in the Lounge at 9:30am.

The 10am service will be the same as the 8am service but with hymns and music. It will be held in the Chapel. Hospitality time with coffee, water, juice, and tea, will be offered in the Lounge at 10:50am.

All of the services will be casual; those who function in the altar party will not vest or wear robes. Instead they will perform their responsibilities wearing ordinary street clothes.



## SUMMER HOURS

Summer hours for this year will be 9am - 12pm Monday - Thursday, beginning June 17 and concluding September 2. The office will be closed on Fridays.



### United Thank Offering (UTO)

Our annual UTO ingathering will be on Sunday, May 19th. Bring your "little blue boxes" to be presented at the altar at either the 8am or 10am service that day. If you need a box, see Barb Hall.

## ROGATION DAY: A TRADITIONAL BLESSING FOR A GARDEN

Christ Church will bless our community garden on Sunday, June 9th, at the conclusion of the 10am service. The church picnic will follow. During the final hymn we will process out to the garden where prayers will be said in the four directions - east, west, north, and south. Garden blessings and prayers for a hearty harvest are part of an ancient agricultural tradition. Eventually this tradition included a "Beating of the bounds" to mark the borders of parish property.

Rogation Day celebrations have their roots in church of fifth-century France. Special prayers were offered just before the Feast of the Ascension with hope of preventing earthquakes and the desire for healthy harvests. The early Roman church celebrated Rogation Days with a Christian procession around the fields on the Feast of St. Mark (April 25) thus transferring the tradition of honoring the ancient pagan Roman celebrations to the god "Mildew" and the goddess "Rust" into a Christian tradition.

The "Beating of the Bounds" began in medieval England. Written maps were rare and each year a procession marked the parish boundaries, which were beaten with willow rods. Our service begins in the chapel, processes to the garden, and honors the four directions - East, West, North, and South, and the four elements sun, rain, earth, and moon - symbolically honoring the bounds of the garden.



## CHAPEL DAY PRESCHOOL OPEN ENROLLMENT

Do you have a friend or family member looking for a preschool this fall? Chapel Day Preschool, housed here at Christ Church, has begun open enrollment for the upcoming school year for both the 3-year-old class (Tu/Th 9-11 a.m.) and the 4-year-old class (M/W/F 9 a.m. - noon). For more information, please visit [www.chapeldaypreschool.com](http://www.chapeldaypreschool.com) or call (313) 565-2444.



## Calendar Highlights

### FELLOWSHIP

#### COFFEE HOUR

Sunday, 11:15am

Refreshments in Fellowship Hall following the 10 am service. The sign-up sheet is downstairs if you would like to host a Sunday.

#### ST. MARY'S OF BETHANY PRAYER GROUP

Tuesday, 10:30am

Intercessory prayer offered for the needs of those on our current and sustaining prayer lists. Names are read at the 11 am Tuesday Eucharist in the Chapel.

### YOUNG PEOPLE

#### CHILDREN'S PRAYER ROOM

Sunday at 10:05am for 3-9 year olds during the 10am service. The children leave the church together and meet in the Prayer Room for a child friendly service with stories and crafts, then return to church for communion. Please contact the church office at 313-565-8450 or office@christchurchdearborn.org.

### HEALTH

#### MARTIAL ARTS

##### Adult Classes

Wednesday 7pm

Sunday 2pm

#### STRETCHING CLASS

Meets the 2nd and 4th Saturday monthly at 10:30am. Michael Mroczyk, leader of our Martial Arts Group, is offering coaching in a method of effective, dynamic, facilitated stretching for all interested persons. The sessions are open. The greatest benefit will be for

those whose range of motion has atrophied. Come dressed comfortably. The sessions are free of charge. Donations to Christ Church are welcome.

#### YOGA—NO CLASS MAY 7 & 14

Tuesdays, 7:15-8:15pm, Room 213

This is a beginner level hatha class. Hatha links movement with breath. If you have a yoga mat, please bring it. The sessions are free of charge.

