December 2017 – January 2018

ST. CHRISTOPHER BY-THE-RIVER

Dear Friends,

As you read this, we will have begun "The Bible Challenge" to read the Bible in a year. Over fifty members of St. Christopher's have made the commitment to go on this journey together.

If you would like to join the party, it's not too late! We ordered extra books, which are available for $12 in the parish Office. Call Mary to reserve yours now.

"Day One" of the program began on Monday, November 27th. Every Thursday evening at 6:00 and every Sunday morning at 9:00 in the Guild Room, there will be an opportunity to share your thoughts and experiences of that week's readings. If you are not able to join us in person, I encourage you to keep a journal of your responses to each day's reading – even if only a sentence or two. Remember that it takes time to establish new patterns and habits – be gentle with yourself as you go through these early weeks. The length of the daily readings is not overwhelming so stick with it and before you know it, you will automatically reach for your Bible along with that all-important morning cup of coffee or tea!

As a denomination, we Episcopalians are not known for being able to cite chapter and verse when it comes to the Scriptures. Yet it is this church, our church, that holds **reason** co-equal with scripture and tradition in understanding and practicing our Christian faith. A popular saying about the Episcopal Church is, "We don't ask you to leave your mind at the door as you enter the Church". So please – don't feel intimidated by the idea of reading the entire Bible in a year. You can do it! This is an opportunity to, as a recent collect put it, "read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest" the scriptures of the Old Testament – so deeply known and loved by Jesus, as well as the scriptures of the New Testament, which began to be written for our benefit within the lifetimes of Jesus' closest disciples.

During Advent, we look back in time, remembering the long waiting for Messiah to come and save God's people. We also look forward, remembering that Messiah Jesus will come again. As we go through The Bible Challenge together this year, may we all be blessed by God's guiding Holy Spirit to grow in our knowledge and love of the Lord. December 3rd is the Church's New Year and so I wish you all a New Year of joy – and God's Peace.

In Christ's Love,

Ann+

Bellwether Farm Dedication as a part of Convention Weekend.

Vestry Minutes from October 17, 2017

MINUTES

By Irene McMullen

Present: Mother Ann, John Irwin, Charley Marston, Mary Murray, Elise Bennett, David Dickenson, Irene McMullen, Debbie Cole (Guest Parishioner)

The meeting came to order at 6:00 PM. Mother Ann led a prayer.

Debbie Cole gave a presentation regarding priorities of the Guild. The Guild concentrates on service to women, children and families, and the inner city. Some of the programming supported by the Guild was highlighted: New Directions, Family Promise, Two Foundation and Food for the Poor. An attachment to these minutes contains further details regarding the work of the Guild. Food for the Poor and the idea of raising $3,600 to build a house with sanitation facilities was discussed. The Vestry is excited about having the Evangelism and Fellowship Committee work with the Guild on this endeavor. The Guild is starting to put some money aside for this goal. The Guild makes about $22,000 in annual donations to over 20 organizations. Debbie was thanked for speaking to the Vestry, and appreciation was shown by all regarding the efforts of our Guild.

John Irwin moved, and Elise Bennett seconded approval of the August, 2017 minutes. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

John Irwin moved, and Elise Bennett seconded approval of the September 2017 minutes. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Mother Ann spoke about additional expenses and work associated with problems regarding people putting things into toilets that have clogged them. Appropriate signs will be made for the bathrooms.

David Dickenson moved, and Irene McMullen seconded a Motion to form a Vestry Nominating Committee comprised of John Irwin, Elise Bennett, Jeff Aiken and Tom Matthews. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Charley Marston moved and David Dickenson seconded adoption of a Conflict of Interest Policy. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

David Dickenson moved, and Elise Bennett seconded approval of a Facilities Usage Policy. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

There will be a meeting of the Evangelism and Fellowship Committee within the next few weeks.

The Archive working group is organizing now as well. An archivist from the Diocese will attend a meeting.

The Village of Gates Mills was awarded a $209,747 grant for engineering and construction work on the river to shore up the bank. St. Christopher's cost share will be approximately $37,549, based upon preliminary engineering drawings. Charley Marston moved and David Dickenson seconded a Motion to authorize John Irwin to sign a Restoration Project Agreement and Environmental Covenants on behalf of the Church, in an amount not to exceed $37,549. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

The Finance and Stewardship Committee will meet in the next two weeks. David has worked on a letter to go with pledge cards for the Every Member Canvas.

Mary Murray explained that expenses for the Sunday School program and additional labor and plumbing repairs were over budget.

The total expense for the Children's Chapel is now at $15,705, which is still under budget. It looks beautiful. The expense does not yet include the cost of the rug. Heather Daly is working on getting another meeting on the working group together to select furnishings.

John Irwin reported that Nancy Irwin is working on a replacement sign for the current sign in front of the church which is rotting.

Daryl Young met with John and Charley regarding a larger elevator, which would require excavation about eighteen inches deeper than the building. Matthew Figgie has generously agreed to consider funding this project, which will be about $100,000. It will be a limited use elevator.

