ST. CHRISTOPHER BY-THE-RIVER

NOVEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER

Dear Friends,

Advent is just around the corner. We travel this dual season looking back toward all that led up to Christ's first coming among us and simultaneously looking forward in anticipation and hope for his coming again. Throughout the four Sundays of Advent the Nine O'clock Forum will discuss and share reflections on the full three-year lectionary cycle of Advent readings.

I invite you to begin your Advent readings now and jot down your thoughts and any questions that may occur to you. I have listed our Advent readings in Biblical order for easier preparatory reading but in our discussions I will also highlight the theme that runs throughout each year of the Advent lectionary cycle.

On I Advent (December 1st) we will focus on the Old Testament readings for all three years:

> II Samuel 7:4, 8-16; Isaiah 2:1-5; Isaiah 7:10-17; Isaiah 11:1-10; Isaiah 35:1-10; Isaiah 40:1-11; Isaiah 64:1-9a; and Isaiah 65:17-25; Micah 5:2-4; Zephaniah 3:14-20; Zechariah 14:4-9; and Baruch 5:1-9

II Advent (December 8th) we will focus on the three-year cycle of Psalms for Advent:

> Psalms 24, 50, 72, 80, 85, 122, 126, 132, and 146

III Advent (December 15th) we will discuss the Epistle readings for all three years of Advent:

> Romans 1:1-7; Romans 13:8-14; Romans 15:4-13; Romans 16:25-27;
> I Corinthians 1:1-9; Philippians 1:1-11; I Thessalonians 3:9-13; I Thessalonians 4:4-9;
> I Thessalonians 5:12-28; Hebrews 10:5-10; James 5:7-10; and II Peter 3:8-15a, 18

IV Advent (December 22nd) The Advent Gospel readings will complete our Advent studies:

> Matthew 1:18-25; Matthew 3:1-12; Matthew 11:2-11; Matthew 24:37-44; Mark 1:1-8; Mark 13:24-37; Luke 1:26-56; Luke 3:1-18; Luke 21:25-31; John 1:6-8, 19-28
> (and the alternate reading from John 3:23-30)

As part of your process of looking back and forward simultaneously, I also invite you to visit an interactive exhibit currently showing at Trinity Cathedral. **Undesign The Red Line** powerfully explores race, class, and housing policy in our country, using our local Cleveland history as a touchstone. The consequences of our past policies and prejudices live on in the lives of our neighbors, both in Cleveland and throughout our nation. Look for further information about a parish tour of this exhibit later in this newsletter.

The Season After Pentecost, concludes with Christ the King Sunday on November 24th. As we move toward this turning point in the Christian year, may the Holy Spirit enlighten, inspire, and empower us to share in the joyful work of God's will being done on earth as in heaven.

In Christ's Love,
Ann+

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The following individuals have been appointed by The Reverend Ann Kidder and approved by the Vestry to serve as the Nominating Committee for 2020 Vestry Positions:

Becky Everett (Chair)	Ron Lee	Sandra Redmond
Elise Bennett	Tom Matthews	

OUTREACH SPOTLIGHT

The Cleveland Food Bank is the largest hunger program in Ohio, where one in six people deal with hunger, one in four being children. The Food Bank serves Cuyahoga, Ashtabula, Lake, Geauga, Ashland and Richland counties, supplying food and non-food items to programs administered by the Hunger Network of Greater Cleveland, the Catholic Hunger and Shelter Network and the Salvation Army. They supply the bulk of the food used at local feeding programs. In 2016, they supplied 50 million pounds of food to 840 different programs. They also connected people in need to SNAP, the current food stamp program, which has provided14 million meals.

Cleveland Foodbank
The vital link between food & hunger

2019-2020 Guild Events

Dec 11 Greens Workshop for Holly Hill
Jan 8 Museum of Modern Porcelain Art
Feb 12 Local Author Book Review
Mar 14/21 Lenten Meditation at Cleveland Museum of Art

Fill the Backpack!

