



ST. CHRISTOPHER BY-THE-RIVER

AUGUST 2024 NEWSLETTER

Dear Friends,

Thank you for the many ways that you have expressed your love and appreciation for me as I prepare to retire. Your words, whether spoken or written, have moved me deeply. Thank you for taking the time to let me know that I made a difference for good in your lives. It's very important to me that you know what a gift being your rector has been in my life too. Our life in Christ is all about relationships and community; and those can only exist in mutuality. I will always remember the many ways in which you cared for me during my recovery from reconstructive surgery following my skin cancer. You have been understanding and supportive of our family's need to live in two different states: certainly not the "norm" for a married rector! You also gave me the gift of accepting me as a fellow human being – not perfect but doing the best I could on any given day. Thank you for all of that.

I am so grateful for our Staff. They care deeply, do excellent work, and I have been blessed to work with each of them. I have been blessed by Deacon Lydia's presence with me on Sundays. It is not often that the rector of a small parish can have a clergy colleague to join her at the altar. Lydia has been a gift to us all! I am grateful, too, for the Women's Guild, Altar Guild, Choir, Vestry, all of our "Sunday Servants", Men's Shelter volunteers/bakers, and so many more. Together, you have made possible the growth in both numbers and in spirit that St. Christopher's has experienced. I know that you will continue to work together, seeking new ways to deepen your relationship with God and each other.

Thank you, Vestry and Women's Guild, for a magnificent retirement party! All those HUGS! Your gift of the "purse" was overwhelming. I received a check from your donations totaling \$10,400 at the party. Some of you gave or sent retirement gifts to me directly. Taken together, Ted and I now have \$18,180 to use for our travels. Both of us are overwhelmed by your generosity and love. Thank you! It will likely be a year or so before we pack our bags for an adventure abroad, but we will be sure to let you know where we end up going.

These last few weeks have flown by so quickly! Tomorrow, I begin a new chapter in my life – as do all of you. I will be praying for God to bring just the right person into your lives as your next Rector. I will be excited for all of you when that announcement is made.

Many of you have expressed a desire to "keep in touch" and I have left my Maine contact information with Mary Zup in the church office. Once August 1st rolls around next year, you may ask her to share that information with you and I will be happy to hear from you. In the meantime, we all have work to do – getting ready for whatever God is calling us to engage in next.

God's Joy and Peace Always,

Ann+



Present: The Rev. Ann Kidder, Rector, Peter Thatcher, Kitty Thomas, Charlene Currutt, Richard Radis, Judy Holmes, Ron Lee, John Irwin.

Mother Ann opened the meeting with a prayer at 7 PM. John Irwin was appointed Acting Clerk.

Previous Minutes

The draft minutes of the meeting of the Vestry of March 27, 2024 were then reviewed. Upon motion made and seconded, the minutes were approved as drafted.

Budget report

The Rector then reviewed the March budget report which continues to demonstrate a sound financial condition. Mother Ann suggested that in the event that any Vestry member had further questions they should direct those to Mary Murray, Treasurer with a courtesy copy to the rest of the Vestry so that the Treasurer's response to any question can be disseminated to the entire Vestry.

Senior Warden Report

The Senior Warden then reported that a combination Book of Common Prayer and Hymnal has been obtained as a gift to be given to Becky Everett for her many years of service on the Vestry, and for all the other work, support and dedication she has given to the Parish. Since the gift of this Book is being given by the Vestry, it was suggested that each Vestry Member forward \$10 to the Parish Office as a contribution. A further discussion followed regarding the arrangements for an upcoming coffee hour celebration and thank you for Becky.

The Senior Warden then discussed the question of possibly rescheduling the May 29, 2024 to June 5, 2024, an issue which was raised at the previous Vestry Meeting, but not at that time resolved. A further discussion ensued and it was the general consensus of the Vestry to leave the previously scheduled Vestry Meeting on May 29, 2024. No motion was needed.

Junior Warden Report

The Junior Warden reported on the status of the Grinder Pump system at the back of the church, near the riverbank, that handles the sewage from three structures, the church itself, the Rectory, and the small house alongside the Maple Route Interurban easement. That house was sold by St. Christopher in 2008 and is now owned by Molly Nook.

The Grinder was found to be leaking on April 14, and since then the plumbing company that services the church, Bob McHugh Plumbing has been working on the replacement of the two large pumps and related equipment that pump the sewage through a pipeline under the river to the Gates Mills sewage treatment plant.

The Junior Warden provided a detailed explanation of the steps, the components, and the difficulties of dealing with this necessary repair. Trips to Ashland, Ohio and another trip to Lodi, Ohio were necessary to obtain replacement parts. The repair crew had to use hazmat suits to enter the grinder vault to replace the pumps and the associated supporting devices. The work took more than two weeks and the repairs are now nearly complete. Until the grinder was repaired, no water could be utilized in either the church, the Rectory or the Molly Nook house. Mother Ann and her daughter Margaret and the two tenants in the Molly Nook house were temporarily accommodated at the Hunt Club.