John Irwin moved, and Elise Bennett seconded, a motion to use income from the Organ Fund for music programming. All voted in favor. Motion carried. Mother Ann led a closing prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Senior Warden Report

By John Irwin

I am pleased to report and review what has been a very prosperous year for St. Christopher. As we look around, we see many new members attending Sunday services, with the pews being increasingly filled. I have no doubt but that these new members and attendees come to us as a result of the efforts, quality and skills of our Rector.

The growth of the parish is clearly reflected in the fact that our Sunday school program has had to expand to accommodate our younger members. Melanie and Peggy Reda along with Debbie Cole and Paulette Matthews are now guiding our children in their Christian formation.

We have also enjoyed a significantly improved financial position over the past year, due in large measure to the generosity of all of our parishioners and the diligence and efforts of the Stewardship Committee. We have also been fortunate to receive significant gifts and financial assistance from several long-standing benefactors, including the Figgie family, the Pender family, and the Hellman family.

Undoubtedly, everyone has seen and been pleased by the beautiful new Children's Chapel. This renovation gives our younger members a reverent and sacred space for their Christian development. We look forward to a formal consecration service when the Bishop's schedule will permit, sometime in 2018.

Kathy Pender has led the formation of the Stephen Ministry at St. Christopher. A number of Stephen Ministers have devoted many hours to training and discernment and those ministers, under Kathy's guidance, will be available to serve parishioners and others in times of personal need or difficulty.

Once again, the Women's Guild had two very successful Bargain Box events. A tremendous amount of work goes into organizing these sales, sorting and preparing the donations and then conducting the event itself. The Women's Guild should receive our hearty thanks for their hard work which results in significant financial assistance to multiple needy charitable organizations throughout the area. In addition, the Guild room has received new furniture and decorations through the guidance of the Women's Guild.

A review of our Fellowship and social events reveals a long list of successful gatherings including the Women's Guild presentation on Human Trafficking and number of parish events such as the annual clambake, the rally Sunday picnic and the pancake breakfast. The Fellowship committee has met to develop additional events through the coming year so we have much to look forward to.

On a wider vision, I had the opportunity to attend the 201st diocesan convention this year which was keynoted by the Presiding Bishop, The Right Reverend Michael Curry. I was immensely impressed by the character, personality, theological knowledge and preaching skill of our Presiding Bishop. I have no doubt that he will have a lasting, highly beneficial impact on the Episcopal Church at all levels, national, diocesan and local. We are very fortunate to have a man of this quality at the helm of the national church.

I look forward with great enthusiasm and confidence to 2018. Like many other parishioners, I will do my best to meet the Bible Challenge and I look forward to many good conversations with others undertaking the same project.

Finally, I wish personally to thank our Rector, our church staff, the Vestry, the Women's Guild, the many church committees and most of all, the parishioners of this wonderful church, who working together so well enable us to fulfill the mission of St. Christopher by-the-River, "Loving God, Loving Our Neighbor, Changing The World."

NEMAC Meeting Minutes from October 26, 2017

MINUTES

By Peter Batcheller

Meeting was held at Grace Episcopalian Church, Willoughby at 6pm.

