



# ST. CHRISTOPHER BY-THE-RIVER

## MAY 2022 NEWSLETTER

Dear Friends,

On Maundy Thursday, we gathered for an Agape meal to share foods that would have been familiar to people in 1<sup>st</sup> century Palestine. The assigned scripture reading for Maundy Thursday always describes the “last supper” that Jesus and his disciples shared. This year the account came from the Gospel according to Luke. There came a point in the meal where Jesus stated that he would soon be betrayed by someone in that room and that he would be killed. The scene was surely chaotic, with multiple conversations happening around the table. Some anxiously wondered who the betrayer was; who among them could no longer be trusted? Amazingly, an argument also broke out about who, among Jesus’ followers, was the greatest; who would become the leader after Jesus’ death? It is at this point that Jesus offered one of his most important teachings about power and true greatness. “The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those in authority over them are called benefactors. But not so with you; rather *the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like one who serves. For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one at the table? But I am among you as one who serves.*” This teaching completely reverses the concept of power and leadership as it is commonly understood, even in our own day.

The setting for this teaching in the Gospels according to Matthew and Mark is slightly different but Jesus’ teaching is the same. His disciples (and we) need to recognize and seek “greatness” by seeking to become a people who look for opportunities to serve others. As Jesus in the Gospel according to John puts it, “Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also.”

Last Friday I had lunch at Two Café in Chagrin Falls. The Café, located at 8578 Washington Street, is an exceptional example of Kingdom greatness. The Café is one facet of The Two Foundation, whose mission is to “1) Support individuals with mild to moderate exceptionalities through his/her transition into the workforce by providing job coaching, job placement, and ongoing support. 2) Provide businesses the tools and support needed to hire, and successfully manage individuals with mild to moderate exceptionalities. 3) Assist local high schools to fulfill the workplace I.E.P. transition goal for their 16–22-year-old students with exceptionalities by providing job placement, coaching, and ongoing support.” Our Women’s Guild supported The Two Foundation with Bargain Box funds in its early days and several our parishioners remain devoted to supporting its mission and work. If you go there for lunch, and I hope you will, you will find yourself experiencing a bit of the kingdom of God in our midst. You will also see servant leadership in action.

Do you remember playing “follow the leader” as a child? The “followers” in that game imitated every move of the “leader” and the child who successfully followed every move of the leader until the end of the game was declared the winner. As we learn to follow Jesus in our daily lives, we inevitably become servants; people who see the world and its needs with different eyes. The surprise, perhaps, is that we find our lives filled with joy and the kind of abundant life in our relationships that Jesus pointed to in Luke 17:20-21 when he said, “The kingdom of God is not coming with things that can be observed; nor will they say, ‘Look, here it is!’ or ‘There it is!’ For, in fact, the kingdom of God is among you.”

Volunteering at the Men’s Shelter, working at Bargain Box to raise funds in support of organizations serving others, providing companionship as a Stephen Minister, praying daily as a Daughter Of The King are all ways to follow Jesus. The Episcopal Church’s definition of “a communicant in good standing” is one “faithful in corporate (public) worship, unless for good cause prevented, and faithful in working, praying, and giving for the spread of the kingdom of God.” “The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those in authority over them are called benefactors. But not so with you; rather *the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like one who serves. For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one at the table? But I am among you as one who serves.*” May we all follow Jesus into that joyful, abundant life that he called the kingdom of God!

With Love,

Ann+

## Junior Warden's Message

For the last three years, Becky Everett has been your Junior Warden on top of the many many many other volunteer activities she performs on a weekly basis. So, as I take her place I must begin with a big thank you to her. She has had lots of challenges. When you are caring for a 150 year old church, lots of little things can happen and even some big things. Already this year we have had to deal with two major projects. It seems the heavy snow storms led to water leaks in the downstairs kitchen and the ceiling collapsed. (Becky and David Novack to the rescue.). As Becky we'll knows, our old heating and air conditioning systems have been quite temperamental (Becky might call that an understatement). With less than a month on the job, the boiler, which heats the back portion of the church, died. We are in the process of replacing it (timing unknown). If it is cold outside, the Sanctuary is nice warm but the rest of the church isn't. Fortunately it is Springtime and so while we make do with a few space heaters in the offices, using the Guild room and Fellowship Hall will be dependent on Mother Nature. As one walks around the building, it is noteworthy how nice everything looks. Under Becky's guidance, Luis and Lucy Calvo have been very busy refurbishing almost every room and keeping them Spic and Span. Thank you Luis and Lucy and especially thank you Becky. We love you and everything you do for us. ~Charley

