ST. CHRISTOPHER BY-THE-RIVER

JUNE/JULY 2022 NEWSLETTER

Dear Friends,

Pentecost is the fiery, Spirit-filled, open door through which we enter the long green Season After Pentecost which lasts until we begin a new round of the Church Year with the First Sunday of Advent in late November. This Pentecost on June 5th we will baptize Vivienne and Lucy Radis at the 10:15 service. There is a moment in our baptismal liturgy, following the baptism, where all of us address the newly baptized with these words: "We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood." Vivienne and Lucy are both far too young to understand the meaning of these words. Yet even we adults may wonder what it looks like to "share in his eternal priesthood".

Through the gift of the Holy Spirit in our baptism we receive the very essence of the Divine Life. In that moment we become forever one with God. This is the fulfillment of Jesus' prayer for his disciples and for us who have also come to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the promised Messiah. Just last Sunday we heard that prayer again in the reading from John 17:20-26. Jesus repeatedly emphasizes his unity with the Father and our unity with each other and with the Father and Son. Why the focus on being one? Here are the reasons given by Jesus in that gospel passage:

> …As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.… I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.'

The essence of God is Love, which manifests in and through the Holy Spirit, given to us at baptism. To share in Christ's "eternal priesthood" is to live out our calling to be witnesses to God's healing and redeeming love for all people through the death and resurrection of Jesus' Christ. Vivienne and Lucy – and all of us – are called to make God's love visible in our daily lives. If we all share with Christ in his eternal priesthood, and our entrance into that priesthood is our baptism, it may be helpful to consider the vows that precede the moment of our baptism.

> Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?
> *I will, with God's help.*
> Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?
> *I will, with God's help.*
> Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?
> *I will, with God's help.*
> Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?
> *I will, with God's help.*
> Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?
> *I will, with God's help.*

"I will with God's help" is the key. It is only through the power of the Holy Spirit who makes us one with God and with each other that we can love others as we have been loved; "…so that the world may believe that you have sent me."

May this long, green season be a season filled with opportunities to love our neighbors; to strive for justice and peace; and to respect the dignity of every human being.

In Christ's Love, Ann+

VESTRY MEETING MINUTES

MARCH 30, 2022

by Becky Everett

Present: Mother Ann, Ron Lee, Charley Marston, Becky Everett, Renee Kolecki, Peter Thatcher, Bruce Long, Mary Holmes

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm. Mother Ann led an opening prayer.

Charley Marston moved to accept the 2/28/22 minutes as written, and Bruce Long moved to accept the 3/6/22 minutes as written. This was seconded by Becky Everett. The motion passed.

Charley Marston moved that Ron Lee, Charles Marston, Mary Murray and Ann Kidder be authorized to make withdrawals and/or changes with regard to the UBS investment accounts on behalf of the parish. This motion was seconded and passed.

The budget report was quickly reviewed. Mother Ann reminded the vestry that Mary Murray joins the vestry meeting every quarter. If anyone has a question regarding the budget, please email Mary Murray, copying all vestry members, to ensure that all are included in the inquiry.

The Stephen Ministry would like to purchase and dedicate a tree to be planted on the church property in Janet Hargrave's memory. They are seeking the vestry's permission to do so. Many vestry members participated in the discussion, asking about the type and size of the tree and where to plant the tree. After a lengthy discussion, Ron Lee moved that the vestry authorize the planting of a tree in Janet Hargrave's based upon a small sub-committee's discussion with Patrick Hoffman, an arborist from Davey Tree. This was seconded by Mary Holmes. The motion passed. Becky Everett, Fran Meyers, Judy Holmes and Bruce Long will meet with Patrick Hoffman to finalize this decision.

The topic of vestry meeting times/days was discussed next. The vestry decided that the best time to meet is the last Wednesday of every month from 6:00 – 7:30 pm. In lieu of our regular April meeting, the vestry will have a retreat at St. Christopher's on Saturday, April 30th from 9:00 – 1:00 pm. The topic of meeting time/day will be reviewed at the retreat when all members are present.