1. ATTENDEES: Peter Batcheller, *St. Christopher, Gates Mills* ; Margaret Dodds, Rose Anne Lonsway, *Grace, Willoughby*; Robert Thompson, *Epiphany, Euclid*; Stephanie Knapp, *St. James*; Kate Carter, *Painesville*; Dave Markum, *St Luke's, Chardon*; Lisa O'Rear, *St. Andrews, Mentor* ; Cheryl Grey, *St. Martins*; Martha Shippy, Diane Box, *St. Peters*.
2. Minutes of July 19, 2017 were passed.
3. Treasurer Chris McCann reported that $3,864.32 is available (via an email to Nemac chair-person).
4. Looking for a new Chair person. Margaret Dodds, our current chairperson, is stepping down due to health reasons. No one present offered to take the position. Diocesan Convention requires a three year term limit for missionary officers. (Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Council Rep.).
5. Next meeting dates: 2018 ; Jan. 22 (Mon), April 24 (Tuesday), July 25 (Wed.), and October 25 (Thursday).
6. Funding requests: None yet.
7. Programs :
    a. Dave Markum gave a report on The Belize Summer Camp program.
        i. Successful Camp taught "hands on" Science programs to children in Belize.
        ii. 5 teachers from USA teamed with five teachers from Belize
        iii. St. Matthew Anglican Church School to develop lessons. Idea is that the Belize Lead Teachers will teach other Belize Teachers to help design and implement lessons.
        iv. Some of the camp program can be found on You-Tube.
        v. Eighty students were involved. Eighth grades through first grades.
        vi. ECSF also helped fund the program.
    b. Phelps Street Project :
        i. Postponed at Phase 2 due to initial lack of interest and Vanessa Clark on sabbatical.
        ii. After postponement, a lot of interest was generated in program so program will be restarted in January and Rev. Clark will be back to help with the community outreach.
        iii. There is a Budget of $25,000 for Phases 1 and 2. Phase 3 will be the documentary phase and will occur 9 months from phase 2.
        iv. Kate Carter gave the presentation to Nemac and reported that a New Initiation Grant may be available from the Diocese. Federal monies involved will require strict data requirements.
    c. Holy Cross project and Bridges out of poverty (Community Assessment) still tabled.
8. Other business:
    a. Lisa O'Rear reported that St. Andrews Church has given sanctuary to a Mexican family that resides in Painesville . Three Members in the family; one son born in the US. One son born in Mexico as infant. Mother was born in Mexico and as lived for 15(+?) years in US. Family would be split by deportation. Mother was identified at legal traffic stop as a foreign born immigrant, not a legal citizen when she had no valid Drivers License. St. Andrews Church converted a school room into living quarters. Family must remain on the grounds at all times. Lisa has indicated that it will be temporary, hopefully with a good result.
    b. Facebook: is up and running. Need to decide if it is opened or closed to public. Discussion at next meeting.
    c. Diocesan Council is looking at ways to be more interactive with mission area councils such as Nemac.
    d. Racial understanding: Resolution requiring mandatory training for racial understanding will be proposed at Diocesan convention (Lisa O'Rear). Southern Ohio already requires this for clergy. This may also include Lay ministers.
9. Some projects around the Nemac mission area:
    a. St. Andrews will host a fellowship on Saturday.
    b. St. James will have a perogi fundraiser and had a youth stay over event for last weekend.
    c. St. Peters Ashtabula will have a celebration of Peters new ministry(RECTOR).
    d. Epiphany made the TV NEWS for participation in walk against gun violence.
    e. Grace had project "little feet" a program to give vouchers for kids shoes.
    f. St. Peters will participate in a Bethlehem experience at Dillards in the mall(Ashtabula) with a book discussion.
10. Meeting closed at 7:28 PM.
11. Next Meeting Monday, January 22, 2018 at 6:00 P.M. at Grace, Willoughby.

Sessions on Loss and Grief

MINISTRY

Wednesdays, December 6, 13, 20, 6:30 PM, St. Christopher's Guild Room

Loss is an inevitable part of life and grief is a natural part of the healing process. When a person is faced with a loss, crisis or a life changing event he/she is suddenly thrust into a new world ---a world that is unfamiliar, one that can seem very daunting and at times frightening. It is a world of intense, unsettling feelings of loss, anger, depression, loneliness, fear, frustration and desperation.

There are many kinds of loss such as the loss of a loved one, the loss of health, the loss of a relationship or of a job, or the letting go of a long-held dream. Dealing with a significant loss can be one of the most difficult times in a person's lifetime.

You are invited to join Kathy Pender* who will facilitate sessions on Wednesdays from 5-6:30 pm on this topic. These sessions will conclude with a service of healing with Mother Ann Kidder on December 20th.

**Kathy Pender is a psychotherapist who has been in practice for over forty years.*

Church School

FAITH FORMATION

By Peggy Reda

It's Advent time, a time of preparation, of expectation and of reflection. Let's pause to prepare our hearts for the great love that Jesus Christ gives us each day. We remember the great gift of the son of God in the telling of the story of Christ's birth.

Pageant Rehearsal

Saturday, Dec. 9th, 10 a.m.

Pageant

Sunday, Dec. 10th – 10:15 a.m.

Please sign up on the bulletin board in the 1st floor hallway or email Peggy Reda at prseverin@aol.com or text 440-773-2518.

December Church School Schedule

Dec. 3 (1st Advent Sunday/Fair Trade Fair)
Regular Classes

Dec. 10 – Christmas Pageant
No classes. All children are invited to the Nursery after the Pageant!

Dec. 17 – Bishop's Visit/Confirmation
No Classes

Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve
No Morning Classes
Family Vespers @ 3:30 p.m.

Dec. 31 - Happy New Year!
No Classes

Regular Sunday Schedule

(Resuming January 7th)

9:00 a.m. Church School Classes for all
(Ages 4-8 in Level 1 with Mrs. Reda & Mrs. Matthews)
(Ages 9 & above in Level 2 with Mrs. Cole)

10:00 a.m. Nursery (for infants & toddlers)

UTO Thank you!

We raised **$910.69** during our fall campaign.

BONFIRE & SANTA
Polo Fields (Epping Road)
4:30 PM, December 24th

Nominating Committee

Thank you to all who have submitted names to our Nominating Committee. The Committee is now finalizing the slate of candidates to be presented at Annual Meeting.

Fair Trade Festival Sale

SUNDAY, December 3rd 9AM-1PM.

One World Shop creates social and economic opportunities for impoverished artisans across the world. Instead of competing with local artisans for a geographically limited customer base, they are able to cooperate in producing goods to be sold at fair prices throughout the world. We work cooperatively with many long-term suppliers, building and sustaining partnerships. Fair trade becomes a positive force in these communities for improving living standards, health, education, and the environment. Environmental sustainability is a cornerstone of our mission – the artisans whose work we promote reduce, reuse, and reclaim, and recycle materials whenever possible.

