

the COURIER

Established
1866

The Newsletter of Christ Episcopal Church
Dearborn, Michigan

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VOLUME 53.02

Rector Sabbatical Update

Last fall the Vestry designated money for the Rector's Sabbatical, due every seven years, according to the Covenant of Call, the letter of agreement between clergy, bishop, and congregations. I qualified for fourteen weeks of sabbatical when we set the process, which I determined I'd take over the course of a couple of years, instead of all at once.

A good sabbatical includes a couple of criteria: time for clergy renewal, time for clergy rest, and the opportunity to bring back new ideas to help advance the parish's mission. In thinking about what kind of sabbatical would be useful for me and for Christ Church I began to explore options for learning about intercultural competency. There are a couple of factors informing that option, including the fact that we are in a Dearborn, which is a multicultural city in the midst of a multicultural region. We are in the midst of an historic Black city in a town with historic racial tension, whose population is now 42% Arabic. We are a congregation with working class, middle class, and upper-class members. We have families from Liberia, England, and Poland as well as those who have been in Dearborn for generations. Although we are a predominantly heterosexual congregation we have LGBTQ members. We are, just within our own congregation, a reflection of the diverse world we live in. Increasing our capacity for intercultural awareness will help us navigate our common life as people of faith in ways that more closely following the teachings of Jesus, who taught us to love God and to love others as ourselves.

I have found two really helpful avenues to learn about intercultural awareness. The first was the course I took last November to become a licensed Qualified Administrator (QA) of the IDI. The IDI is a world renowned intercultural inventory that assess one's intercultural competency in a highly scientific manner. As a licensed QA I can administer the tool to individuals and groups. At some point we at Christ Church will take the inventory and assess our intercultural competency as a congregation, as a vestry, and a few select people can learn their individual intercultural competency. It costs \$18 per person to take the inventory. I have applied for a diocesan grant for the money to take it as a congregation, if I get the funds we'll proceed. If I do not, then each person will need to pay for their own survey, with some funds provided to assist those who can't afford it. From the IDI we'll get a group report of where we are as a congregation and what we can do to increase our awareness and become for proficient and adaptable at engaging others who are different.

The second avenue is a course I took in January along with Curate Halim and Carolyn Blackmore at Bexley Seabury Sem-

inary in Chicago with The Rev. Dr. Eric Law. Eric Law is an Episcopal priest, and the author of many books on intercultural awareness and how congregations can be more effective at living together in a multicultural world. We had to read six books for this one week class: *The Wolf Shall Dwell with the Lamb*; *Inclusion: Making Room for Grace*; and *Holy Currencies* by Eric Law; *Radical Welcome* by Stephanie Spellers; *Transforming Communities* by Sandhya Rani Jha; and *Basic Concepts* by Milton Bennet (whose learnings and principles form the foundation for the IDI that I took in November).

The third avenue I am taking is continuing to work with Eric Law to become a trained facilitator through his Kaleidoscope Institute, so I can have access to all of his materials and utilize them effectively. This will require me to travel to Cincinnati, Ohio in March for 3.5 days, then for one day follow ups in April, May, and June. All of this will enable me to work with the Vestry, the Baptized for Life team, and others in the parish as we strive to be a relevant, vibrant congregation in the world today. These teachings may segue with Renaissance Implementation team initiatives as well.

A fourth thing I am doing, although not as sabbatical but as continuing ed, is ongoing work with Faithwalking. I have completed Faithwalking 101 and 201 and am taking 202 and 301 this winter. 202 focuses more deeply on the Eight Concepts of Family Systems Theory and helps us engage the material more effectively in our own lives. 301 is mission focused and encourages us to apply the Faithwalking teachings to becoming more missional focused in our own lives and in the life of the congregation.

