

the COURIER

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Holy Week and Easter as a Virtual Reality

It's a whole new world, living in isolation, holding worship through our computers and telephones. We are four weeks into this reality, with six or more weeks to go. The staff and I had to rearrange how we work three times in one week as the directives from the Governor and Bishop increased in intensity every few days. Now, as we settle into a kind of routine, I finally have a plan for Holy Week and Easter worship services. This plan includes online worship and opportunities for you to create worship at home. If you haven't already, you will be receiving an email with bulletins for online and home worship soon.

Here is what we are going to do:

Palm Sunday, April 5: One on-line worship at 10am. This will be an adapted Morning Prayer service to include Palm Sunday with hymns. A second bulletin will include worship ideas for you to do at home for Palm Sunday.

Palm Sunday will conclude with Compline, via Zoom, at 9pm.

Monday-Wednesday, April 6-8: Morning Prayer at 9am, Children's Chapel at 9:30. Both of these are available through Zoom and Facebook live. Compline at 9pm is Zoom only.

Maundy Thursday, April 9: 9am Morning Prayer with a focus on Maundy Thursday themes of foot-washing and the last supper. No Children's Chapel at 9:30, join us at 9am instead.

- Additional at home worship ideas for Maundy Thursday will be in the *Holy Week At Home* bulletin.
- The Altar of Repose: you are invited to sign up for an hour of prayer at the Altar of Repose beginning at 8pm on Maundy Thursday and con-

cluding at 11am on Good Friday. Email Pastor Terri at: terri@christchurchdearborn.org to sign up for an hour long slot. You can spend your hour in prayer one of two ways: log on to the Christ Church Facebook page and click on the pre-recorded video of "The Garden of Repose" and pray with that video. It will show the altar with bread and wine, candles, and palm trees, and some gentle music playing. Turn off your sound if you don't want to hear the music. Pray with Jesus through this night.

Good Friday, April 10: Noon – call in on Zoom or participate on the Christ Church Facebook Live for a noon Good Friday service including prayers and a reflection on the passion. Other options for Good Friday are included in the *Holy Week at Home* bulletin.

Holy Saturday, April 11: The Great Vigil of Easter will be created by a number of churches around the diocese using Zoom. Everyone is invited to log in to zoom and celebrate the Great Vigil. Time is still being determined, and a link to a special zoom call will be made available by the diocese, look for that information.

Easter Day, April 12: One service, 10am – a special Easter Morning Prayer service with music.

In Peace,

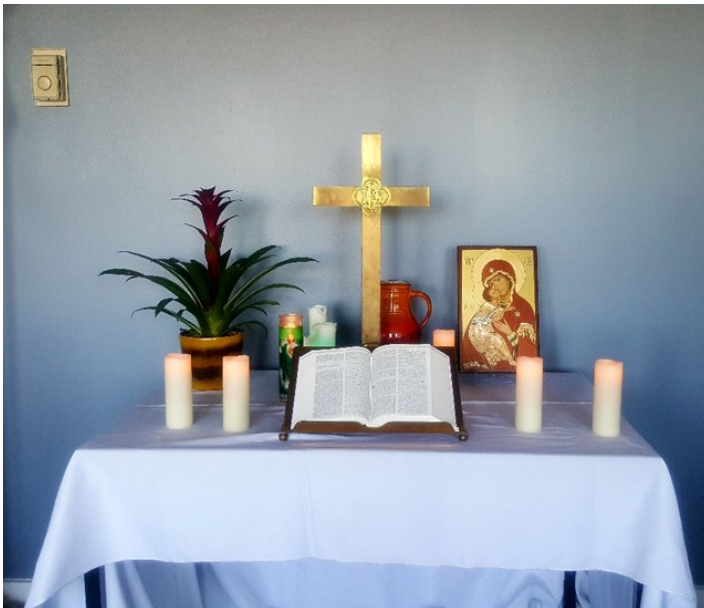
Pastor Terri

A WORD FROM OUR CURATE

By Curate Halim Shukair

One of the things I noticed during this period of lockdown because of COVID-19 is that, even with all the changes we made to our life the liturgy, praying through Face book and Zoom, I didn't miss what we omitted or the way we used to do it. I missed people who weren't there in person worshipping with me. And I found myself being more intentional about what we were doing and more attentive to how to reach out and be present from distance. The changes allowed for and even demanded a different type of presence., telephone calls, communicating through WhatsApp and Zoom.

The changes also allowed me to experience a different way of prayer and to be creative on how to bring the Good News in this time of troubles and uncertainties. The changes also brought new changes to my apartment. As I'm not allowed to be in person in the church building, my dining table has been converted to House Altar. My living room became like a hermitage. Also, a small corner of my living room became a small office.



Like most of you, my life has changed, and I believe the life of the church will change forever. The Coronavirus will divide our time into pre-Corona and post-Corona. In this change it is our time to start nature our soul and body to practice spiritual as well as physical self-care, there is no time like the present and we need to take this opportunity

to change what we used to do as “ordinary” daily work.

After this period will end the Church will not be the same, especially relating to connection with the people and the community. I believe the Church was lazy only depending on Sundays and Feasts worships and know the key question is how we are changing in this?