Guild Programs, 2017 – 2018

GREENS WORKSHOP

Wednesday, December 13th at 10:00 am with Lunch to follow.

Sign up on the Guild Bulletin Board by Dec. 6th.

Ladies of St. Christopher's, we need you!

We want your **"Green Thumb"** for our **"Greens Workshop".**

We will be making arrangements for Shut-ins at Holly Hill and the Geauga Senior Home in Fellowship Hall at St. Christopher's.

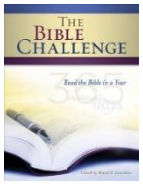
Please remember to bring garden shears!!!!!

February 14th	Laura Cotton Cooking Demonstration and lunch to follow
March 14th	Making Anglican Prayer Beads, led by Mother Ann; light Lenten lunch to follow
April 27th	Bargain Box
May 9th	History of the "Euclid Beach Carousel", ride on the carousel and box lunch at the Western Reserve Historical Society
June 13th	Wrap-up meeting, changing of Guild officers and lunch at Sue Marston's

Save the Date!

January 28th - Annual Meeting. One service only at 10:00 AM.

Adult Forum



Bible Challenge Discussion groups are meeting on:

Thursdays at 6PM and Sundays at 9AM.

Feel free to join in at any time.

Contact the office or Mother Ann if you need a book

Bishop's Visit – December 17th

On December 17th, Bishop Hollingsworth will be here, and we will have confirmation, reaffirmation of baptismal vows, and new members being received at St. Christopher's.

Pledges!

Your Vestry wishes to thank the Stewardship Committee for their contribution in organizing this years' Every Member Canvas and, recognizing that the 2018 campaign is not yet complete, our heartfelt thanks go out to the following families who have already sent in their pledges:

Mr. & Mrs. Dwight Allgood
Ms. Marcia Alpers
Mr. & Mrs. William Barnes, IV
Mr. W. Stuart Bates
Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Bennett
Mr. & Mrs. Charles F. Bixler III
Mr. & Mrs. Charles F. Bixler IV
Mr. & Mrs. Louis Boswell
Mr. & Mrs. Salvatore Cicirello
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel R. Collister
Ms. Sally Conley
Miss Linda Costello
Ms. Laura Cotton
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Currutt
Dr. & Mrs. Baz DeBaz
Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Della Ratta
Mr. & Mrs. David Dickenson II
Mr. William Doyle
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffery Eakin
Mr. & Mrs. Chandler P. Everett
Mrs. Anne Feller
Miss Suzanne E. Foltz
Ms. Susan Gallop
Ms. Katharine Goss
Miss Janet T. Hargrave
Mr. & Mrs. Dave Hauserman
Mrs. Nicole P. Henry
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Holmes
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Holmes
Dr. & Mrs. John Irwin
The Rev. Ann Kidder & Mr. Theodore Fletcher
Mr. Michael Klinginsmith & Ms. Gretchen Fisher
Mr. & Mrs. James LaMantia
Mr. & Mrs. Ron Lee
Ms. Annette Lowe
Mrs. Tillie Malm
Mr. & Mrs. Charles S. Marston
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Matthews
Mr. William McCoy
Mr. & Mrs. Sean M. McMillion
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel J. McMullen
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Miscko
Mrs. Shirley Morgan
Mr. & Mrs. Brian Murphy
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Negrelli
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Pucell
Mr. & Mrs. A. William Reynolds
Mr. & Mrs. Timothy M. Reynolds
Mrs. Mary H. Rountree
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Schmidt
Mr. Peter Thatcher
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Thomas
Mrs. Elizabeth Tone
Mrs. Diana D. Treco
Mr. Robert Turnbull &
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas V. H. Vail Sr.
Ms. Kathleen L. Vilas
Mr. & Mrs. Russell Warren
Ms. Linda Webb
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Weitzel
Mr. & Mrs. David Wolf

Offering Envelopes

Anyone interested in offering envelopes for 2018, should let Mary in the office know, or indicate so on your pledge card. The church offers envelopes numbered 1-40. Those listed below, currently have envelopes assigned to them. If you do not regularly use your envelopes, we would like to be able to make them available to someone else. Please let the office know if you are on this list and no longer require the box of weekly envelopes. Thank you!