Then, from all of this training I will take a few weeks of sabbatical to synthesis all that I am learning from IDI, Eric Law, and Faithwalking into a more cohesive set of skills to help me be a more effective leader and to help this parish live into our hopes and dreams for the future. This means I will take time away to read, write, and organize what I have learned and explore how it is applicable to parish ministry.

Lastly, I will take the remaining time of my sabbatical to go away and explore the world. I've always wanted to go to Scotland, the home of my ancestors, so I may do that. Or maybe I'll go to the Holy Land, or maybe I'll travel through Europe. I'll see how much money remains and how much time I have left, and go from there.

*In Peace,
Pastor Terri*

A WORD FROM OUR CURATE

By Curate Halim

The Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord to the Temple, celebrated on February 2, it is sometimes known as Candlemas or the Feast of Purification. The Feast of Presentation is one of the major feasts in the church year. The feast commemorates the presentation of Jesus at the temple by his parents Mary and Joseph. "When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, the parents of Jesus brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.'" (Luke 22: 2-23), which is the time required by the purification of women in Lev 12:6-8. "When the time of her purification is completed, whether for a son or daughter, she shall bring to the priest at the entrance of the Tent of the LORD's presence a one-year-old lamb for a burnt offering and a pigeon or a dove for a sin offering."

The celebration of this feast dates to the fourth century through what came to us from the sermons of the Eastern Church Fathers, such as St. Cyril of Jerusalem, and St. John Chrysostom. After the mid-6th century, Pope Gelasius I (CE 492-496) contributed to the spread of the celebration throughout Europe.

The Feast carried with it a tradition of its own, the of blessing candles. The Feast of the Presentation, also known as Candlemas, is also a day for blessing candles; the candles used in the procession on this day and the candles that will

be used throughout the liturgical year, candles to be given to the congregation after the liturgy.

The use of candles in the Christian Liturgy dates to the first century. The believers immediately saw it as a symbol of Christ, who said of himself in the Gospel of St. John, "I am the light of the world" (Jn 12: 8).

The candle symbolizes Christ in this memorial because of what Simeon said about Christ: "He is the light of the nations." (Lk 22:32) The candles in this spiritual light, which illuminates the conscience of the believers and their minds from the divine lights.



Icon of the Presentation of Jesus by Anonymous,
Public Domain, [Wikimedia Commons](#)

St. Anselm (1033-1109), Archbishop of Canterbury, speaking about the mystery of this day, asks us to consider three aspects of the blessed candles. He says, "The wax of the candles signifies the virginal flesh of the Divine Infant, the wick figures His soul, and the flame His divinity."

The Book of Occasional Services (a companion volume to The Book of Common Prayer), offers several blessings specific to seasons and feast days. It does not, however, offer a blessing specific

to the Feast of the Presentation, a major feast in the liturgical year. The following prayer is found on page 54

O God, source of all light, today you revealed to the aged Simeon your light which enlightens the nations. Fill our hearts with the light of faith, that we who bear these candles may walk in the path of goodness, through Jesus Christ the Light of the World. Amen.

BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK FUNDRAISING DINNER MARCH 5

By Karen Beck

Blessings in a Backpack is a program that Christ Church participates in along with other churches and organizations in the Dearborn community. The program provides Dearborn schoolchildren at risk of hunger with food for each weekend throughout the school year. The program currently serves over 220 students in 6 Dearborn elementary schools. The Renaissance Team for Strengthening Community Relationships is sponsoring a dinner on Shrove Tuesday to raise needed funding for Blessings in a Backpack. This is a community wide dinner and will be publicized to the other churches and organizations who participate in the program along with local Dearborn schools. In addition to raising needed funds for the program we hope to raise awareness in the congregation and throughout the community about the Blessings in a Backpack program. Please see the promotional flyer in this Courier for details on the dinner.

In addition to the dinner, we are asking the congregation to consider donating some of the food items used by Blessings in a Backpack. We will be collecting the following items on designated Sundays prior to the fundraiser:

- February 17: Boxes of single serving instant oatmeal packets (not single serving cups)
- February 24: Peanut butter; 16 oz. or smaller; in plastic jars only
- March 3: Boxed macaroni and cheese (7.25 oz.)

