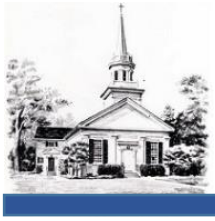


ST. CHRISTOPHER BY-THE-RIVER

MAY 2019 NEWSLETTER

Dear Friends,

I recently returned from a brief visit to see my sister who lives in Pennsylvania. As many of you know, she has Alzheimer's and is now in a fairly advanced stage of that disease. I am grateful for being able to spend a few days with her and God's grace was present in a number of ways. Still, as I drove back to Gates Mills and returned to my life with all of you, I noticed a tightness in my throat. It never went away, and I realized that old childhood feeling of wanting to cry but not being able to do so.

Those of you who knew of my visit (and my sister's disease) asked me how my visit with her was. I found it painful, in some ways, to answer that question and yet each time I told the story of my experience I found that my throat felt a little less tight. Enough of you cared enough to ask and to listen to my sorrow and joy that it helped. I still, of course feel sad. I wish that my sister did not have Alzheimer's Disease. I wish that life was different for her, her family, and all of us. But the gift that you gave to me of caring enough to listen to me tell my story was also healing – I no longer had to carry my sorrow in solitary silence. I knew that I had a community of people who cared about this deeper truth of my life. Your love embodied Christ's love in a way that was both comforting and healing.

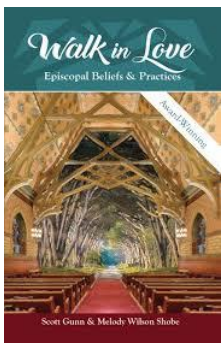
Later in this newsletter, you will read about a grief support group that Kathy Pender and I will be offering this spring for six weeks. If, there is enough interest, we will regroup in the fall for an ongoing opportunity to support one another in our journey through this life.

I hope that, whatever sadness you may be carrying, you will join us in an opportunity to share your story and to listen to the story of others. As St. Paul reminds us – we are called to rejoice with those who rejoice and to weep with those who weep. The experience of telling our story to others who care enough to truly listen is, in itself, a way to experience some healing and relief. It does not change what is – but we are no longer alone in our grief or sadness.

I look forward to sharing with you both the joys and sorrows that are part of our fragile human lives. May we all find healing in a community of love that embodies Christ's love for all of us.

With love and gratitude for all of you,

Ann+



Sundays at 9AM we are studying 'Walk In Love, Episcopal Beliefs & Practices'.

Books are $20. Please contact the office if you would like one. Feel free to join in at any time.

Junior Warden Report

By Becky Everett

Happy Spring to everyone! Work continues on at St, Christopher by-the-River! The gutters have been cleaned, and now the vestry will look at the options for gutter care in the future.

Hugh has done an awesome job of taking care of the yard and making everything look beautiful as we head into the warmer weather! He has also replaced the threshold plate and tightened the push bar on the side door by the rectory. He will be painting the Bargain Box changing room in the basement within the next week or so.

The riverbank project is complete. Thank you to all those involved in this project! Now we will continue to look at improvements to the landscaping around that area.

We have put the elevator issue in God's inbox, and we are confident that we will have an operating elevator very soon. Oh, what a happy day that will be! Please keep your fingers and toes crossed that this all gets resolved soon!

The defective choir room carpet will be replaced in early June. Thank you, Peggy Reda, for allowing us to use your classroom for storing furniture during this process! Sally Conley has also been instrumental in organizing this project. This is just one more example of how our church family supports one another.

If you haven't seen them already, please check out the new kitchen shutters in the Fellowship Hall! They are beautiful, and such an improvement over what we had! A special thanks goes out to Kitty and Bruce Thomas for donating half of the expense for this project!

I hope you all enjoyed a peaceful and blessed Easter! I look forward to seeing you all at church on Sundays!

RiverBank

By Charley Marston

Ever since the Old Mill Road and Inter-Urban Bridge were erected, the Chagrin River has slowly eroded the bank behind St. Christopher by-the-River Church and its two neighbors to the south. The process seemed to accelerate after the dam toppled. As you visit the Village Center, you will notice a beautiful restoration has been completed. The Vestry would like to express its sincere appreciation to the following:

Karen Schneider, Mayor of Gates Mills
Sandra Turner, Councilwoman
David Biggert, Village Service Director
Chris Courtney, Village Engineer
Todd Hunt, Village Law Director
Irene McMullen, Trustee of The Chagrin River Watershed Partners
Heather Elmer, Director of The Chagrin River Watershed Partners
The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
Davey Resources Inc.
Nancy McGinnis and Molly Nook, our participating neighbors

Without the help and cooperation of these individuals, this necessary project would not have been possible.