The diocese is encouraging all parishes to have a Jubilee Sunday Celebration during the Easter Season this year. It will be a chance to celebrate together as a community. The diocese is making $150 available to those who decide to go ahead with a Jubilee event. Members of Vestry are encouraged to share any ideas/suggestions with Mother Ann, Ron Lee or Charley Marston.

Mother Ann ended the meeting with a closing prayer at 6:20 pm.

Minutes of Brief Business Meeting Prior to Vestry Retreat

April 30, 2022

Chagrin Valley Hunt Club

~Mother Ann Kidder

At 9:00 Mother Ann opened the meeting with prayer.

New Vestry Members were welcomed followed by a brief orientation and review of Vestry norms.

Regular monthly Vestry Meeting dates for 2022 will be on the last Wednesday of the month at 6:00 p.m.

Meetings will be hybrid (in person and via Zoom) if possible.

The motion was made and seconded to approve the March 30, 2022, Vestry Minutes as presented.

The Vestry Retreat work followed. (Highlights were noted on newsprint)

The Vestry Retreat concluded at Noon with a service of Noonday Prayer.

FAITH FORMATION

Summer Blessings and Fall Planning

We wish our St. Christopher's families a happy and safe summer. May the next few months bring you blessed family time and lots of fun! Come join us at beautiful St. Christopher's and/or visit a church wherever you travel. Be sure that whatever you do and wherever you find yourself, keep Jesus in your heart and practice kindness to yourself and others.

This summer we will be meeting to craft our church school after the many challenges of the past two years. We are hoping to welcome all children to nursery and church school! If you have an interest in the faith formation programs, please feel free to email prseverin@aol.com (Peggy Reda).

New registration forms will be included in the August newsletter. **In the meantime, please complete the following survey and email answers to Peggy at prseverin@aol.com.**

Enjoy summer and hope to see you soon!
Peggy Reda, Director of Faith Formation

CHURCH SCHOOL SURVEY

1. How likely would you bring your children or grandchildren to church school on Sundays?
   ____ Likely ____ Not likely ____ Not sure
2. How many children ages 6-14 might attend church school? _____
3. How many children (ages infant-5 years) might attend nursery? _____

FLOWER DEDICATIONS MAY 2022

In loving memory of:

- Ethel Fisher, Ruth Hood and Edward Miscko Jr. and Edward Miscko Sr.by Ron & Carolyn Miscko
- James T. & Penny G. Donaldson, James T. Donaldson Jr., Richard H. Miller, and Susan K. Miller by Elizabeth Donaldson Miller
- Sarah Christy Dickenson and Jeffrey Rockwell Cudlip by Frances & David Dickenson
- Jim Storer by Dede Storer
- And to the glory of God by Annette M. Lowe

1 Sandy Batcheller
Clay McMullen
3 Alison Benek
Chris Pucell
8 Elisabeth Blossom
11 Joan Allgood
12 Elise Champ
21 Bill Reynolds
23 Tom Vail
Jay Lammers
29 Ryan Donahue

2 Jim Miller
Iris Vail
Frankie Ventimiglia
5 Sal Cicirello
11 Charley Marston
13 Nancy Irwin
18 Frances Dickenson
John Irwin
21 Margaret LaMantia
John LaMantia
Connie Lincoln
22 Randy Cole
Barb Miller
Gini Negrelli
23 Anderson Osolin
26 Joyce Zaid

I would like to thank my St. Christopher family for being so faithful in your support of our friends at the men's and women's shelters! Not only have you donated to the housewarming gifts for the men, but you are now stepping up, once again, to help out with needed items for the women! And we have a huge number of volunteers who are committed to making casseroles and cookies every other month to feed the men at the shelter as well as going down every second Wednesday of the month to help serve the meal! We are well on our way to becoming a church known for service, thanks be to God!

lutheran metropolitan ministry
listening. serving. empowering.