## Vestry

Ron Lee	Senior Warden
Charley Marston	Junior Warden
Mary Holmes	Clerk
Mary Murray	Treasurer

### Class of 2024

Renee Kolecki, Bruce Long,  
Peter Thatcher

### Class of 2023

Becky Everett, Ronald Lee,  
Sandra Redmond

### Class of 2022

Judy Holmes, Mary Holmes,  
Charley Marston

*Northeast Mission Area Council  
Representative*

Peter Batcheller, 2023

### RESOLUTION NO. 2022-10 BY MAYOR SCHNEIDER

#### A RESOLUTION HONORING DANIEL R. COLLISTER

WHEREAS, Daniel R. Collister has been a Village resident since 1928;

WHEREAS, he has served the Village as Treasurer, Councilmember and Mayor;

WHEREAS, he was a founder, President and Trustee of the Gates Mills Land Conservancy;

WHEREAS, he was President and Trustee of the Gates Mills Improvement Society;

WHEREAS, he has been a devoted Trustee of The Gates Mills Historical Society and has memorialized many historical vignettes in the spoken and written word;

WHEREAS, he has delighted many audiences with his thespian abilities as a member of The Gates Mills Players; and

WHEREAS, he has devotedly performed all of these and many other activities for the betterment of and for the preservation of the beauty and historic nature of the Village of Gates Mills.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Village of Gates Mills, State of Ohio, that:

SECTION 1. This Council, on behalf of the Mayor and all Village residents, in conjunction with the aforementioned organizations, do express our appreciation and resolve that Permanent Parcel No. 843-18-001 in the Village be named "The Daniel R. Collister Polo Field".

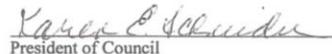
SECTION 2. The Mayor is authorized and directed to present this Resolution to Daniel R. Collister as a token of the appreciation of the Village for his multitude of efforts that have improved the quality of life in the Village of Gates Mills.

SECTION 3. This Resolution shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Passed the 12<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2022.

ATTEST:

  
Clerk

  
President of Council

APPROVED:

  
Mayor

## Senior Warden's Message

*Ron Lee*

I am pleased to share with you the good news about our longtime parishioner, Dan Collister. Dan is celebrating his 94<sup>th</sup> birthday. The village of Gates Mills has announced, through a resolution by the Mayor and Council, that the field on Epping Road, across from the Hunt Club property, will be named in his honor.

A dedication ceremony is planned for Monday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 10:30 AM at the Polo Fields, followed by a reception at the Historical Society building nearby.

You are encouraged to put this on your calendar and attend.

What I have heard about Dan is that he is one of the Village's best examples of volunteerism and will be well deserving of our heartfelt congratulations. We are very fortunate to be part of a community with people like Dan who provide the leadership to which we should all aspire.

# VESTRY MEETING MINUTES

**FEBRUARY 23, 2022**

*by Tom Matthews*

Present: Mother Ann Kidder, Becky Everett, Charley Marston, Ron Lee, Elise Bennett, Sandra Redmond, Judy Holmes, Mary Holmes, Sean McMillion, Mary Murray, Tom Matthews

The meeting came to order at 5:32 pm. Mother Ann opened the meeting with a prayer.

Review of the January 26th meeting minutes was the first order of business. No corrections were noted. Becky E. moved to approve the minutes as submitted, Sandy R. seconded, a vote was taken, and the motion passed.