We hope to see you at the fundraiser on March 5!

A NOTE FROM OUR INTERN

By Mitch Yudasz

A couple of weeks ago, an impromptu group wound up gathering at the door of my office after the 10 am service. The topic of discussion was "Mitch's stoles." Discussion turned into a show and tell session on all the deacon stoles that I have hanging in the closet. I explained to everyone the difference between a deacon stole and a priest stole. It was a fun discussion, and brought up some great questions. As Terri discussed the Sunday after my ordination, it's been several years since a deacon has served at Christ Church (I think Mary Jane Peck was the last,) and then the deacons have been "Transitional Deacons." A transitional deacon is someone on the track to be ordained a priest. Under canon law, the person must serve as a deacon for exactly six months prior to being ordained a priest. A "Vocational Deacon" is called to remain a deacon for the entirety of their vocation. Then the question of the various colors came up, followed by a suggestion of a newsletter article on all of this.

You'll notice the various stoles that I wear are draped over my left shoulder, cross on a diagonal in the front and back, then connected or tied at my right hip, with two strips hanging down (one toward the front and one the back.) The stole worn by deacons is the most recognizable

symbol of the deacon. Those in my office noticed some of the unique handmade stoles that I have such as the one that I wore at Christmas, the "children stole", or several of the stoles in various colors that I have.

Generally you will notice that colors change throughout the year following the liturgical calendar. These "liturgical colors" signify the place where we are in the church year from Advent to Pentecost.

WHITE - utilized for Christmas, Easter and other "feasts" or festival days. In addition white is also used for marriages, baptisms, funerals and certain ordinations.

PURPLE/VIOLET - Signifies penance and sacrifice - Is used for Lent and in some churches during Advent. During Lent, unbleached linen may also be used.

BLUE - Preparation and hope - Used during Advent at Christ Church and many other churches.

RED - Palm Sunday, Holy Week, the day of Pentecost, and at some ordinations.

GREEN - Used during Epiphany and the "Ordinary Time" after Pentecost.

VESTRY HAPPENINGS: FROM THE RECORDING SECRETARY

By Nicholas Bell

January has been a busy month for Vestry here at Christ Church; approving the 2019 budget, the Annual meeting, transitioning Vestry members and appointing the Officers of the Vestry.

Your Vestry spent the morning of January 12th, 2019 working with the Treasurer to review full year 2018 Finances and to agree and approve the 2019 budget. In summary: 2018 income was about 95% of budget (a shortfall of \$13,176). 2018 expenses were also lower than budget (by \$7,113), which resulted in a full year deficit of \$31,158. Vestry gave approval to fund the net deficit (\$20,776 - after applying cash carried over from 2017) by withdrawing from the Endowment Fund. The approved 2019 budget calls for income of \$286,513 and expenses of \$318,879 for a budgeted deficit of \$32,366. The details of 2018 income and expenses and the 2019 budget were presented by the Treasurer during the January 13th Adult Forum 13 and were also included in the 152nd Annual Report.

At the 152nd Annual Meeting on January 27th, 2019. Revd. Terri Pilarski thanked outgoing Vestry members (Carolyn Blackmore, Diana Brehob, Selia Danes and Denis Kirchoff)

for their service. The meeting nominated and approved a motion for new Vestry members as follows: Jean Angel, Darrell Donakowski, Chris Ventura (three-year terms) and Nick Bell (one year, to complete the term vacated by Dennis Kirchoff's resignation for health reasons). The first meeting of the 2019 Vestry followed the Annual Meeting and at this 'organizational' meeting Vestry agreed and approved the Officers of the Vestry as follows: Kevin Green will continue as Treasurer; Senior Warden, Nick Bell; Junior Warden, Lynn Becker; Clerk, Matt Sallman. The work of the Vestry will continue with its retreat on February 1st and 2nd, 2019.