Vestry

March 3, 2019 Vestry Meeting Minutes

Present: Mother Ann, Elise Bennett, Becky Everett, David Hauserman, Mary Holmes, Sean McMillion, Irene McMullen, Mary Murray, Jim Pender.

The meeting came to order at 11:50 AM, in the Children's Chapel, following the 2018 Annual Meeting.

Mother Ann welcomed David Hauserman to the Vestry.

The Vestry members are asked to please remember to bring the *Propel* book to the upcoming retreat on March 22. 2019.

John Irwin nominated Becky Everett to be Junior Warden. David Hauserman seconded the motion. Mother Ann inquired about whether there were any other nominations. There were none. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Mary Murray nominated John Irwin to be Senior Warden. Jim Pender seconded the motion. Mother Ann inquired about whether there were any other nominations. There were none. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

John Irwin nominated Irene McMullen to be Clerk of the Vestry. Elise Bennett seconded the motion. Mother Ann inquired about whether there were any other nominations. There were none. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

John Irwin moved approval of the January 23, 2019 Vestry meeting minutes. Jim Pender seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

A discussion was had regarding the 2018 Parochial Report. Mother Ann passed out copies of a draft 2018 Parochial Report. Many members were moved to inactive status on the report, to reflect current attendance patterns. Mary Murray spoke about how the parochial report was compiled. Diocesan assessment is based upon our operating expenses and are approximately 15.05% of expenses for 2019. The Diocesan assessment for 2018 was 15%.

Becky Everett moved to accept the 2018 Parochial Report as written. Elise Bennett seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Vestry meetings for 2019 will be held the fourth Wednesday of each month. The schedule is subject to change.

Mother Ann led a closing prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 PM.

Daughters of the King

PRIVATE PRAYERS TO GOD

The Daughters of the King is a newly commissioned group of women at St. Christopher- by- the- River who are committed to faithful prayer on a daily basis. In the Guild Room on the bookcase is a locked prayer box with slips of paper for individuals to ask for prayer requests. This private, locked box is for the prayers of those who you might want the Daughters of the King to include in their daily prayers but would also like the names to be kept confidential. You may use first or last names or simply mention a person and what your concern is. The prayer box is kept locked at all times and only unlocked to remove new names to be given to the Daughters for prayer. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask any of us.

-Debbie Cole, Becky Everett, Annette Lowe, Kathy Pender

Guild Events

June 2nd 4-6PM

Gates Mills Community House

RAISE THE ROOF AUCTION

The RAISE THE ROOF auction benefiting *Food for the Poor* is just a little over a month away! We hope you have been busy deciding which personal talents or treasures you would like to donate to the cause! The drop-off dates for your donations are May 5-19th. The office is open Tuesday thru Thursday from 8:30 am – 2:30 pm. Please bring your items with the attached donation forms to the church office so that they don't get mixed in with Bargain Box donations! Mary and Becky will make sure the items get to a secure location for safe keeping. Thank you all for your generosity and devotion to this cause! Remember to save Sunday, June 2nd from 4:00 – 6:00 pm at the Gates Mills Community House for fun, food and fundraising. See you then! - The Auction Committee

June 13

End of Year Luncheon at Sally Conley's.

GRIEF GROUP

MAY 9-JUNE 13
Thursdays 5:30 pm

Beginning on Thursday evenings at 5:30 pm starting on May 9th there will be an offering of a Grief Group which will be held for 6 weeks beginning on May 9[9d] and ending on June 13th

People in our parish have experienced a number of losses this past year. An educational and support group such as this can provide information that can be helpful in explaining ways of coping as well as an understanding of what grief brings to each person's life. A support group also can provide companionship from others who have experienced similar challenges that living with grief brings.

Please call Kathy Pender for questions or more information

(440-463-7378) Sign up either with Kathy or the church (440-423-4451)

COTTAGE MEETINGS

Small group meetings will be held over the next two months to discuss where we want to be in five or ten years, of particular interest are your thoughts on how to grow, increase membership and outreach. We hope to hear from every member of our church. If you can not attend one of the meetings. You can compose your thoughts in a letter or request a one-on-one meeting.

There are signup sheets on the bulletin board, or you may call the office.