Mother Ann started the agenda with the review of the Parochial Report. Mary M. contributed to the review with clarifications on how the submitted financials are slightly different from our standard financials format, which was greatly appreciated. Mother Ann then discussed all the other data which was submitted in the report. The group discussion led to a few possible additions and the end result being consensus on the proposed information to submit. Sandra R. motioned to ratify the Parochial Report as reviewed, Charley M. seconded, a vote was taken, and the motion passed.

Becky E. then presented the Junior Warden report. She stated the kitchen project just needs some minor painting to be complete. During the HVAC repairs, Becky mentioned she found another contractor that had a much better solution for the boiler pumps that repeatedly failed. Due to the great job this contractor did, Becky recommended we switch to them for future projects. For the rectory generator project, Becky mentioned it is scheduled with the contractor and anticipated to be completed in 2 - 3 months. Becky and Mother Ann then reviewed the squirrel episodes in the rectory which sounded more adventurous than a rectory should be. Good that we found alternative accommodations for the two visitors.

In the Sr. Warden update, Charley M. brought up the Oscar and Elena Calvo donation drive and proposed the plate collection from the March 6th service be diverted to the drive. All agreed, so Sandra R. motioned that the plate collection from the March 6th services be diverted to the Oscar and Elena fund, Elise B. seconded, a vote was taken and passed.

Mother Ann then reviewed regional progress with the pandemic case reductions and with this opened a discussion on perspectives for relaxing mask mandates. Discussions covered aspects ranging from singing to distancing to coffee hour gatherings. The beneficial discussion resulted in all agreeing with reducing the mask mandate and recommending each member make the mask or no mask choice based on individual needs.

For the upcoming Annual meeting, Mother Ann reviewed the general agenda and preparatory steps taken for the meeting. She again thanked all the members who were finishing terms.

Mother Ann brought up the CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) program with Rainbow farms as a pick up location for bags of produce. She mentioned there was an inquiry to expand this from summers only to full year. The summer program has been very positive, so all agreed that moving to full year made sense. With this, Mother Ann motioned to extend the CSA program to a full year, Becky E. Seconded, a vote was taken and passed.

The next Vestry meeting will be via Zoom on Wednesday, March 30th at 5:30pm. Mother Ann closed the meeting with a prayer at 6:45 PM.

## Special Vestry Meeting - March 6, 2022 following the 2021 Annual Meeting

*~Becky Everett*

The meeting was called to order, and Mother Ann gave an opening prayer.

Becky Everett was appointed the Clerk *pro-tem*.

Ron Lee was considered for the position of Senior Warden. Charley Marston was considered for Junior Warden. Mary Holmes was considered for Clerk, and Mary Murray for Treasurer. Becky moved to accept the appointments to these roles and was seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The next Vestry meeting will be on Wednesday, March 30, 2022 from 5:30 – 7:00 pm via zoom.

Renee Kolecki moved to authorize the Rector, Senior Warden and Treasurer to sign checks and to authorize the Senior Warden to enter into legal agreements on behalf of the Parish and was seconded. The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned after a Closing Prayer.



## Affordable Housing with LMM, *Building New Ground*

### Hello from LMM's Housing & Shelter team!

We heard good news on a staff call today which made us

all pause and take note. James Walker, Projects Coordinator at H&S, gave us an account of the second family to move into one of LMM's *Building New Ground* homes the previous day.

James reports, "We moved a family into one of the properties; a mother and three children. When I opened the front door, the youngest child, age 5, was there, wide eyed with a big smile. She greeted me before I could even greet her. All of the children were very excited. I welcomed them. One of them asked if she could go upstairs. I said, 'This is your home. You can do whatever you like.' In that moment, I could see the family processing the whole idea of *'This is my home.'*

Next came this huge excitement and they started running all over the house. The kids were running upstairs to check out the bedrooms and start claiming spaces, like kids do. The oldest child, 12, was just sitting in the space she recognized as her own...real quiet, just taking the moment in. I spoke to her like I did all of the kids, but she was more reserved. She nodded as she smiled, very subtly. That's all she did was smile, and didn't say much. It was very powerful.