I get a daily meditation from the Henri Nouwen Society, the theme of which, often coincides with something going on in my life! Last week, the meditation was titled "Prayer Leads to Compassion", and it reminded me of the relationship between prayer and service. I would like to share it with you!

> *Prayer and action can never be seen as contradictory or mutually exclusive. Prayer without action grows into powerless pietism, and action without prayer degenerates into questionable manipulation. If prayer leads us into deeper unity with the compassionate Christ, it will always give rise to concrete acts of service. And if concrete acts of service do indeed lead us to a deeper solidarity with the poor, the hungry, the sick, the dying, and the oppressed, they will always give rise to prayer. In prayer we meet Christ, and in him all human suffering. In service we meet people and in them the suffering Christ….*
>
> *Action with and for those who suffer is the concrete expression of a compassionate life and the final criterion of being a Christian. Such acts do not stand beside the moments of prayer and worship but are themselves such moments. Why? Because Jesus Christ who did not cling to his divinity, but became as we are, can be found where there are hungry, thirsty, alienated, naked, sick, and imprisoned people. Precisely when we live in an ongoing conversation with Christ and allow the Spirit to guide our lives, we will recognize Christ in the poor, the oppressed, and the downtrodden and will hear his cry and respond to it wherever he is revealed."*

You, my dear friends, ARE hearing His cry and responding to it with prayer and compassion! Every week you demonstrate to me what it means to be a Christian and a follower of Jesus, and I am continually seeing the love of Christ in your faces and the faces of those we serve. Blessings to you all!

~Becky Everett

Thank you for donating a large haul of apartment essentials including paper towels, pots, pans, and more for individuals we serve at the Men's Shelter at 2100 Lakeside who are transitioning into their own housing. ~ Lydia Bailey

Food Pantry Donations

June

Ketchup, Mustard, Mayonnaise, Pickles, Olives, Salad Dressing

July

Toilet Paper, Feminine Products, napkins, paper towels, tissues, laundry detergent, dryer sheets, dish soap

Norma Herr

Over 400 women have exited shelter and achieved housing stability since YWCA assumed management of Norma Herr Women's Center in 2019 and are engaged and thriving members of our community. Each woman at Norma Herr Women's Center has their own unique aspirations. Guests may be working towards gainful employment, stabilizing their health, or achieving higher levels of education. That is why women at Norma Herr work with YWCA staff to develop non-prescriptive, highly personalized, sustainable housing plans that meet their own goals and fit their individual needs.

Norma Herr Women's Center was not named after a donor or a local public figure. The shelter on Payne Avenue was named after one of its guests. Norma Herr began her life as a piano prodigy who was on track to perform at the highest level. She was also a wife and mother before schizophrenia left her homeless and estranged from her children.

By the time Norma reached age 80, she was the longest term resident of the shelter and the oldest woman living there. Norma made such an impact on the other residents of the center that, when she was moved into hospice care due to advanced cancer, carloads of women from the shelter visited her every day. During Norma's time in hospice she was also reunited with her two daughters.

When Norma Herr passed away in 2007 a large memorial service was hosted at the Women's Center that would later bear her name. The moniker stands as a fitting reminder that every woman experiencing homelessness has a unique story and deserves to be treated with dignity and respect.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

JUNE OUTREACH will benefit the Norma Herr Women's Shelter at the Cleveland YMCA. The following items are needed:

TOILETRIES

Bar soap
Deodorant
Laundry detergent
Adult Depends
Body wash
Purse-size petroleum jelly
Lysol disinfectant wipes
New underwear (all sizes)
New socks (all sizes)

GIFT CARDS

Walmart
Target
Dave's Supermarket
Giant Eagle

HIGH NEED ITEMS

Combination or keyed locks
RTA bus passes
Journals, pens, pencils, yarn
Arts and craft supplies
Word puzzles
Adult coloring books
Self-help books
Relaxing reading material

SUNDAY JUNE 5			MONDAY -6	TUESDAY - 7	WEDNESDAY 8	THURSDAY-9	FRIDAY-10	SATURDAY-11
	8 am Holy Eucharist	**10:15 am Holy Eucharist**						
EM:	Lydia Bailey	Dale Gnandt						
LECTOR:	Kathi Mitchell	Mary Holmes & Dixon Morgan						
ALTAR:	Sue Marston	Courtney Schmidt						
USHERS	NA	Brian Wright						
HOSTESSES		**PICNIC**!						