Marcia Alpers
Peter & Sandy Batcheller
Ramon & Jane Battles
Fred & Polly Bixler
Sal & Helen Cicirello
Linda Costello
Denny & Charlene Currutt
Ralph & Rosalie Della Ratta
Morrie & Diana Everett
Susan Gallop
Dale Gnandt
Dave & Darlene Hauserman
Nicki Henry
John & Nancy Irwin
Ann Kidder
Ron & Neal Lee
Kurt & Mary Anne Liljedahl
Jerry & Gladys Loth
Bob & Tillie Malm
Robert & Lisa Manning
Michael & Leslie Marting
Tom & Paulette Matthews
Sean & Lindsey McMillion
Ed & Fran Meyers
Shirley Morgan
Tom & Jean Moseley
Don & Gini Negrelli
Tim & Lynn Pistell
Fran Sarkisian
Dan & Courtney Schmidt
Barbara Schulze
Tim Scott
Larry & Carol Smith
Bruce & Kitty Thomas
Don & Susie Thorpe
Loni Todd-Lorenz
Bob & Renee Trebar
Dave VanCuren
Linda Webb
John & Denise Weber

St. Christopher's Bicentennial 200's

We will continue our 200's through Ash Wednesday. In 2018, Ash Wednesday occurs on St. Valentine's Day, which seems very appropriate! And so – we will continue to collect stuffed animals for hospitalized children and toiletries for the Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry's Men's Shelter. We will continue to track our (200) miles of prayerful walking, and commit random acts of kindness. Don't forget to "mark" your contributions, miles, and acts of love with stickers on the Bicentennial Bulletin Boards!

December Birthdays

Avery Alatis
Danny Broome
Mary Jo Busby-Griffith
Clara Butler
Rindy Collister
Rosalie Della Ratta
Marilyn Fisher
Nicki Henry
Kate LaMantia
Presley Lammers
William McCoy
Irene McMullen
Stephen Miscko
Emily Morris
Keri Osolin
Judy Pace
Liz Russo
Luci Schey-Spring
Linda Ventimiglia

January Birthdays

Mary Bole
Rik Bole
Griffin Butler
Margaret Douglas
Becky Everett
Chandler Everett
Tom Holmes
Finn Johnson
Ellile Johnson
Tony Lammers
Brian Murphy
Jim Pender
Peggy Reda
Tim Scott
Tyler Wright
Betsy Wright

Christmas & Altar Flowers

If you would like to remember someone special this Christmas season, consider donating to the Christmas flower fund. The suggested donation is $25. The form can be found on our website.

Thank you to the 40+ families who donate Altar flowers each year. This is a wonderful ministry. Not only does it save the church the cost of flowers weekly, but it also provides flowers to those who are sick, hospitalized, homebound or suffering. Each Sunday, Janet Hargrave either delivers or arranges for delivery of the altar flowers to someone in need. It is wonderful to provide a smile to someone's face!

If you are interested in providing flowers for 2018 and did not do so for 2017, please contact Mary in the office. The requested donation is $80. Those that have provided flowers in 2017, we will be sending a return postcard soon to confirm your commitment for 2018. Thank you!

2017 Flower Donors

Connie White (Christmas)
Brian and Cindy Murphy
Frances and David Dickenson
Michael Klinginsmith & Gretchen Fisher
Bruce & Kitty Thomas
Linda & Cindy Costello
Becky & Chandler Everett
Dede Storer
Larry & Mary Murray
Lawrence & Elise Bennett (greens)
Linda Webb (greens)
Janet T. Hargrave (greens)
Jean Ramsey (greens)
Thomas & Mary Homes (greens)
Gladys Loth (Palms)
Peter Hellman
Paulette & Tom Matthews
Diana Treco
Ronald & Carolyn Miscko
Beth Miller
Fran Meyers
Hal Jones (Peter)
Kathy Vilas
Tucker & Jean Marston
Darlene & David Hauserman
Helmut & Marcia Alpers
Scott Broom & Karee Weikel-Broome
Donald & Gini Negrelli
Tim Scott
Randy, Debbie & Whitney Cole
Sally Conley
Sal & Helen Cicirello
Jane and Ramon Battles
Fran Sarkisian
Bob & Tille Malm
Polly & Fred Bixler
Baz & Mona DeBaz
Jeff & Judy Eakin
Kurt & Mary Ann Liljedahl
Charley & Sue Marston
Anne Feller
John & Nancy Irwin
Thomas & Iris Vail
Dan & Courtney Schmidt
Jim Pender
Peter & Judy Holmes

Flocknote

The Diocese is rolling out a new communication service that they would like all congregations to use. It is called Flocknote. It is an email and text service that is free to our church, courtesy of the diocese. St. Christopher's will begin using this within the next couple months. Please be on the look out for a text or email from us through Flocknote. More information will be available in our next newsletter.

Winter Convocation February 2-3rd, 2018!

DIOCESE

Kalahari Resort and Convention Center, Sandusky

Keynote Speaker will be Heidi Kim, Director of "Becoming a Beloved Community", the Episcopal Church's long-term commitment to racial healing, reconciliation, and justice.

Trinity Cathedral Music & Arts

Brown Bag Concert Series is back for it's 40th season! Wednesday's at 12 noon. Bring a lunch or purchase one in the cathedral for $7.

Dec 6 A Ceremony of Carols by Benjamin Britten with Cathedral Choir Sopranos & altos, Jody Guinn, harp

Dec 13 Annual Messiah Sing – with soloists, the Trinity Cathedral Chamber Orchestra, Todd Wilson, conductors and you as the massed choir!