The bill will be submitted when all work is completed. The bill is estimated to be around \$20,000.00 for this major project.

Ms. Currutt further reported that the replacement furnace and the associated humidifier project is awaiting a final decision by the Figgie Foundation as to their financial support for these infrastructure items. The Figgie Foundation Board is meeting in the next two days and we are optimistic that St. Christopher will receive financial support for this essential project.

Rector Report

The Rector then reported that Bishop Anne Jolly will visit the Parish on May 5, 2024. During that Episcopal Visitation, the Bishop will Celebrate several Baptisms, Confirmations, and Receptions. She will also attend Coffee Hour and finally, she will meet in consultation with the Vestry.

Mother Ann then discussed Dr. Long's proposal for a calendar of fellowship events throughout the year. The Rector invited members of the Vestry to submit any calendar additions, comments or suggestions regarding this proposed calendar. Mother Ann also noted that at some point in the not distant future we need to consider and schedule a Vestry Retreat. A discussion then followed regarding the annual Marston Park Picnic. The date selected is June 2 with a fallback rain date of June 9, 2024.

Mother Ann then invited Kitty Thomas report on the status of the upcoming bargain box event. All preparations and arrangements are going well, and it appears that this should be another good sale this spring.

Upon motion duly made and seconded the meeting was concluded with a closing prayer by the Rector at 7:43 PM.

FLOWER DEDICATIONS

JUNE 2024

In loving memory of:

- Lorinda Nash Collister by Dan Collister
- Ruth & Art Collins, June & Jim Collins, Brian Collins, and Suzanne Emerson by John & Nancy Irwin
- Marcia & Helmut Alpers by the Alpers Family
- Fran Meyers & Bruce W. Thomas by Kitty Thomas
- Constance & Mauro Novello and Suzy Novello, our dear and loving sister and best mom by Nancy & Jan Novello

FLOWER DEDICATIONS

JULY 2024

In loving memory of:

- Margaret Marting & Sel Marting Sr. by Leslie & Michael Marting
- Betty & Mark Negrelli and Bobbie & Bill Gotherman
- James & Margery Beckerman, Eleanor Liljedahl Snyder and Leroy E. Liljedahl by Kurt & Mary Anne Liljedahl

**And In Thanksgiving for Mother Ann's
presence among us
by Debbie & Randy Cole**



1 Carol Smith
6 Cecile Murray
8 Donna Bixler
13 Patrick Hoeflinger
15 Peter Batcheller

16 Mary Murray
22 Luke Mitchell
Maddie Pucell
24 Charlie Broome
Warren Morris
25 Tommy Richmond
27 Brooks Vazzana
28 John Weber
31 Jane Chisholm



THE EPISCOPAL
DIOCESE OF OHIO

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
July 28, 2024

The Rev. Ann Kidder
St. Christopher by the River
7601 Old Mill Road
Gates Mills, OH 44040

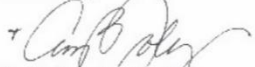
Dear Ann+ and Beloved Ones of St. Christopher by the River,

As you gather on this day to worship and honor the years of ministry that you have shared, please know that you are in my prayers.

I am thankful, Ann, for your ministry with and service to the people of St. Christopher during your time as Rector. I am grateful for your leadership, your pastoral devotion, your care of the hurting and for all you have contributed to the life and mission of the parish. Thank you also for your faithful ministry in the diocese with Fresh Start, the Diocesan Council, and the Diocesan Council Executive Committee. May God bless you richly as you embark on this next chapter of life in retirement.

To the people of St. Christopher by the River, continue your faithful ministry of sharing the Good News of the transformative love of Jesus in Gates Mills and beyond. I am praying for you during this time of transition. Care for each other, worship faithfully, lean into your strengths, and trust God's guidance and provision as you enter this season of ministry and discernment. I look forward to seeing where the Holy Spirit takes us!

God's Peace,


The Rt. Rev. Anne B. Jolly
Twelfth Bishop of the Diocese of Ohio



Bishop: The Rt. Rev. Anne B. Jolly • Trinity Commons: 2230 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115 • 216.771.4815 • dobio.org



FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN

We have just passed through several weeks of sorrowful anticipation of the retirement of our beloved rector, but we have also experienced a joyful celebration of her 10 years of loving care for everyone in this Parish. The respect, affection and gratitude of all of us was displayed at her retirement party on Friday, July 26, 2024 in the Fellowship Hall, and in the generous contributions made to her Purse, and the heartfelt expressions written into her Memory Journal, and on the many cards and notes that have been given to her.