GUILD PROGRAM
NOV 13th
10AM

We will gather in Fellowship Hall to wrap gifts and load them into backpacks for the Episcopal Westside Shared Ministries. Bring Scissors and your elf hat (a desire to share is an acceptable substitute) and get a jump on the holiday spirit.

2019-2020 Guild Officers

President	Sue Marston
V P Programs	Sandy Redmond, Debbie Cole
	Laura Cotton, Kitty Thomas
VP Bargain Box	Carolyn Miscko
Secretary	Neal Lee
Treasurer	Elise Bennett
Asst. Treasurer	Fran Meyers
Buildings & Grounds	Sally Conley
In Reach	Charlene Currutt
Library	Rosalie Della Ratta
Stationery	Marcia Alpers
Trac Rack	Jean Ramsey
UTO	Sandy Batcheller
Worship	Jean Ramsey

BARGAIN BOX

Our 2019 Bargain Box generated $22,500! 86% of our funds go to Outreach charities in the greater community. 14% go to Inreach for Guild Programs and Upkeep of the Guild Room.

In addition to monetary donations, we give the bulk of unsold items to other charitable organizations

Thank you to the many women and men who assisted in making this a great success once again. Thank you to Carolyn Miscko for all her hard work coordinating the many aspects of Bargain box. We would not be able to support all the programs we do without her and her team of helpers! Next Bargain Box coming in April, please be ready to help!

Stewardship & Service

By Lydia Bailey

Service, giving of our time and talent, is what St. Christopher's parishioners are doing in Stephen Ministry, in food pantries, and at Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry's Men's Shelter where you serve lunch. It's in your civic life, in the funds and donations you give from Bargain Box, and in going the extra mile for someone in need in your professional lives.

In a deliberate & thoughtful way, this parish has named **service** as 1 of 2 goals in your **strategic** plan for the next 5 years; "to be known as a church who serves in the outside world." Prompted by our faith, we are being sent. To this end, I invite you to consider an image of our service, and how we are, indeed, being **sent.**

There is a painting by Pieter Bruegel the Elder entitled *Parable of the Sower*. It's this wide landscape, with hills and a bay, a church steeple and horizon beyond; so evocative of the world-at-large.

In the picture, a lone peasant is in the foreground, scattering seeds on an upland pasture. The seeds he has already sown have multiplied in the fields below. Looking more closely, there is a river. And across the river, a small crowd gathers; they are listening intently to someone. We find it is Jesus who is teaching. An entire narrative can be spun from here!

From the painting, we can imagine the words of Jesus have taken root in this sower's heart. And now? The sower is leaning into his work; not in a rushed way, but a thoughtful way. He moves first to the left, then to the right, not turning back.

- We are like those gathered at the river
- We are the ones who are responding to the words of Christ which are being planted (progressively) in our hearts.
- We are the ones doing service, planting seeds.
- Like the sower, this is not a *"gritting our teeth, we must do this,"* but a thoughtful, deliberate process, led by our faith.

I look forward to going on this path with you!

The 2020 Stewardship Committee offers this prayer by Thomas Merton:

"Almighty God, we thank you for all the gifts You have given us: our lives, our loved ones, all that we have and all that we are. Most of all, we thank you for Jesus, your son, our Redeemer, who came among us to show us the way to eternal life. Jesus was the perfect steward of your gifts, showing that complete trust in you is necessary, and giving of self is a most important part of following him. May the offerings of our time, our talents, and our material resources be made in the same Spirit of Sacrifice that Jesus taught us by his life and death for us." Amen (Dave Hauserman and Jim Pender Co Chairmen).

Please remember to return your pledge card as soon as possible so our vestry has the best information available when setting our budget for 2020! **There is a pledge card in this newsletter** you can use if you do not have one! Thank you! And don't forget – you can give on line!

As a reminder, flower payments can be made online, but if you are not scheduled to be a Sunday flower donor and would like to donate Sunday flowers, please contact the office first.

PLEASE JOIN US!