The 5-year-old really got me; reminded me of my own grand-daughter who will be 8. They're so similar, energetic and ebullient; very strong characters. Her mother wouldn't let her do certain things and the child would come back with 'I'm going to do it.'"

At this point James is laughing hard and I look around at everyone on the staff call. We are all laughing.

James continues, "Both the younger girl and the 10-year-old son were fascinated by the faucets in the kitchen and the bathroom. The fixtures allow the stream of water to be adjusted and directed. The young girl was trying to get her mother's attention and then she was trying to get my attention. But I was doing a walkthrough, a checklist process, with the mother. The little girl kept calling us to LOOK! Those faucets were fascinating for the kids, magnifying just how significant little things can be."

James chokes up slightly and says, "It's really a privilege to be witness to this...it just is. Here is a family who now has a home. They have their space and they are really feeling it."

Speaking for all of us, James concludes, "It's one of those experiences that we work for, and when we have that moment, it behooves us to just take the time and process it. I'll be processing this one for a while."

**Staying in housing is not easy**, but there will be follow up case management for this family, both from the family shelter where they stayed, as well as with LMM social services as needed, and with external community resources. The family will receive 12 month's free rent thanks to EDEN'S Rapid Rehousing program, while the family pays the utilities.

This 12-month's is a time the family can have stability while focusing on job search and other skills toward independent living. LMM is renting all units at a rate that will not exceed 30% of their monthly income, in an effort to follow national best practice definitions of affordable housing (defined by HUD). Finally, an innovative part of this project is LMM's Family Stability Fund intended to temporarily assist families until employment or other sources of income can support their housing costs.

While we're on the subject of hope, **imagine all the incremental help along the way** to make this family's particular home possible. -All the planners and donors. -All the great partner organizations like

Humble Design, furnishing the homes with donated furniture; their designers artfully arranging the interiors of the homes.

Imagine the ground level support for this one home: in Spring, Good Soil Ministries planted a garden by the front steps. In June: Avon High School Football team combined with Gesu Catholic parish and St. Christopher's Episcopal Church to clean the home. Finally, on the big night of the family move-in, it was discovered there was a bunk bed yet to be assembled. A shelter staff partner, Jose Aguirre, drove over to the house at 8PM, long after his work shift had ended, and assembled the bed. There was no need to sleep on the couch that night - the first night in the family's home.

**Cleveland continues to be the most impoverished big city in America.** The post-recession recovery that has helped other Rust Belt cities seems to have bypassed Cleveland. But on the most vital level, LMM is doing its part to reverse this picture, addressing the crisis of family homelessness in our midst. The broader reach of LMM's Affordable Housing Campaign is joining with St. Clair Superior Development Corporation in their plans to improve housing stock in our neighborhood – where all 20 of the LMM homes will be located. In 4 years, the plan is to have all 20 homes filled with families. Imagine the reaction of this family described by James Walker - multiplied many times over in the coming months!



### Follow-up on 12/24

We received an email on December 24, from Michael Sering, VP of Housing & Shelter, reporting: “Thanks to all for the great work on *Building New Ground* houses. James shared a fantastic update that we got the 3rd family in before Christmas, moved in yesterday! The 2 families in the duplex even know each other and are glad to be neighbors. Gift cards to the families were donated by two area Target stores. These were a big hit, as you can imagine - brought one mom to tears (& almost me too!).”