Tues, May 7	**10:30 AM**	**Gates Mills Library**
Tues, May 14	**7:00 PM**	**7845 Old Mill Road (Pender's home)**
Sun, May 19	**12:00 PM**	**Guild Room**
Wed, May 22	**7:00 PM**	**Chagrin Falls Library**

Faith Development

And so we come to another conclusion of a year spent getting to know our Christian heritage, our history and our Lord, Jesus Christ. We've studied the church seasons, great believers of God and the life of Christ. These will hopefully be the building blocks of our faith and seeds of love and strength for the rest of our lives. We've built a community of friends in Christ! Mrs. Cole, Mrs. Matthews, Miss Melanie and Mrs. Reda invite you to join us in the Fall! The growth continues in our faith formation.

We wish you a safe, healthy and happy summer!

SUNDAY SCHOOL CALENDAR

May 5:	**Class**
May 12:	**Class/Mother's Day/ UTO Offering**
May 19:	**Last Class**
May 26:	**Year-End Party**

Choir

I would like to thank our choir members, Debbie Cole, Whitney Cole, Becky Everett, Chandler Everett, Gretchen Fisher and Fran Sarkisian for singing both 9:00 and 11:00 services on Easter Sunday. Also thanks go to Jolyon Welsh for playing the Clarinet during the prelude and communion. You all are the best!

Men's Shelter Wish List

As we continue to support The Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry Men's Shelter, this month we will be collecting the following items that assist the homeless men when they transition into permanent living.

Laundry Soap	Bar Soap/Body Wash
Dish Soap	Shampoo
Cleanser	Deodorant
Spray Cleaner	Toothpaste
Paper Towels	Dish Towels/Rags
Plastic Containers	Can openers – a biggie

Our cub scouts tapping the trees with Hugh.

May Birthdays

1	Finley McMillion
4	Larry Smith
5	Bridget Manning
	Jean Ramsey
	Denise Weber
6	Whit Champ
7	Jim Lamantia
8	Charlene Currutt
	Lena DeBaz
	Dan McMullen
9	Jennifer Blossom
11	Nancy Clark
13	Renee Kolecki
14	Whitney Cole
	Gladys Loth
15	Tyler Mansfield
16	Russ Lincoln
	Tom Moseley
17	Brandon Gray
20	Stella Schmidt
22	Dwight Allgood
	Barbara Scovil
26	Evelyn Smolik

MAY 2019 ROTA

May 5th

8:00 EM: Melanie Reda
LR: Fran Meyers
AG: Sally Conley

10:15 EM: Beth Miller
LR: Judy Holmes & Rik Bole
AG: Marcia Alpers
Ushers: Brian Wright & Rik Bole
Hospitality: Jean Ramsey & Tillie Malm

May 12th

8:00 EM: Charley Marston
LR: Jeff Eakin
AG: Sally Conley

10:15 EM: Randy Cole
LR: Chris Pucell & Neal Lee
AG: Neal Lee
Ushers: Ron & Neal Lee
Hospitality: HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

May 19th

8:00 EM: John Irwin
LR: Kitty Thomas
AG: Sue Marston

10:15 EM: Beth Miller
LR: Jeff Eakin & Kathy Pender
AG: Jean Ramsey
Ushers: Kurt Liljedahl
Hospitality: Charlene Currutt & Sue Marston

May 26th

8:00 EM: Fran Meyers
LR: Teri Ianni
AG: Rosalie Della Ratta

10:15 EM: Dale Gnandt
LR: Joyce Welsh & Mary Holmes
AG: Darlene Hauserman
Ushers: Dave & Darlene Hauserman
Hospitality: Mary Murray

Thank you to these women for making our church so beautiful for Easter!

Food Pantry

In ***MAY***, we are collecting items for Lutheran Metropolitan Men's Shelter:

Laundry Soap	Bar Soap/Body Wash
Dish Soap	Shampoo
Cleanser	Deodorant
Spray Cleaner	Toothpaste
Paper Towels	Dish Towels/Rags
Plastic Containers	Can openers – a biggie

Volunteer Opportunities

Blessed Are We Dinner
Friday, May 17th
Meet at St. Christopher's at 4PM
Contact the office if you plan to help out.

Food Pantry
Saturday, May 18th
Our Savior Lutheran Church
Call the office if you wish to volunteer.

Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry Men's Shelter
Serve Lunch.
Wednesday, May 15th
Look for May Sign ups on the bulletin board.
All welcome. Carpool leaves at 11:00 sharp!

