

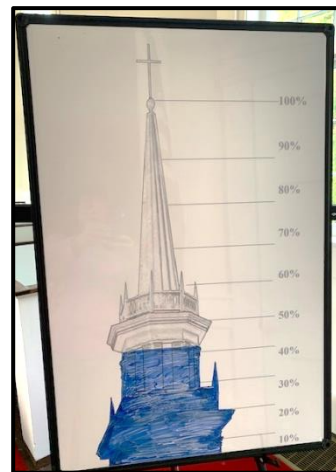


# ST. CHRISTOPHER BY-THE-RIVER

## NOVEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

Congratulations to all of you who have heeded the call and returned your 2024 Annual Giving pledge cards! Our goal is 80 formal pledges and we have reached a 41% of our goal with 33 pledges as of last Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup>! We are also at \$76,980 pledged for next year which is 42% of our goal of \$185,000! We are heading full steam into the **Dawn of a New Day**, and I know we can keep adding to this total as we continue on in our effort!

As I mentioned this past Sunday during announcements, I have been taking care of Mother Ann's cats while she is gone. I was driving down to her house very early one morning last week, and the dawn was just beginning with the sun peaking up on the horizon. It was absolutely breathtaking and I realized I was witnessing God's beauty and presence here on earth and was so moved! It gave me such a sense of hope and promise for the day to come. Every day can be that way, and I was so glad for our annual giving theme this year! Every dawn DOES give us renewed hope and promise for what is to come. With all the energy and enthusiasm which we have experienced at St. Christopher's in the past two years, I know we are headed on the path to which the Holy Spirit has directed us! Continue to reach out and touch that energy and join us on the journey on which we have embarked!



I would like to throw out another challenge to you all! I would like to have a goal of 100% participation in the annual giving campaign this year! If you have given in the past, thank you so very much and please continue at your current giving level or above. If you haven't participated in annual giving in the past, please consider giving what you can or are comfortable with this year. We are all part of the St. Christopher family and want the church and its ministries to continue to thrive and develop! Please take a leap of faith and join our campaign! I know you won't regret it for one second! We are asking that all pledges be received by November 15<sup>th</sup> so that the Vestry can begin to plan for the budget for next year. If your pledge is returned by November 1<sup>st</sup>, you will be eligible for the prize drawing which will be held during the 10:15 AM service on Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>! Please remember, however, that you must be present at either the 8 AM or 10:15 AM service that day to win!

### FLOWER DEDICATIONS

OCTOBER 2023

In loving memory of:

- Jaymi Blossom Feeney and Charles Bingham Blossom by Barbara Blossom
- Jane & Rick Bauschard & Jimmy by Laura Bauschard
- Bob Trebar by Renee Kolecki
- Robert & Virginia Chase by Charley & Sue Marston
- Bonnie Gepfert by Leslie & Michael Marting



2 Don Negrelli  
 3 Dennis Currutt  
 5 Michael Marting  
 7 Kathy Pender  
 12 Helen Cicirello

13 Yuri McElliott  
 14 Hope Lomas  
     Betsi Morris  
 16 Andrew Everett  
     Alexandra Wolf  
 17 Susie Thorpe  
 18 Sue Marston  
 23 Will Barnes  
 27 Carolyn Miscko  
 30 Lucy Lytle

In attendance: Reverend Ann Kidder, Becky Everett, Bruce Long, Matt Vazzana, Rich Radis, Peter Thatcher, Ron Lee, Charlene Currutt, Renee Kolecki

Meeting opened with a prayer at 6:30pm.

Approval of July 26th Vestry Meeting Minutes: Becky moved to accept the minutes as written; Bruce seconded and all approved. No discussion.

July Financial Report: Budget is in good shape with an \$11,000 surplus.

Mary Murray will attend September Vestry meeting to answer questions about the balance sheet and funds.

Rector's Report:

Update regarding the Christian Education Director Search: position is still listed in the Diocesan Weekly. One applicant did not move to the next level. Position will be posted on Handshake, a job resource service colleges and universities provide for their students and alumni; programs with Early Childhood Education majors.

Dixon Morgan will provide Godly Play until the position is filled; he was trained at St. Paul's.

Mary Podwoski will greet and assist as two unrelated adults must be in room, per Safe Church.

Faith Formation Updates – Book discussion, “What We Need is Here, Practicing the Heart of Christian Spirituality” by L. Roger Owens, will be led by Reverend Kidder.

The Bishop will visit early in 2024. People baptized or confirmed in the Christian tradition may be received into the Episcopal Church.

The Vestry will vote for three delegates and alternates for Diocesan Convention at the September meeting. Would be helpful for someone who has attended previously to attend. A Vestry member will be one of the delegates to attend Nov. 10 & 11 in Wooster.

Becky moved to ask Reverend Kidder to contact list of potential delegates. Matt seconded. All approved.

Senior Warden:

Stewardship Update: Becky and Chandler Everett will chair the 2024 Giving Campaign, “Dawn of a New Day.”

Will officially announce at 10:15 service, the first Sunday in October. The official campaign will begin October 3rd and end November 15<sup>th</sup>. Goal is 80 pledges and \$185k. Two prizes, a \$100 gift card to Sara's Place and to a theater production at Playhouse Square, to all who pledged by deadline.

Fun Committee, Ron Lee:

Rally Sunday Update: event announced during services and in News & Notes. Need Flock Note responses. Ron summarized needs for set-up and clean-up. Charley and Bruce will grill burgers and hot dogs. Village will bring chairs and tables; tables will remain for Bargain Box. Char will send a cookie tray to the Service Dept. after Rally Sunday in gratitude. Ron suggested attendees would be invited to give a free-will offering.

Twelve-month calendar of events: Renee created a shared Calendar in Google Docs and shared with Vestry members. Will forward a list of monthly events.

Jr. Warden's report:

First Sunday special collections will go to Our Neighbor's Cloak, an Ecumenical Ministry. We will send a quarterly check. Ministry is seeking donations of socks, underwear and sanitary supplies.

New Directories will be available. in

Coffee shop and Bargain Box will sell Quotation calendars.

Meeting closed with a prayer at 7:29pm.

Future Agenda Items:

September - Sound/Recording/Livestreaming System for the Church & Guild Room

September - Security Plan for St. Christopher's (Wardens)

Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 27, at 6:30 p.m.



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)

NOVEMBER 2023 Newsletter

## **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 PM Evening Prayer**

## **GRIEF GROUP**

**Zoom Meeting**

**NOV 14 & 28**

**6:30-8:00 PM**

To attend, please contact Kathy Pender:  
440-463-7378 or [kp@momshrink.com](mailto:kp@momshrink.com)

Soup, Rice (white, brown, side dish  
like rice a roni), Instant Potatoes  
(mashed, au gratin, scalloped),  
Tortillas,  
Stuffing,  
Canned gravy



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



Join us on Wednesday,  
NOV 22 at 6:00 PM to give  
thanks and worship ahead  
of the Holiday.



St. Christopher's will once  
again be sharing Christmas  
with those in need through the  
Episcopal West Side Shared  
Ministries.

If you would like to participate, the sign--up, instructions,  
and backpacks will be available after each service starting  
Nov 5. They are to be returned by Dec 3. If you have  
questions, contact Debbie Cole.



We will once again be selling  
photographic calendars. The 2024  
edition is \$20 and 100% of the purchase  
price goes to Guild outreach  
programs. They will be available after  
the 10:15 service or by contacting  
Debbie Cole.