FINANCIAL CORNER

By Kevin Green, Treasurer

12/31/2018	2018 ACTUAL	2018 BUDGET	2019 BUDGET
INCOME	\$272,905.71	\$286,082.00	\$286,513.00
EXPENSE	\$304,063.70	\$311,177.11	\$318,879.00
NET*	(\$31,157.99)	(\$25,095.11)	(\$32,366.00)

***Before application of 2017 carryover cash of \$10,382.**

BFL, NOT NFL

By Caroline Antonuccio

You just gotta love autocorrect! I'm here to tell you about BFL (Baptized For Life) but my computer thinks that I want to tell you about NFL! Now that I have your attention, let me explain BFL.

Baptized For Life (BFL) is an initiative of Virginia Theological Seminary that received a Lily Foundation grant to help congregants deepen their sense of purpose through the concept and teachings of Baptism. Theologically, Baptism is understood as the ritual that defines one as a Christian and brings one into the Christian faith community. The Baptismal Covenant is found in the Episcopal Book of Common Prayer (page 304-305 for the Covenant). Lisa Kimball, a professor at Virginia Theological Seminary, wrote the grant that is leading the BFL program development and reached out to dioceses to find churches to participate in the program. Christ Church was invited into BFL by Vicki Hesse, Director of the Whitaker Institute, because of Halim Shukair's position as Curate and his charge by Bishop Gibbs to work with Arabic speaking Christians in the area. Although developing a relationship with Arabic Christians was the considering criteria for our invitation into the program, the BFL team at Christ Church is encouraged to pray about the project and discern how we can best deepen our discipleship as followers of Jesus and faith in God with BFL.

We are a committee of four, with Terri and Halim to guide and advise us. The criteria for being on the committee was pretty simple: two long term church members and two newer members. Currently, our committee consists of Caroline Antonuccio, Darryl Donakowski, Pete Kenney, and Stephanie Mulkern.

We have been working together since September, have had 5 meetings with our mentor, Rev. Deacon Maureen Hagen. With Maureen, we have participated in 3 webinars and are working our way through the basic materials to help us determine our project. The project will last about 5 years and will be funded through the VTS grant. Once the committee has determined a project focus, we will write a grant proposal and will receive funding to help us advance the project in the parish. Our goal is to have the project defines this spring and the grant written shortly thereafter.

In addition to our ongoing efforts with our mentor, several committee members will attend formation conferences in May of each year. Our committee members will be joined by people from the other 21 churches participating in BFL in the Episcopal Church.

Please pray for our guidance in determining a project that will impact, for the good, our church, our community, and, ultimately, our world.

VESTRY REFLECTION

MY MINI SABBATICAL, PART 2

By Barbara Hall

In November I wrote about my yearly 3 day retreat. People and schedules change and I found myself say "Oh, I can write the article for the February Courier!" So, I made my usual arrangements, mail to be picked up, appointment for my housemate (the cat) to board at the vets. Found out he had to have minor surgery, which didn't help my emotional state of mind at the beginning of the retreat. But I was calm when I arrived at the Columbiere Center on Thursday, January 17th, even though I was over an hour late to be a greeter! (Roads were good, just a lot of traffic, all going my way.)

In part one, I mentioned that Rev. Maryjane Peck would be our presenter this year—subject: Sharing Our Stories. This lady sure spent a goodly portion of her life going to classes, doing social work, moving around our country, experiencing God in various situations. Doors opened, doors closed, until one day—God announced to Maryjane: "I want you to become an Episcopal priest." Well she was flabbergasted!

With all the background that she has accumulated she had a good beginning to enter seminary.