When I look at all that has changed about our life and world; when I acknowledge the uncertainties of our future; when I read the statistics of cases and deaths; when I think about those who are losing jobs or income; when I wonder how long it will before we again greet each other with hugs, kisses, and handshakes — I don't want more information or answers about COVID-19. And I don't want more instructions on what to do or not do.

I want to hear words of hope. I want to be reminded that Jesus is in our hearts, minds, and body. I want to be reassured that all shall be well. I want to immerse myself in the hope of resurrection and I want the Season of Easter to be real so I will nature from it and let into me. And I am sure you want the same things as I do.

My prayers and my thoughts are with you all my beloved brothers and sisters. So, I want you to do something. Lets this time be our real celebration of Easter. On Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday, dress as you are going to church. celebrate at home with family or through facetime, phone, skype, and Zoom. Let's decorate our hearts and our homes. The stone was rolled away from Jesus's tomb 2020 years ago. The stone of despair and sickness will roll away from our country and the world.

I wish you all Happy Easter.

Christ is risen from the dead, By death trampling down upon death, And to those in the tombs, He has granted life. (Byzantine Easter Hymn)

FINANCE UPDATE IN THESE TROUBLED TIMES

By Kevin Green, Treasurer

While probably not top-of-mind for most of you as we try to weather the COVID-19 outbreak and related circumstances, I thought it would be good for you to know that Christ Church is still active and functioning, albeit using different tools than usual. Terri has been broadcasting Morning Prayer, Children's Worship and Compline, as well as the Sunday services, on Facebook Live and via Zoom, and she and others are exploring other ways to stay virtually connected. In addition, we continue to feed families and children through the Food Pantry and Blessings in a Backpack. We are blessed that we are able to do this under the circumstances thanks to the past and present generosity of our parishioners.

Speaking of generosity and finances, we were right on budget through the end of February, also known as the period prior to the Governor's (and Bishop's) Stay Home, Stay Safe Order. Since that time, our income has dropped off significantly although our expenses have not. Therefore, I am asking everyone to consider how they, to the extent practical, can continue to support Christ Church financially. My suggestions are for each of us to

pay our pledges (or more, if possible) through one of the following options:

- Use the Online Giving Option on the home page of the Church's website. This is the best and most efficient method.
- Set up your pledge for automatic payment through your bank's online bill-paying system. As they say, "Set it and forget it."
- Mail a check for the entire month of March (and again for April) to the Church.

While we understand that giving to the Church may not be possible for everyone at this time, we encourage you to do whatever you can to help us continue our ministry at the corner of Cherry Hill and Military (and beyond). Please contact Terri or me if you need assistance with any of the above options. With your help, we will weather this storm and come out even stronger on the other end. In the meantime, please contact Terri or the Church Office if you require pastoral care or other assistance.

Be safe. Be well.

April Celebrations

BIRTHDAYS

Anna Behm	APR 1
Chris Burkhalter	APR 4
Peter Kenney	APR 4
Mary Jo Durivage	APR 6
Edith Mabande	APR 10
Jason Patterson	APR 11
Daniel Angel	APR 12
Gene Lewis	APR 14
Richard Polcyn	APR 14
Virginia Ebling	APR 15
Julia Garris	APR 19

James Thornton	APR 19
Hardy Shelton	APR 21
Daniel Stanis	APR 24
Llewyn Ventura	APR 24
Ron Juergens	APR 28
Suzanne Kery	APR 28
Michael Hipp	APR 29
Vivienne Ross	APR 29

ANNIVERSARIES

Paulsen Vandeventer & Caroline Serfass	MAR 6 (25)
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MAY COURIER SUBMISSIONS

Submit news and articles for the May issue of the Courier by April 24th to office@christchurchdearborn.org. Please add Courier to the subject line.

VESTRY REFLECTION

By Stephanie Mulkern

“Make a joyful noise unto the Lord,”

Psalms 100

One of the last Sundays I was in church Carolyn and Manuela did a musical offering on the piano and recorder. It was beautiful. I later found out that the recorder Manuela was playing once belonged to a very good friend of mine, Rev. Bruce Campbell. Bruce was the associate here at Christ Church under Rev. Ward Clabuesch. While at Christ Church and many following years, Bruce along with my husband Pat and I played music together. Pat on guitar, Bruce on recorder and I on the hammered dulcimer. We played many times in church. When I found out Manuela was playing the recorder that Bruce once played in the same setting it felt like the music had come full circle and somehow connected us all. Music has a way of doing that.

While we have been shut in because of the Corona Virus, I have seen many posts on FaceBook of musical offerings, choirs that have come together on social media, families singing, people playing instruments and many concerts made available online. I have found that during these stressful times music can lift my spirit.

Being at home so much has given Pat and I a little more time to work on some music. Pat will work out something on guitar while I work on the vocals. Then we put it all together and work out the kinks. It gives us each a way to be creative and to feel that we have accomplished something as well as spending quality time together.