Dec 6, Dec 13: The Path of Descent: Shenk's 2017 documentary about former Vice President Al Gore's ongoing mission to battle climate change. A class discussion based on the works of Richard Rohr, led by the Rev Kay Rackley.

The Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival

*Saturday, **December 30th**- 3:00 PM and 5:30 PM, Trinity Episcopal Cathedral.*

Join us in celebrating the 55th presentation of this one hour Christmas festival done with an Elizabethan slant. Celebrate the Light of Christ coming into the world through music, scent, color and pageantry.
www.boarsheadcleveland.org

JANUARY 2018 ROTA

JANUARY 7th

8:00 EM: John Irwin
LR: Teri Ianni
AG: TBA

10:15 EM: Dale Gnandt
LR: Sue Thorpe & Rik Bole
AG: TBA
Ushers: Rik Bole/Brian Wright
Hospitality: TBA

JANUARY 14th

8:00 EM: Melanie Reda
LR: Kitty Thomas
AG: TBA

10:15 EM: Beth Miller
LR: Chandler Everett & Renee Kolecki
AG: TBA
Ushers: Brendan Daly
Hospitality: TBA

JANUARY 21st

8:00 EM: Melanie Reda
LR: Jeff Eakin
AG: TBA

10:15 EM: Randy Cole
LR: Lindsey McMillion & Joyce Welsh
AG: TBA
Ushers: Kurt Liljedahl
Hospitality: TBA

JANUARY 28th – Annual Meeting

NO 8:00 AM SERVICE

10:00 EM: John Irwin
LR: Linda Webb & Fran Sarkisian
AG: TBA
Ushers: Dave & Darlene Hauserman
Hospitality: TBA

THOSE WHO SERVE

DECEMBER 2017 ROTA

DECEMBER 3rd

8:00 EM: Peter Batcheller
LR: Teri Ianni
AG: Teri Ianni

10:15 EM: Beth Miller
LR: Joyce Welsh/Brian Wright
AG: Mary Murray
Ushers: Rik Bole/Brian Wright
Hospitality: Laura Cotton & Sue Marston

DECEMBER 10th

8:00 EM: John Irwin
LR: Kathy Pender
AG: Sue Marston

10:15 EM: Randy Cole
LR: Heather Daly/Elsbeth Daly
AG: Neal Lee
Ushers: Brendan Daly
Hospitality: Kathy Pender

DECEMBER 17th – Bishop's Visit

NO 8 AM SERVICE

10:15 EM: Dale Gnandt
LR: Chris Pucell & Bob Syverson
AG: Jean Ramsey
Ushers: Kurt Liljedahl
Hospitality: Gretchen Fisher & Heather Daly

DECEMBER 24th

8:00 AM EM: TBA
LR: TBA
AG: Sally Conley

10:15 AM EM: TBA
LR: TBA
AG: Marcia Alpers
Ushers: Dave & Darlene Hauserman
Hospitality: Merry Christmas!

3:30 PM EM: TBA
LR: TBA
AG: Theresa Richardson

8:00 PM EM: John Irwin
LR: Darlene Hauserman & Courtney Schmidt
AG: Sue Marston

10:00 PM EM: Peter Batcheller
LR: Not Required
AG: Jane Battles

Vestry 2017

John Irwin	Senior Warden
Charley Marston	Junior Warden
Irene McMullen	Clerk
Mary Murray	Treasurer

Class of 2019
Mary Holmes, John Irwin, Irene McMullen

Class of 2018
Elise Bennett, Charles Marston, Sean McMillion

Class of 2017
Heather Daly, David Dickenson, Mary Murray

Northeast Mission Area Council Representatives
Peter Batcheller, 2017+2018
Charlene Currutt, 2017

Volunteer Opportunities

Blessed Are We Dinner

Friday, December 15th and January 19th
Meet at St. Christopher's at 4PM
Contact the office if you plan to help out.

Food Pantry

Saturday, December 16th and January 20th
Our Savior Lutheran Church
Call the office if you wish to volunteer.

Food Pantry

In ***DECEMBER***, we are collecting:

Chocolate
Cookies
Nuts
Cake/brownie mix Frosting
Powdered milk
Graham crackers
pudding

In ***JANUARY***, we are collecting:

Canned meats
Ham/ Chicken
Stew/ Chili
Tuna/ Salmon
Beans
Jerky

December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Food Pantry Donation Chocolate, Cookies, Nuts, Cake/brownie mix, frosting, Powdered milk Graham crackers, pudding 					1	2
3 **I Advent** 8 am Holy Eucharist 9 am Forum, Church School & Hand Chime 9:30 am Adult CHOIR Rehearsal 10 am Nursery 10:15 am Holy Eucharist (Lessons & Hymns) 11:20 am Junior CHOIR Rehearsal 12:00 Special Class	4 **9-11 AM** **Stephen Ministry**	5 **9:00 Staff Meeting**	6 **10:30 AM Guild Board Meeting** **5:00 PM Dealing with Loss**	7 **5 PM Evening Prayer** **6 PM Bible Challenge** 8 PM Riverside AA	8	9 **10 AM Pageant Rehearsal**
10 **II Advent** 8 am Holy Eucharist 9 am Forum & Hand Chime 9:30 am Adult CHOIR Rehearsal 10 am Nursery 10:15 am Holy Eucharist (Pageant) 11:20 am Junior CHOIR Rehearsal 12:00 Special Class 	11	12 **9:00 Staff Meeting**	13 **10:00 AM Guild Filling Backpacks** **5:00 PM Dealing with Loss** **6 PM Cub Scouts** **7 PM CHOIR**	14 **5 PM Evening Prayer** **6 PM Bible Challenge** 8 PM Riverside AA.	15 St. Andrews Blessed Are We Dinner Meet @ 4PM	16 Our Savior Lutheran Food Pantry 11 AM
17 **III Advent** One Service – Bishop's Visit 9 am Hand Chime 9:30 am Adult CHOIR 10 am Nursery 10:15 am Holy Eucharist with Confirmation	18 **9-11 AM** **Stephen Ministry**	19 **9:00 Staff Meeting** **6-8 PM Vestry**	20 **5:00 PM Dealing with Loss Healing Service** **7 PM CHOIR**	21 **5 PM Evening Prayer** **6 PM Bible Challenge** 8 PM Riverside AA	22	23
24 **IV Advent** 8 am Holy Eucharist 9 am Forum 10 am Nursery 10:15 am Holy Eucharist **Christmas Eve** 3:30 pm Family Vespers 7:30 pm Prelude Concert 8:00 pm Holy Eucharist with Choir 10:00 pm Holy Eucharist	25 **Christmas Day** 	26	27 **OFFICE CLOSED**	28 **5 PM Evening Prayer** 6 PM Bible Challenge 8 PM Riverside AA	29 **5:00 Rehearsal**	30 **6:00 Wedding**

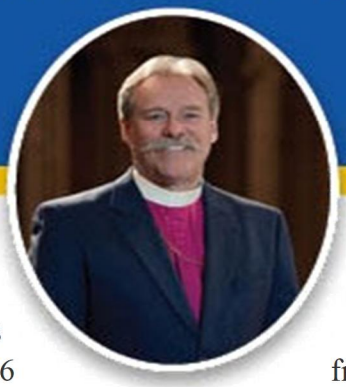
January

31 (DEC) I Christmas 8:00 am Morning Prayer 9:00 am Forum 10:00 am Nursery 10:15 am Morning Prayer 	**1** 	**2** **9:00 Staff Meeting**	**3** **10:30 AM** **Guild Board Mtg.**	**4** **5 PM Evening Prayer** **6 pm Bible Challenge** 8 PM Riverside AA.	**5** **EPIPHANY PARTY at the Rectory** **5-7 PM** 	**6**
7 I Epiphany 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:00 am Forum, Church School & Hand Chime 9:30 am Adult CHOIR Rehearsal 10:00 am Nursery 10:15 am Holy Eucharist 11:30 am Junior CHOIR Rehearsal	**8**	**9** **9:00 Staff Meeting**	**10** **Scouts 6-7:30**	**11** **5 PM Evening Prayer** **6 pm Bible Challenge** 8 PM Riverside AA.	**12**	**13**
14 II Epiphany 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:00 am Forum, Church School & Hand Chime 9:30 am Adult CHOIR Rehearsal 10:00 am Nursery 10:15 am Holy Eucharist 11:30 am Junior CHOIR Rehearsal	**15** 	**16** **9:00 Staff Meeting** **6-8 PM** **Vestry**	**17** Annual Meeting Reports Deadline	**18** **5 PM Evening Prayer** **6 pm Bible Challenge** 8 PM Riverside AA.	**19** St. Andrews Blessed Are We Dinner Meet @ 4PM	**20** Our Savior Lutheran Food Pantry 11 AM
21 III Epiphany 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:00 am Forum, Church School & Hand Chime 9:30 am Adult CHOIR Rehearsal 10:00 am Nursery 10:15 am Holy Eucharist 11:30 am Junior CHOIR Rehearsal	**22**	**23** **9:00 Staff Meeting**	**24** **Scouts 6-7:30**	**25** **5 PM Evening Prayer** **6 pm Bible Challenge** 8 PM Riverside AA.	**26**	**27**
28 IV Epiphany **ONE SERVICE** 9:00 am Forum 10:00 am Nursery 10:00 am Holy Eucharist 11:00 am Annual Meeting 	**29** **11 AM** **Stephen Ministry**	**30** **9:00 Staff Meeting** **Newsletter article/information deadline**	**31**	**Food Pantry Donations:** Canned meats Ham/ Chicken Stew/ Chili Tuna/ Salmon Beans Jerky 	

A Year of Bishops

Celebrating the 11 bishops during the 200 year history of the Diocese of Ohio

The Rt. Rev. Mark Hollingsworth Jr.