Maryjane had incorporated her progress to the priesthood a bit at a time during our 4 sessions (1 Thursday evening 2 on

Friday; and a final on Saturday morning). Maryjane enlisted our Chaplin Rev. Susan Williams and members of the ECW board to hand out papers describing what our stories should cover. Not everybody had to share, unless they wished to do so. But it was such a good, friendly group, I found myself volunteering most of my stories, and I am basically a shy person! Since we are to pack up and vacate our rooms by 10:30am, our final session at 10:45 was late in starting. By this time the group was all wound up, and not looking forward to the drive home on snowy, icy roads. The 4th session did leave me a bit confused, it was rushed through. But the over all retreat was exceptional; Maryjane was an excellent presenter.

I did walk the easy labyrinth this year early on Friday evening after our healing service in the chapel.

It took 2 hours driving 25-30 mph for 40 miles to pick up the cat. Arrived at the vets at 2:50 (they close at 3pm!) Tiger (my cat) scolded me the rest of the way home—3 miles!

Looking forward to the 2020 retreat! Come on CECD—join me next year!

Mac n' Cheese Dinner Fundraiser for



BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK

Who will feed the kids this weekend?

*100% of donations benefit Dearborn Blessings in a Backpack
Suggested Donation:*

\$8 Adults • \$3 Child 6-12 • 5 & Under Free

**Tuesday
March 5**

**5:00 pm
to
7:00 pm**

**Christ
Episcopal
Church**

**120 N. Military, Dearborn MI 48124
(corner of Military and Cherry Hill)**

*Dinner includes: mac n' cheese (gluten free/vegan option), beef
meatballs, salad, homemade desserts & choice of beverage*



Christ Episcopal Church



Cordially invites you to the

Newer Parishioners Breakfast Mixer

**Saturday, February 9, 2019
10:00 am to 11:30 am**

We will meet in the Lounge

*Enter at the Chapel Entrance, the lounge is on the left
side of the hall, past the Chapel*

This is an informal event for our Newer
Members to meet each other and learn about
& discuss the Church and its missions.

Light breakfast and Beverages will be served

Children are welcome - A small craft table will be set up

Please R.S.V.P by Wed, February 6, 2019

To Erin in the office via email or phone:
office@christchurchdearborn.org
313.565.8450



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

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY

Feb 1-2 Vestry Retreat
Feb 2 League of Women Voters 10am
Feb 2 Pellegrino Party
Feb 4 Scout Leaders 7pm
Feb 4 Listening Group 7pm
Feb 5 Scout PLC Meeting 6:30pm
Feb 5 AAUW 7:30pm
Feb 9 Newcomers Mix & Mingle 10am
Feb 9 Men's Group 10am
Feb 9 Audrey Laude Memorial 1pm
Feb 10 Blessings in a Backpack Forum
Feb 11 Chapel Day Board 6:30pm
Feb 15 League of Women Voters 8:30am
Feb 16 Men's Group 10am
Feb 18 Listening Group 7pm
Feb 21 Pray,Fast,Act
Feb 23 Men's Group 10am

MARCH

Mar 2 League of Women Voters 10am
Mar 4 Scout Leaders 7pm
Mar 5 Mac n. Cheese Dinner 5pm
Mar 5 Scout PLC Meeting 6:30pm
Mar 5 AAUW 7:30pm
Mar 9 Men's Group 10am
Mar 18 Chapel Day Board 6:30pm
Mar 16 Men's Group 10am
Mar 21 Pray,Fast,Act
Mar 21 League of Women Voters 7pm
Mar 23 Men's Group 10am

APRIL

Apr 1 Scout Leaders 7pm
Apr 2 Scout PLC Meeting 6:30pm
Apr 2 AAUW 7:30pm
Apr 6 League of Women Voters 10am
Apr 11 League of Women Voters 7pm
Apr 13 Men's Group 10am
Apr 15 Chapel Day Board 6:30pm
Apr 20 Men's Group 10am
Apr 20 League of Women Voters 10am
Apr 20 Men's Group 10am
Apr 21 Pray,Fast,Act
Apr 25 Chapel Day Painting Barn

MARCH COURIER SUBMISSIONS

Submit news and articles for the March issue of the Courier by February 21st to office@christchurchdearborn.org. Please add Courier to the subject line.