Music can bring people together, lift our spirits, serve as a creative outlet and much more. It touches the rhythms of our everyday lives in many ways. It is an important part of our worship, weddings, funerals and celebrations. Sometimes the first sounds a newborn infant hears is that of a lullaby lovingly sung by a parent. During these stressful times let music lift you up. Sing in the shower, turn on the radio, pick up your guitar, play piano, make “a joyful noise unto the Lord.”

MUSIC MOMENT

By Ally Barone

By now, I’m sure everyone has seen images or videos of Italians joining together in song from their balconies during the ongoing COVID-19 crisis. While I find this particularly powerful as an Italian and a musician, I believe this story strikes everyone on a humanitarian level. During this difficult time of physical isolation, we have to find ways to maintain a sense of community. Everyone finds this in their own way, but many find it through music. Whether it’s listening to music that brings back good memories or singing with neighbors across the street, music brings people together and is a light in a dark place. I’ve been enjoying daily outdoor walks to a new playlist or soundtrack every day. Many of the songs I’ve been listening to are Christian Rock songs I learned at Duke Youth Academy, a Christian formation program I attended in the summer of 2016 through Duke Divinity School. This February, they announced that the program would be ending this year, which has sparked a lot of reflection about the friendships I made in Christ as well as the music, lessons, and Bible stories I learned. The song “Oceans” by Hillsong UNITED has been with me throughout Lent. I had actually chosen it for the choir to perform on March 15th, our first Sunday of online worship. While we were not able to share “Oceans” as a choir, I think it is still a powerful piece with a certain reflective quality that strikes

me as very Lenten but maintains relevance through these uncertain times. I would like to still be able to share it virtually, so here is a link to a YouTube recording: <https://bit.ly/39Epuek>. I would encourage you to also, over these coming weeks, intentionally share a piece of music with someone who you have not been able to see.



SHARING STORIES PROJECT

PHYLLIS SOLBERG

By Carolyn Blackmore and Lisa McCallum

Phyllis was born in Cherokee, North Carolina in 1928, the oldest of five children. During the Depression, her mother, a white, college-educated teacher from Missouri had found a job on the reservation. There she met Phyllis' father, a handsome civil engineer, half Lakota Sioux and half white. Her father had grown up on reservations but always felt a 'marginalized' man – neither accepted by whites nor Native Americans. The couple had to move to New Mexico to marry. Because of her father's work, in munitions, the family moved around but Phyllis spent many childhood years on a reservation near Pierre, South Dakota. Family life was not easy, as her father also suffered bouts of alcoholism.

Phyllis' great, great grandfather was Chief Solomon Iron Nation of the South Dakota Sioux. According to family stories, he became an Episcopalian, recognizing that assimilation and education would be vital to the survival of Native peoples. He was one of the first Chiefs to be buried, rather than receiving a traditional funeral.

In recent years, Phyllis and her brother Steve have spent time and energy restoring the plots and monuments at the tribal gravesite in Lower Brule, where Iron Nation ancestors are buried. It is now on the National Register of Historic Places: <https://www.nps.gov/nr/feature/places/14000032.htm>

During her childhood, Phyllis learned how to fit in, and adapted herself in order to be accepted by other students. She always felt her sister, the only sibling who looked Native American, suffered from much more overt racism. Although her father spoke Lakota, only one of her brothers learnt the Native language.

Phyllis left home for Art School, but changed to Social Work, gaining her BA from University of South Dakota. While there, she met Lincoln Solberg, a medical student; he became an Obstetric Gynecologist. They married in 1949, moving to Philadelphia, California, and eventually Detroit and Dearborn.

Phyllis and Lincoln had three children: Sydney, Byrne and Kirstin. All were confirmed and married at Christ Church Dearborn. Kirstin died young aged 36.

Phyllis continued using her Social Worker skills as a volunteer at places like Vista Maria. In 1978, age 50 she went back to school, receiving her MA from Wayne State. She had her own private practice focusing on families, and later was bookkeeper and office manager at her husband's clinic. When Lincoln retired, they moved to Florida.

The family attended Christ Church from 1956, when they moved to Dearborn. Phyllis was one of a group of Christ Church women who volunteered at various projects and charities in Detroit, e.g. Crossroads and Trinity Soup Kitchen. She is especially proud of working with Carolyn Dunlap and Ruth Pink, setting up a pre-school at the Sunshine Community School in Detroit. This group of women painted and refurbished the building, gathered the needed supplies and resources, then volunteered its teachers and staff. Phyllis also served on the Vestry and other commissions at Christ Church.

Phyllis is a remarkable woman; elegant and stoical.

When she started experiencing leg issues around age 50, she took up running. She became a marathon runner. She especially remembers going to Greece and completing the original 'marathon' from Marathon to Athens.

Phyllis may have switched career from Art to Social Work, but she still enjoys art, especially mural painting. And every year she paints windows for Christmas.

Phyllis is very proud of her native American heritage, re-telling stories she heard from her grandfather. She feels it is very important for individuals to know the families they come from, and to that end, instigated whole family gatherings every two years.





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The Rev. Terri Pilarski, Rector
Lynn Becker, Sr. Warden
Dale Taylor, Jr. Warden
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Matthew Sallman, Clerk

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