9AM Book Group

Following the 10:15 Service

10:00 AM Staff

LMMM Lunch Service

Summer office hours- Closed.

4:00 Book Group

5:00 Evening Prayer

8PM AA

SUNDAY JUNE 12 – Father Richard Israel presiding. Outdoor service.			MONDAY -13	TUESDAY -14	WEDNESDAY-15	THURSDAY-16	FRIDAY 17	SATURDAY-18
	8 am Holy Eucharist	**10:15 am Holy Eucharist**	Mother Ann out of the office for Continuing Education					
EM:	Melanie Reda	Fran Meyers						
LECTOR:	Sandy Redmond	Judy Holmes & Fran Sarkisian						
ALTAR:	Teri Ianni	Carolyn Miscko						
USHERS	NA	Ron & Neal Lee						
HOSTESSES		Sandra Redmond, Charlene Currutt						

9AM Book Group
Chpts 17 & 18

1-3 Stephen Ministry

6:30 PM Grief

5:00 Evening Prayer

8:00 AA

SUNDAY JUNE 19 - Father Richard Israel presiding			MONDAY -20	TUESDAY - 21	WEDNESDAY-22	THURSDAY-23	FRIDAY-24	SATURDAY-25
	8 am Holy Eucharist	**10:15 am Holy Eucharist**	Mother Ann out of the office for Continuing Education					
EM:	Charley Marston	John Irwin						
LECTOR:	Annette Lowe	Lucy Lytle & Fran Meyers						
ALTAR:	Sue Marston	Neal Lee						
USHERS	NA	Dixon Morgan, Kurt Liljedahl						
HOSTESSES		Lucy Lytle, Becky Everett						

9AM Book Group
Chpts 19 & 20

12:00 – DOK at Two Cafe

5:00 Evening Prayer

8:00 AA

5:30 Rehearsal

5:00 Wedding

SUNDAY JUNE 26			MONDAY -27	TUESDAY - 28	WEDNESDAY-29	THURSDAY-30	FRIDAY-1	SATURDAY-2
	8 am Holy Eucharist	**10:15 am Holy Eucharist**						
EM:	Melanie Reda	John Irwin						
LECTOR:	Kathi Mitchell	Neal Lee & Dixon Morgan						
ALTAR:	Sally Conley	Leslie Marting						
USHERS	NA	Peter Thatcher, Ron Lee						
HOSTESSES		Neal Lee, Mary Holmes						

9AM Book Group
Chpts 21 & 22

10:00 Staff Meeting

6:30 PM Grief

6:00 Vestry Meeting

4:00 Book Group

5:00 Evening Prayer

8:00 AA

Tuesday & Wednesdays
8:30-2:30
June 9 – August 25

Grief Group ZOOM Meeting
June 14, 28 and July 12
6:30-8:00 PM

If interested in coming to this group, please contact Kathy Pender:
440-463-7378 or kp@momshrink.com

SUNDAY JULY 3				MONDAY- 4	TUESDAY - 5	WEDNESDAY-6	THURSDAY-7	FRIDAY-8	SATURDAY-9
	8 am Holy Eucharist	**10:15 am Holy Eucharist**			Office Closed (Vacation)		4:00 Book Group		
EM:	Melanie Reda	Dale Gnandt			10:00 Staff Meeting		5:00 Evening Prayer		
LECTOR:	Sandra Redmond	Mona DeBaz & Brian Wright	**9AM Book Group** Chpts 23 & 24						
ALTAR:							8:00 AA		
USHERS	NA	Brian Wright							
HOSTESSES		Nancy Irwin							