2005-Present

Mark Hollingsworth, Jr., 11th Bishop of the Diocese of Ohio, was born on April 9, 1954, to Caroline Jeanes Hollingsworth and the late Mark Hollingsworth. He and his four sisters were raised in Dover, Massachusetts. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1976 from Trinity College, majoring in Religious Studies. He then earned a Master of Divinity degree at the Church Divinity School of the Pacific in 1981, from which he later received an honorary Doctor of Divinity. The Rt. Rev. William E. Swing, Bishop of California, ordained him Deacon and Priest in 1981 and 1982, respectively. On November 15, 2003, he was elected the Eleventh Bishop of Ohio.

Bishop Hollingsworth and his wife, Susan Hunt Hollingsworth, are the parents of Sophie, Isaac, Eli, and Lily. The Bishop is an avid cyclist, fly-fisher, and sailor, and drives a 1939 Indian motorcycle. He plays a variety of stringed instruments and, to his wife's chagrin, the bagpipes. He restores antique vehicles of various sorts, collects autographs, and keeps bees.

Bishop Hollingsworth served as Chaplain to the Cathedral School for Boys in San Francisco (1981-1983), Associate Rector of St. Francis in-the-Fields Church, Harrods Creek, Kentucky (1983-1986), Rector of St. Anne's in-the-Fields, Lincoln, Massachusetts (1986-1994), and Archdeacon of the Diocese of Massachusetts (1994-2004). In the dioceses of California, Kentucky, and Massachusetts, he served a variety of organizations including diocesan clergy associations, hospital and AIDS ministry boards, diocesan trustees and councils, camp and conference center boards, and as chaplain to his local fire department. He was a Clerical Deputy to both the 2000 and 2003 General Conventions from the Diocese of Massachusetts. Bishop Hollingsworth was founder of Epiphany at Sea, a program taking inner-city middle school students to sea on traditional fishing schooners, and for many years he was a Conference Leader for CREDO. He currently serves as a trustee of Bexley-Seabury Seminary and Kenyon College. In 2005, he initiated the Bishop's Bike Ride. Over the next decade, hundreds of riders cycled thousands miles around northern Ohio, building community and fellowship among parishes and parishioners, and raising funds for youth mission trips.

During the summer of 2009, the Bishop established a task force to explore whether the Diocese had a vocation to camp and retreat ministry, and if so, whether the facility at Cedar Hills could meet the church's needs. As a result of that work, in 2012 a farm in Wakeman Township was proposed as the site of a new camp, retreat, and education center. At that year's Diocesan Convention, a resolution was adopted to move forward with fundraising for the purchase and transformation of that 137-acre property. On October 1, 2016, a groundbreaking has held at the new site, now named Bellwether Farm. A vision that Bishop Hollingsworth had begun to develop early in his episcopacy had come to life after years of collaborative work with countless companions and colleagues.

One conviction of our faith that is especially important to the 11th Bishop of Ohio is the unrestricted availability of God's love. Since 2010, billboards, yard signs, and bumper stickers have articulated this message with sayings such as: Welcome...regardless! Love God. Love your Neighbor. Change the World.; and God loves you. No exceptions. In 2015, these latter two became registered trademarks of the Diocese of Ohio. They reflect well the spirit and focus of the Diocese as it enters its third century of service to Christ and the world.

ST. CHRISTOPHER
BY-THE-RIVER
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
stchrisbytheriver.org

7601 Old Mill Rd.
PO Box 519
Gates Mills OH 44040

The Rev. Ann Kidder, Rector
stchris.motherann@gmail.com

Sunday Services
8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I
10:00 a.m. Nursery Care for 10:15 service
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II

Parish Office
Open T-W-TH 8:30-2:30
440-423-4451
stchrisbytheriver@gmail.com

December 2017/January 2018 Newsletter

St. Christopher by-the-River

We welcome you to join us:

Sunday, December 3rd –I Advent
8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II
Lessons & Hymns

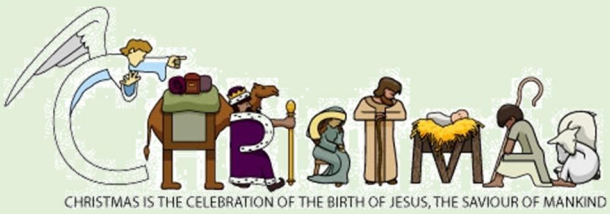
Sunday, December 10th – II Advent
8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II
Christmas Pageant

Sunday, December 17th – III Advent
Bishop's Visit – One Service Only
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II
Confirmation

Sunday, December 24th

NO SERVICES ON DECEMBER 25th

Sunday, December 31st – I Christmas
8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
10:15 a.m. Morning Prayer



CHRISTMAS IS THE CELEBRATION OF THE BIRTH OF JESUS, THE SAVIOUR OF MANKIND

Sunday, December 24th – IV Advent

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I
10:15 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II

Sunday, December 24th – Christmas Eve

3:30 PM Family Vespers
4:30 PM Bonfire & Santa (Village Polo Fields)
7:30 PM Prelude Concert
8:00 PM Holy Eucharist with Choir
10:00 PM Holy Eucharist