### MUSIC

#### Choir Rehearsals

The Choir will rehearse every Sunday morning at 9am and 11:30am.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### MAY

May 2 Vestry Meeting 5:30pm  
May 6 Scout Leaders 7pm  
May 6 Listening Group 7pm  
May 7 Scout PLC Meeting 6:30pm  
May 7 Chapel Day Board 6:30pm  
May 11 Men's Group 10am  
May 11 League of Women Voters 10am  
May 14 AAUW 7:30pm  
May 15 CHI Healing 6:30pm  
May 18 Men's Group 10am  
May 19 UTO Ingathering  
May 19 Happiness Forum 11:30am  
May 20 Listening Group 7pm  
May 23 Strengthening Community Relations Meeting 6pm  
May 24 Finance Meeting 6:30pm  
May 25 Men's Group 10am  
May 27 Memorial Day Office Closed  
May 30 Sonneman Studio 4:30pm

#### JUNE

June 1 League of Women Voters 10am  
June 1 Sonneman Studio 2pm  
June 3 Scout Leaders 7pm  
June 3 Listening Group 7pm

June 4 Scout PLC Meeting 6:30pm  
June 4 AAUW 7:30pm  
June 8 Men's Group 10am  
June 8 Mitch's Ordination  
June 9 Church Picnic  
June 15 Men's Group 10am  
June 16 Summer Service Schedule Begins  
June 17 Summer Office Hours Begin  
June 17 Listening Group 7pm  
June 18 Strengthening Community Relations 7pm  
June 20 League of Women Voters 4pm  
June 22 Men's Group 10am

### JULY

July 1 Scout Leaders 7pm  
July 1 Listening Group 7pm  
July 2 Scout PLC Meeting 6:30pm  
July 4 Independence Day Office Closed  
July 13 Men's Group 10am  
July 15 Listening Group 7pm  
July 19 Summer Concert Series 6pm  
Telegraph Blues  
July 20 Men's Group 10am  
July 26 Summer Concert Series 6pm  
Jeff Karoub  
July 27 Men's Group 10am

#### SUMMER COURIER SUBMISSIONS

Submit news and articles for the Summer issue of the Courier by

June 10th to

office@christchurchdearborn.org.

Please add Courier to the subject line.

## May Celebrations

### BIRTHDAYS

Robert Denman  
Ashley Gottfried-Quam  
Bettina Caldwell  
Will Brennan  
Michael Mroczyk  
Lynne Bradley  
Phyllis Brim  
Paulette Pawa  
Marie Lamb  
Owen Sanderson-Price  
Andrew Angel

MAY 3  
MAY 4  
MAY 5  
MAY 6  
MAY 6  
MAY 9  
MAY 11  
MAY 12  
MAY 17  
MAY 17  
MAY 19

Mary Jo Crane  
Michael Stanis  
Victoria Bell  
Steven Penk  
Richard Audi  
Alexander Green

MAY 23  
MAY 24  
MAY 26  
MAY 27  
MAY 28  
MAY 30

### ANNIVERSARIES

Charles & Karen Beck  
Kevin & Margaret Green  
Joseph & Maggie Pellegrino

MAY 8 (36)  
MAY 9 (26)  
MAY 30 (37)



120 N. Military  
Dearborn, Michigan 48124  
Phone: 313-565-8450  
Fax: 313-565-8515  
E-mail:  
[office@christchurchdearborn.org](mailto:office@christchurchdearborn.org)  
Website:  
[www.christchurchdearborn.org](http://www.christchurchdearborn.org)



#### OFFICERS OF THE CHURCH

**The Rt. Rev. Wendell Gibbs, Jr.,** Bishop  
**The Rev. Terri Pilarski,** Rector  
**The Rev. Halim Shukair,** Curate  
**Nick Bell,** Sr. Warden  
**Lynn Becker, Jr.** Warden  
**Matthew Sallman,** Clerk  
**Kevin Green,** Treasurer

#### STAFF

**Erin Biggs,** Office Manager  
**John Jones,** Sexton  
**Tess Dowgiallo,** Children's Choir Director  
**The Rev. Dcn. Mitch Yudas,** Intern

#### VESTRY

**Jean Angel**  
**Lynn Becker**  
**Nick Bell**  
**Barbara Hall**  
**Michael Mroczyk**  
**Holly Schanz**  
**James Thornton**  
**Chris Ventura**