NOVEMBER 3, 2019 @ 11:30 AM

DURING COFFEE HOUR IN THE GUILD ROOM

St. Christopher by the River will be having a special program to learn about volunteer opportunities at the Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry Men's Shelter. The program will take place during coffee hour after the 10:15 am service. The Rev. Deacon Lydia Bailey, Director of Volunteers at the shelter will be highlighting the many ways we can all become involved in this important ministry. All are welcome! We look forward to seeing you then

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Begins Tuesday November 5, 2019

St Christopher's By the River will be offering a Grief Support Group to the members of its Parish as well as members in the community. This group will begin Tuesday November 5th at 5:30 pm at St. Christopher's Church in the "Guild Room. The group will meet every other week.

After a loss of a loved one, people experience a wide variety of feelings and emotions. The ever-changing emotions we experience can catch us off guard, causing us to act differently than we are used to and to have feelings we don't often understand.

We all need a support system to help us move through our grief journey. While family and friends are vital, unless they have experienced a close personal loss they don't always understand. That is when a support group can be a valuable resource.

Grief support groups offer companionship and understanding from others who have experienced a similar loss and are experiencing similar challenges that living with grief brings.

Please contact Kathy Pender for questions or more information at 440-463-7378 or email at kp@momshrink.com.

You may also call the church office at 440-423-4451 to sign up.

St. Christopher by-the-River 2020 Planned Giving

Name: _____ **Phone**: _____.

Address: **Email**: _____.

I am participating in the Stewardship Campaign this year and this is my Annual Donation amount $_____

(Total annual amount)

I will make my donation via:	The Frequency of my donation will be:
On Line Giving	*Weekly/Monthly*
Check/Cash	*Quarterly*
Stock/Grant	*Annual Lump Sum*

Office use only: Entered:_____ Ack sent:_____

On View at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral/ Trinity Commons
October 7 – December 20

Undesign the Redline is a transformative interactive exhibit exploring the history of race, class and U.S. housing policy, and how this legacy of inequity and exclusion continues to shape our communities. The exhibit seeks to spark a public discourse on how discriminatory federal policies from the 1930s continue to impact Cleveland neighborhoods today. Trinity Cathedral and the Episcopal Diocese of Ohio are hosting this exhibit from October 7 through December 20.

Public Tours On-Site

Sundays: 10 a.m. -2 p.m.
Wednesdays: 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. & 5 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Thursdays: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Private tours by appointment. Tour Guides will be present.

Special Events

Wednesday, Nov. 6, 7:30 p.m. Speaker Forum: Evelyn Burnett & Mordecai Cargill, co-founders of Third Space Action Lab, will join us for a discussion of Cleveland Leadership and Racial Equity. No reservation needed. The work of Third Space challenges Cleveland leadership to respond in new ways to the reality that "there are not enough spaces in Cleveland designed with people of color in mind."

Wednesday, Dec. 4, 7:30 p.m., Speaker Panel: Hear from local non-profit professionals, community activists and organizers who will share their experiences and perspectives on efforts to "Undesign the Redline" in Greater Cleveland. No reservation needed.

Questions or reservations, for private tours, please contact Antoinette Taylor at 216-774-0453 or email undesign@trinitycleveland.org

October Happenings

We had many events in October – Bishop's visit with blessing of the Children's Chapel and Elevator as well as confirmations! We held the Blessing of the Animals and an Organ Concert too!

November 2019

November 3rd

8:00 EM: Fran Meyers
LR: Kitty Thomas
AG: Rosalie Della Ratta
10:15 EM: Charley Marston
LR: Rik Bole & Mona DeBaz
AG: Carolyn Miscko
Ushers: Brian Wright & Rik Bole
Hospitality: Neal Lee & Laura Cotton

November 10th

8:00 EM: Melanie Reda
LR: Renee Kolecki
AG: Renee Kolecki
10:15 EM: Charley Marston
LR: Tom Holmes & Jean Ramsey
AG: Marcia Alpers
Ushers: Ron & Neal Lee
Hospitality: Chris Pucell & Courtney Schmidt

November 17th

8:00 EM: Kitty Thomas
LR: Fran Meyers
AG: Sally Conley
10:15 EM: Beth Miller
LR: Sue Thorpe & Lucy Lytle
AG: Neal Lee
Ushers: Kurt Liljedahl
Hospitality: Paulette & Tom Matthews

November 24th

8:00 EM: Melanie Reda
LR: Annette Lowe
AG: Teri Ianni
10:15 EM: Randy Cole
LR: Lindsey McMillion & Neal Lee
AG: Courtney Schmidt
Ushers: David & Darlene Hauserman
Hospitality: Mary Murray & Sue Marston

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

Volunteer Opportunities

Blessed Are We Dinner

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

Food Pantry

Saturday, November 16th
Our Savior Lutheran Church
Call the office if you wish to volunteer.

Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry Men's Shelter

Serve Lunch.
Wednesday, November 20th
Look for May Sign ups on the bulletin board.
All welcome. Carpool leaves at 11:00 sharp!

Food Pantry

NOVEMBER

We are collecting

Hot Chocolate Packets

November Birthdays

2 Donald Negrelli
Linda Webb
3 Dennis Currutt
4 Bill Donahue
5 Michael Marting
7 Kathy Pender
12 Helen Cicirello
13 Yuri McElliot
Tim Thirion
Kylie Wright
14 Hope Lomas
Betsi Morris
16 Andrew Everett
Alexandra Wolf
17 Buffy LaMantia
Jerry Loth
Susie Thorpe
18 Sue Marston
23 Will Barnes
26 Jean Moseley
27 Carolyn Miscko
Caleb Thirion

November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
We are collecting HOT CHOCOLATE PACKETS					1	2
3 **Pentecost XVII** 8 am Holy Eucharist 9 am Adult Forum, Handchime 9:30 am Choir 10 am Nursery 10:15 am Holy Eucharist 11:20 am Junior Choir	4 9-11 AM Stephen Ministry	5 5:30 PM Grief Group	6 10 AM Guild Board Meeting	7 5 PM Evening Prayer 8 PM Riverside AA	8 **Diocesan Convention** 11:00 AM Memorial Service Tucker Marston	9
10 **Pentecost XVIII** 8 am Holy Eucharist 9 am Adult Forum, Handchime 9:30 am Choir 10 am Nursery 10:15 am Holy Eucharist 11:20 am Junior Choir	11	12	13 Mother Ann at Fresh Start 9:00 Staff Meeting 10 AM Guild Backpacks	14 5 PM Evening Prayer 8 PM Riverside AA	15 St. Andrews Blessed Are We Dinner Meet @ 4PM	16 Our Savior Lutheran Food Pantry 11 AM
17 **Pentecost XIX** 8 am Holy Eucharist 9 am Handchime 9:30 am Choir 10 am Nursery 10:15 am Holy Eucharist 11:20 am Junior Choir	18 9-11 AM Stephen Ministry 6 PM Vestry	19 5:30 PM Grief Group	20 9:00 Staff Meeting 11:00 Men's Shelter Volunteering 7 PM Choir	21 5 PM Evening Prayer 8 PM Riverside AA	22	23
24 **Pentecost XX** 8 am Holy Eucharist 9 am Handchime 9:30 am Choir 10 am Nursery 10:15 am Holy Eucharist 11:20 am Junior Choir	25 **Office Open**	26 **Office Open**	27 **Office Closed** 6:30 PM Thanksgiving Eve	28 5 PM Evening Prayer 8 PM Riverside AA	29	30

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

November 2019 Newsletter

St. Christopher by-the-River

We welcome you to join us:

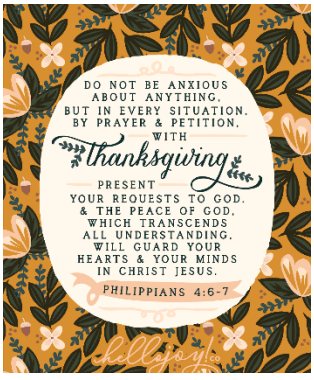
Sunday, NOVEMBER 3rd – Pentecost XXI
8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II

Sunday, NOVEMBER 10th – Pentecost XXII
8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II

Sunday, NOVEMBER 17th – Pentecost XXIII
8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II

Sunday, NOVEMBER 24th– Last Pentecost
8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II

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