February Celebrations

BIRTHDAYS

Oliver Angel	FEB 1
Nancy Kreager	FEB 1
Kayla Lewis	FEB 2
Diana Brehob	FEB 3
Paul Gray	FEB 3
Pat Snyder	FEB 5
Katie Patterson	FEB 8
Nick Bell	FEB 12
Christopher Ventura	FEB 12
Terri Pilarski	FEB 15
Richard Audi	FEB 19
Claudine Bauer	FEB 19
Stephanie Mulkern	FEB 20
Margaret Kirk	FEB 21
Phyllis Solberg	FEB 21

John Logan	FEB 23
Rosemary Manseau	FEB 25
Caroline Serfass	FEB 27
Charles Beck	FEB 29

ANNIVERSARIES

Robert & Lisa McCallum FEB 4 (2)

HOMEMADE DESSERTS NEEDED FOR FUNDRAISER

For the Blessings in a Backpack Fundraiser Dinner on March 5, we will be offering homemade desserts as a part of the dinner. We are seeking donations from the congregation for these desserts. So, all you bakers and wanna-be bakers, please look through your recipes for those especially delicious desserts! Please contact Selia Danes, Pat Snyder, Nick Bell or Chris Burkhalter if you can donate. Thanks!

NEW VESTRY MEMBER BIOS



JEAN ANGEL

My name is Jean Angel. I have attended Christ Episcopal since 2000 with my husband Andy and our sons Daniel and Oliver. We have participated in Christian education as Sunday school and prayer room teachers for 14 years. Our family is active in Scouting with Troop 1147; Andy serving as Scoutmaster and I represent the church on the troop committee. We are grateful for Christ Episcopal Church's support for Scouts, League of Women Voters, Alcoholics Anonymous, Chapel Day, the food pantry and other community outreach programs. I am a physical therapist at Beaumont Wayne and our children attend Dearborn High School and DCMST program.

I am interested in serving in the Vestry because I find spiritual growth and community formation opportunities here at the church and want to support the church and its mission. I value the people that I know in the church and look forward to working to keep the church community strong and active serving the greater Dearborn community.



NICHOLAS (NICK) BELL

(1 year Term)

I have been elected to Vestry for one year to complete Dennis Kirchoff's term, following his resignation from Vestry. We will miss Dennis' passion and energy as Warden and an active member of Vestry; if elected I will do my best to fill his shoes. I am the outgoing Recording Secretary of the Vestry and have served since September 2014 and was elected Parish Clerk in January 2016. Christ Episcopal Church is special place for me; our family first participated in worship here in Fall 1993, when we moved to Michigan from UK, and found a welcoming and friendly congregation. We have raised our three children in this church family. It is important to me that we serve God, each other and our community, and act as faithful trustees of this 152 year-old Episcopal parish to ensure that we leave a sound legacy for individuals and families who have not yet come to join us. Over the years, I have served in various capacities: a member and former Co-Chair of the Property Commission; a member of the Finance & Invested Funds Commission; a Prayer Room teacher and leader of the J2A Youth group. At present I am an Usher and a Lector. I am excited about the opportunity to join the Vestry.



DARRELL DONAKOWSKI

My name is Darrell Donakowski. I have only been a member of Christ Church for a bit over a year but have (infrequently) attended services for a few years. For the

last eight years, I have owned a home on Sheridan, but have been part of the Dearborn community for over 25 years. I was employed by the University of Michigan for 21 years; first, as a data archivist and then as the Study Director for the American National Election Studies) (electionstudies.org). I am currently the Precinct Delegate to the Democratic Party for my neighborhood (Precinct 35).