SUNDAY JULY 10				MONDAY -11	TUESDAY - 12	WEDNESDAY-13	THURSDAY-14	FRIDAY-15	SATURDAY-16
	8 am Holy Eucharist	**10:15 am Holy Eucharist**			10:00 Staff Meeting		4:00 Book Group		
EM:		Fran Meyers					5:00 Evening Prayer		
LECTOR:	Kathi Mitchell	Becky Everett & Fran Meyers	**9AM Book Group** Chpts 25 & 26		**6:30 PM Grief**				
ALTAR:							8:00 AA		
USHERS	NA	Ron & Neal Lee							
HOSTESSES		**NO HOSTESS AVAILABLE**							

SUNDAY JULY 17				MONDAY -18	TUESDAY - 19	WEDNESDAY-20	THURSDAY-21	FRIDAY-22	SATURDAY-23
	8 am Holy Eucharist	**10:15 am Holy Eucharist**					4:00 Book Group		
EM:	Lydia Bailey	John Irwin			10:00 Staff Meeting	6:00 NEMAC @ Grace Willoughny	5:00 Evening Prayer		
LECTOR:	Annette Lowe	Fran Sarkisian & Lucy Lytle	**9AM Book Group** Chpts 27 & 28						
ALTAR:							8:00 AA		
USHERS	NA	Dixon Morgan & Kurt Liljedahl							
HOSTESSES		Mary Murray							

SUNDAY JULY 24				MONDAY -25	TUESDAY - 26	WEDNESDAY-27	THURSDAY-28	FRIDAY-29	SATURDAY-30
	8 am Holy Eucharist	**10:15 am Holy Eucharist**					4:00 Book Group		
EM:	Charley Marston	John Irwin			10:00 Staff Meeting	**6:00 PM Vestry**	5:00 Evening Prayer		
LECTOR:	Teri Ianni	Mona DeBaz & Judy Holmes	**9AM Book Group** Chpts 29 & 30						
ALTAR:							8:00 AA		
USHERS	NA	Ron Lee & Peter Thatcher							
HOSTESSES		Charlene Currutt & Judy Holmes							

SUNDAY JULY 31				MONDAY -1	TUESDAY - 2	WEDNESDAY-3	THURSDAY-4	FRIDAY-5	SATURDAY-6
	8 am Holy Eucharist	**10:15 am Holy Eucharist**					4:00 Book Group		
EM:	Charley Marston	Dale Gnandt			10:00 Staff Meeting		5:00 Evening Prayer		
LECTOR:	Annette Lowe	Fran Sarkisian & Dixon Morgan	**9AM Book Group** Chpts 31 & 32						
ALTAR:							8:00 AA		
USHERS	NA	Becky & Chandler Everett							
HOSTESSES		Lucy Lytle & Becky Everett							

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

7601 Old Mill Rd.
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The Rev. Ann Kidder, Rector
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 8:30-2:30 (Summer Hours)
440-423-4451
stchrisbytheriver@gmail.com

June/July 2022 Newsletter

St. Christopher by-the-River

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

June 5th will be outdoors. Watch the weekly News for other outdoor services.

THURSDAYS
5:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

BOOK GROUPS

Thursdays at 4:00 p.m. ***(except 6/16 & 6/23)***
Sundays 9:00 a.m.

We Make the Road by Walking

June 9 & 12: Chpts 17 & 18
June 19: Chpts 19 & 20
June 26: Chpts 21 & 22
June 30 & July 3: Chpts 23 & 24
July 7 & 10: Chpts 25 & 26
July 14 & 17: Chpts 27 & 28
July 21 & 24: Chpts 29 & 30
July 28 & 31: Chpts 31 & 32