-Lydia Bailey, LMM Housing & Shelter

1	Finley McMillion
4	Larry Smith
5	Bridget Manning
	Jean Ramsey
	Denise Weber
6	Whit Champ
7	Jim LaMantia
8	Charlene Currutt
	Lena DeBaz
	Daniel McMullen
11	Nancy Clark
13	Renee Kolecki
14	Whitney Cole
	Gladys Loth
16	Russ Lincoln
17	Brandon Gray
19	Ryan Zittkowski
20	Stella Schmidt
22	Barbara Scovil

Birthdays

**MAY**

**Grief Group ZOOM Meeting**  
**MAY 3 & 17, 6:30-8:00 PM**  
If interested in coming to this group, please contact Kathy Pender:  
440-463-7378 or [kp@momshrink.com](mailto:kp@momshrink.com)

### FLOWER DEDICATIONS APRIL 2022



In loving memory of:

- Our Parents by Mother Ann Kidder & Ted Fletcher
- Madeleine Mitchell and Jean Doerr by Kathi & Jim Mitchell
- Joan & Arthur & John Hellman by the Hellman Family
- Anthony J. Russo & Irene Suskind Russo by Liz Russo



RENEE JONES  
EMPOWERMENT CENTER

KNOW HUMAN TRAFFICKING



## “Striving for Hope” Walk

The diocesan Episcopal Anti-Human Trafficking Committee is hosting a 1 or 2-mile walk on **May 21, 2022** to help fund a retreat for the human trafficking survivors at Renee Jones Empowerment Center. This is a spiritual retreat that offers hope for the survivors.

**Register by May 18**

**\$10/person**

**Solon Community Park - 6679 SOM Center Rd,  
Solon, Ohio 44139**

**Check in opens at 9 AM, walk starts at 10 AM.**

**Donations** of any amount are greatly appreciated and may be sent to:

St. Martin's  
6295 Chagrin River Rd  
Chagrin Falls, 44022



## FAITH FORMATION

### Trying to Plan Ahead

In these still uncertain times, we try to navigate our way through life, and this includes our church school. The importance of raising our children in strength, faith, courage and love is even more urgent. We can continue faith formation in the home and family life. It is the most basic place for faith formation. Go ahead and share your thoughts about your faith, tell your children about your experiences in church, read the Bible together and pick up those books with Bible stories. We can pause at various holidays to talk about the Christian meaning of Easter, Lent, Christmas and all the church seasons.

*We ask that you consider the option of in person classes in the Fall or would you consider Zoom classes?* This, we ask, of course, within your comfort level in the Covid climate. The world situation has been harsh, stressful and often lonely. What greater and lasting gift can we give the children and their families than an education and experience in the eternal love of God?

## In May, we are collecting for Chesterland Food Pantry:

- Peanut Butter (No glass)
- Jelly (No glass)
- Honey
- Crackers
- Bread
- Pancake Mix
- Biscuit Mix



## Mother's Day

*Sunday, May 8<sup>th</sup> is the day we honor our mothers. Call, write or visit your mom. Say a prayer for the mothers in your life and in the entire world. Be sure to include all the women who have nurtured you.*

*A mother's arms are made of tenderness and children sleep soundly in them.*

~ Victor Hugo



SUNDAY MAY 1		MONDAY -2	TUESDAY - 3	WEDNESDAY-4	THURSDAY-5	FRIDAY-6	SATURDAY-7
<b>8 am Holy Eucharist</b>	<b>10:15 am Holy Eucharist</b>	9AM Book Group Chpt 6	9-11 Stephen Ministry	Mother Ann at Clergy Conference		1:00 DOK	11:00 Memorial Service
<b>EM:</b> Charley Marston	John Irwin						
<b>LECTOR:</b> Annette Lowe	Courtney Schmidt & Brian Wright						
<b>ALTAR:</b> Sue Marston	Leslie Marting						
<b>USHERS</b> NA	Rik Bole, Brian Wright						
<b>HOSTESSES</b>	Lucy Lytle & Becky Everett		6:30 PM Grief		5:00 Evening Prayer  8PM AA		

SUNDAY MAY 8		MONDAY -9	TUESDAY -10	WEDNESDAY-11	THURSDAY-12	FRIDAY 13	SATURDAY-14
<b>8 am Holy Eucharist</b>	<b>10:15 am Holy Eucharist</b>	 9AM Book Group Chpt 7	10:00 Staff Meeting	LMMM Lunch Service	4:00 Book Group		
<b>EM:</b> Charley Marston	Fran Meyers				5:00 Evening Prayer		
<b>LECTOR:</b> Annette Lowe	Lucy Lytle & Judy Holmes				8:00 AA		
<b>ALTAR:</b> Sue Marston	Lucy Lytle						
<b>USHERS</b> NA	Ron & Neal Lee						
<b>HOSTESSES</b>	Elise Bennett						