Vestry 2019

John Irwin	Senior Warden
Becky Everett	Junior Warden
Irene McMullen	Clerk
Mary Murray	Treasurer

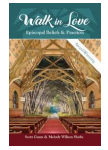
Class of 2021
Elise Bennett, David Hauserman, Sean McMillion

Class of 2020
Becky Everett, Mary Murray, James Pender

Class of 2019
Mary Holmes, John Irwin, Irene McMullen

Northeast Mission Area Council Representatives
Peter Batcheller, 2019
Linda Webb, 2019

may

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Laundry Soap Dish Soap Cleanser Spray Cleaner Paper Towels Plastic Containers	Bar Soap/Body Wash Shampoo Deodorant Toothpaste Dish Towels/Rags Can openers – a biggie	FOOD BANK	1 **Mother Ann at Fresh Start** 12:00 PM Guild Board	2 5 PM Evening Prayer 8 PM Riverside AA	3 8-5 Bargain Box 	4 9AM Bargain Box Clean Up
5 Easter III 8 am Holy Eucharist 9 am Church School, Adult Forum, Handchime 9:30 am Choir 10 am Nursery 10:15 am Holy Eucharist	6 9-11 AM Stephen Ministry	7 10:30 AM Cottage Meeting	8 **Mother Ann at Clergy Conference**	9 5 PM Evening Prayer 5:30 PM Grief Support 8 PM Riverside AA	10 2:00 John Ramsey Memorial	11 1:00 Hugo Alpers Memorial
12 Easter IV 8 am Holy Eucharist 9 am Church School, Adult Forum, Handchime 9:30 am Choir 10 am Nursery 10:15 am Holy Eucharist 11:20 am Junior C hoir FOOD FOR THE POOR	13	14 9:30 Staff Meeting 7 PM Cottage Meeting	15 11:00 Men's Shelter Volunteering 6 PM Cub Scouts	16 10:00 AM DOK Mtg 5 PM Evening Prayer 5:30 PM Grief Support 8 PM Riverside AA	17 St. Andrews Blessed Are We Dinner Meet @ 4PM	18 Our Savior Lutheran Food Pantry 11 AM
19 Easter V 8 am Holy Eucharist 9 am **LAST DAY CHURCH SCHOOL** Adult Forum, Handchime 9:30 am Choir 10 am Nursery 10:15 am Holy Eucharist 11:20 am Junior Choir 12:00 pm Cottage Meeting	20 9-11 AM Stephen Ministry 4:30 PM Watershed Meeting	21 9:30 Staff Meeting	22 6 PM Vestry Meeting 7 PM Cottage Meeting	23 5 PM Evening Prayer 5:30 PM Grief Support 8 PM Riverside AA	24	25
26 Easter VI 8 am Holy Eucharist 9 am Adult Forum, Handchime 9:30 am LAST CHOIR 10 am Nursery 10:15 am Holy Eucharist 	27	28 9:30 Staff Meeting	29	30 5 PM Evening Prayer 5:30 PM Grief Support 8 PM Riverside AA	31	Adult Forum is studying: 

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

May 2019 Newsletter

St. Christopher by-the-River

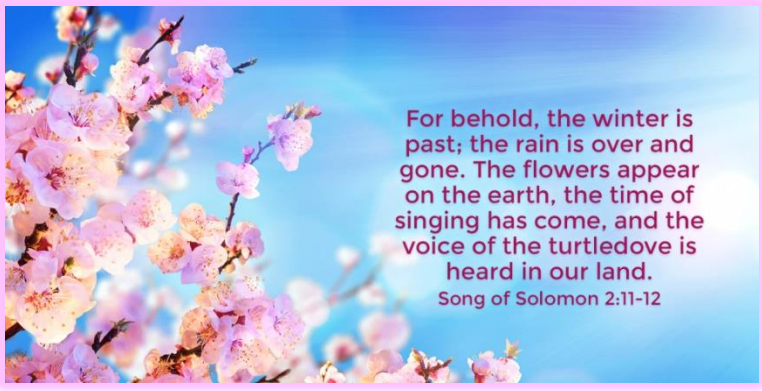
We welcome you to join us:

Sunday, MAY 5th – Easter III
8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II

Sunday, MAY 12th – Easter IV
8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II

Sunday, MAY 19th – Easter V
8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II

Sunday, May 26th – Easter VI
8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II
SUNDAY SCHOOL PARTY!

SUNDAY MORNINGS FOR KIDS 5-14
9 -10 a.m. Church School Class (Upstairs)
10-10:15 a.m. Break & Snacks in the Nursery
10:15-10:30 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary with class
10:30 -11:00 a.m. Children's Chapel
11:00-11:30 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary with families

NURSERY CARE
10 am-11:30 am for Ages 0-4