Years ago, I was a member of St. Stephen Roman Catholic Church in SW Detroit. I was a liturgical minister and for two years served on the Parish Council. I have truly enjoyed being a member of Christ Church, and now sit on the Baptized for Life Committee. I appreciate how welcoming the Church has been to me and have made many new friends here. I also feel that I have received more spiritual guidance and have learned much more here, than in any other part of my journey. If you have any questions for or about me, please let me know.



CHRIS VENTURA

Hello... My name is Chris Ventura (the one on the right in the picture). I'd like to join the Vestry to

help with the behind the scenes activities that help Christ Church feed people in mind, body, and spirit, while at the same time bettering myself in my spiritual journey. I believe my faith and background working alongside diverse individuals from the shop floor to the executive team has given me experience to tackle the challenges that we as a church community face. My wife Leah (left), our son Llewyn (middle), and our dog (not pictured, a beagle named Enzo, who we rescued in January 2014 from the Dearborn Animal Shelter) have been members of Christ Church for almost 4 years. I graduated from the University of Michigan – Dearborn with a Bachelor of Business Administration with an Accounting concentration. For the past 4 years I have worked as a Cost Analyst at Bayloff Stamped Products (a metal stamper and fabricator) in Belleville, MI. Previously I spent nearly 10 years working in various accounting and financial analysis roles at the Dearborn steel mill, Severstal North America (now AK Steel). When time allows, we enjoy travelling to Northport (a little town in Northern Michigan) exploring hiking trails and kayaking. A fun little fact about me is that I really enjoy shoveling snow, just something about the peace and quiet and the sense of accomplishment seeing a cleared driveway and sidewalk.



MUSIC NEWS

By Diana Brehob



Musician Search and Choir Matters

The Music Search Committee has advertised the open position for an Organist/Choir Director in a number of places. While the search is being conducted, we are moving forward through Lent arranging supply musicians and, currently have musicians scheduled through Easter. Carolyn Blackmore has offered to serve as an interim choir director. Carolyn led choir rehearsals several times last Lent following Sean's departure. The choir very much appreciated her enthusiasm and experience and is glad that Carolyn has agreed to take this on. Rehearsals with Carolyn commence on Sunday, February 10th. As always, new members are encouraged to sing with the choir. If you've thought about joining, now would be a good time as the choir starts practicing repertoire for Lent through Easter.

LISTENING GROUP

By Matt Sallman

I have heard (I missed the Annual Meeting for the first time in years) that the Listening Group was mentioned at the meeting and many didn't know what it was. I have made a few announcements about it, but unless you experience one it may be hard to understand what I am talking about. Therefore I have scheduled a Forum on February 17th to conduct a sample listening group meeting after church. I will setup the stereo we use and present a cross section of the music that we listen to – hint it is just about anything. We rotate the presentation, so anyone can present the music that moves THEM. I hope to see many of you there. We will conduct normal sessions on Monday Feb 4th & 18th in the Resource Room at 7:00 PM.

ANNUAL MEETING PHOTOS



League of Women Voters Dearborn-Dearborn Heights
Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy



Meet Your Elected Officials

Wednesday, February 13, 2019
Merci Café
3371 Greenfield (at Rotunda)
5:00 – 7:00 pm

Join your neighbors for an informal open house to meet your elected officials, get your copy of the League's 2019 *Who's Who: Your Elected Officials*, and celebrate the League's 99th anniversary of its founding on February 14, 1920.

Local elected officials from Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, and Inkster will be invited to join us at the event. This is an opportunity to meet our local policy makers, face-to-face, in a casual environment. It is a chance for our office holders to meet YOU! Please join us!

League of Women Voters Dearborn/Dearborn Heights
www.lwvddh.org <https://www.facebook.com/lwvddh.org>
313-278-6476 info@lwvddh.org





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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
Darryl Donakowski
Barbara Hall
Michael Mroczyk
Holly Schanz
James Thornton
Chris Ventura