SUNDAY MAY 15		MONDAY -16	TUESDAY - 17	WEDNESDAY-18	THURSDAY-19	FRIDAY-20	SATURDAY-21
<b>8 am Holy Eucharist</b>	<b>10:15 am Holy Eucharist</b>	9AM Book Group Chpt 8	9-11 Stephen Ministry	10:00 Staff Meeting  6:30 Grief	4:00 Book Group		
<b>EM:</b> Melanie Reda	Dale Gndt				5:00 Evening Prayer		
<b>LECTOR:</b> Teri Ianni	Victoria Connell & Ron Lee				8:00 AA		
<b>ALTAR:</b> Teri Ianni	Courtney Schmidt						
<b>USHERS</b> NA	Becky Everett, Rik Bole						
<b>HOSTESSES</b>	Neal Lee						

SUNDAY MAY 22		MONDAY -23	TUESDAY - 24	WEDNESDAY-25	THURSDAY-26	FRIDAY-27	SATURDAY-28	
<b>8 am Holy Eucharist</b>	<b>10:15 am Holy Eucharist</b>	9AM Book Group Chpt 9	10:00 Staff Meeting	Vestry Meeting	4:00 Book Group	2:00 Janet Hargrave Memorial		
<b>EM:</b> Melanie Reda	Fran Meyers				5:00 Evening Prayer			
<b>LECTOR:</b> Sandy Redmond	Victoria Connell & Fran Sarkisian				8:00 AA			
<b>ALTAR:</b> Sally Conley	Renee Kolecki							
<b>USHERS</b> NA	Peter Thatcher, Ron Lee							
<b>HOSTESSES</b>	Mary Murray & Sandy Redmond							

SUNDAY MAY 29		MONDAY- 30	TUESDAY - 31	WEDNESDAY-1	THURSDAY-2	FRIDAY-3	SATURDAY-4
<b>8 am Holy Eucharist</b>	<b>10:15 am Holy Eucharist</b>	 9AM Book Group Chpt 10	10:00 Staff Meeting		4:00 Book Group		
<b>EM:</b> John Irwin	John Irwin				5:00 Evening Prayer		
<b>LECTOR:</b> Teri Ianni	Chandler Everett & Becky Everett				8:00 AA		
<b>ALTAR:</b> Sally Conley	Neal Lee						
<b>USHERS</b> NA	Dixon Morgan, Chandler Everett						
<b>HOSTESSES</b>	Nancy Irwin						

ST. CHRISTOPHER  
BY-THE-RIVER  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
[www.stchrisbytheriver.org](http://www.stchrisbytheriver.org)

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

The Rev. Ann Kidder, Rector  
[stchris.motherann@gmail.com](mailto:stchris.motherann@gmail.com)

**Sunday Services**

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I  
10:15 AM Holy Eucharistic Rite II

Find our weekly worship on [YouTube](#).

**Parish Office**

Staffed T-W-Th 8:30-2:30  
**440-423-4451**  
[stchrisbytheriver@gmail.com](mailto:stchrisbytheriver@gmail.com)

May 2022 Newsletter

**St. Christopher by-the-River**



**BOOK GROUPS**

Thursdays at 4:00 p.m.  
Sundays 9:00 a.m.

*We Make the Road by Walking*

May 1: Chpt 6  
May 8: Chpt 7  
May 12 & 15: Chpt 8  
May 19 & 22: Chpt 9  
May 26 & 29: Chpt 10

**SUNDAYS**

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I  
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II  
(Childcare available at the 10:15 service)

Find our weekly worship on [YouTube](#)

**THURSDAYS**

5:00 p.m. Evening Prayer