I had dinner with Ann and her husband Ted before her departure, and while I know she feels the same mixture of emotion as do the rest of us, I also know that she and Ted are looking forward to a wonderful, well-earned retirement. They have many plans and, as you would imagine, they will undoubtedly remain very busy and very active.

I have heard from some of the long-term members of this Parish their thoughts about our past Rectors. Beginning with William Shively, who baptized me as a child, and going through the several Rectors that we have all respected and loved over the years, I think I can join with many of those other long timers in expressing my opinion that of all the wonderful people who have served us in that role, Mother Ann has been the best.

For one year, we must abstain from contacting her so that the transition can go smoothly through to completion, but during the coming time all of us will be participating in and busily occupied by the search for a new Rector. We will do our very best to find someone of equal skill, leadership and compassion to fill the position. I know with certainty that the Holy Spirit will guide us in this transition and lead us to the right choice for a new Rector.

John R. Irwin, M.D.
Senior Warden

VESTRY MINUTES

MAY 29, 2024

By JOHN IRWIN

Present: The Rev. Ann Kidder, Rector, Ms. Charlene Currutt, Ms. Judy Holmes, Dr. John Irwin, Mr. Ron Lee, Dr. Bruce Long, Mr. Richard Radis, Mr. Peter Thatcher, Ms. Kitty Thomas.

Mother Ann opened the meeting with a prayer at 7 PM.

John Irwin served as Acting Clerk.

Previous Minutes

The draft minutes of the meeting of the Vestry of April 24, 2024 were then reviewed. Upon motion made and seconded, the minutes were approved as drafted.

Budget report

The Rector then noted that the April financial report continues to show a sound financial condition although the current balance of the Capital Campaign Fund indicates that the time has come to prepare for and conduct a formal Capital Campaign.

Senior Warden Report

The Senior Warden then provided an overview of the organization, staffing, preparation and commencement of a Capital Campaign. It has been approximately 10 years since the church conducted the last Capital Campaign. That campaign was very successful, and a general discussion followed concerning the initial steps to organize a Capital Campaign. Those steps will commence this summer.

The Senior Warden noted that the original church, which we still occupy and use, was built in 1853. All the lumbar, including the huge rafters that can still be seen in the attic, were milled at one of the mills for which this Village is named. Mr. Holsey Gates provided the timber and contributed \$800 toward the total \$1300 cost of building our church 171 years ago.

Junior Warden Report

The Junior Warden then reported that an invoice from McHugh Plumbing for the Grinder Pump system has been received in the amount of \$17,400, which was less than the approximate \$20,000 that had been expected as the cost

for this repair. The grinder pump at the back of the church, near the riverbank, handles the sewage from three structures, the church itself, the Rectory, and the small house alongside the Maple Route Interurban easement. That house was sold by St. Christopher in 2008 and is now owned by Molly Nook.

A general discussion followed about the arrangement with the current owner regarding what was formerly known as the Bell House. At one point in the past the Bell House was the residence of assisting clergy, while the Rectory was the home of the Rector. Over the years the Bell house was later rented out to tenants, but still remained the property of St. Christopher. Ultimately, approximately 10 years ago, the Vestry determined that it would be prudent to sell the Bell House rather than spend a large sum of money to update and rehabilitate this old building. With the permission of the diocese, the Bell House was sold and among the documents regarding that sale there are references to an addendum to the purchase agreement describing the financial arrangements regarding the sewage treatment from that structure. The church archives do not contain a copy of this contract addendum. A review of the specific contract language in that addendum needs to be conducted to determine whether the current owner should contribute in any fashion to the cost of this recent repair. The Senior Warden will contact the law firm that handled the transaction, obtain a copy of the addendum, review the legal documents, and report back to the Vestry on this issue.

Ms. Currutt further reported that the replacement furnace and the associated humidifier project has been completed and fortunately the Figgie Foundation awarded to the church a gift of \$8300 to cover the cost of the furnaces and the humidifiers.

Finally, the Junior Warden reported on the status of the mulch application to the garden behind the Rectory which is nearly complete.

Rector Report

The Rector then reviewed and summarized the recent visit by Bishop Anne Jolly. In addition to celebrating a large number of baptisms, confirmations, and receptions, the Bishop also addressed the parish in a lengthy presentation regarding the College for Congregational Development. Mother Ann reviewed the exhibits provided by the Bishop during her presentation and a general discussion followed. It is to be hoped that one or more members of the parish may choose to participate in this educational endeavor, which meets for one week this year and another week next year. Further details are available from the diocesan website. A lengthy general discussion followed notably complementing our new Bishop on her leadership and presentation.

The Rector then asked Mr. Lee to provide an update on the Pentecost Picnic. Mr. Lee reported that arrangements have been made for the Pentecost Picnic at Marston Park this coming Sunday. However, a general discussion followed about the weather forecast for June 2 and after further discussion about the alternate date of June 9, 2024, which the current weather prediction says will be better than June 2, 2024, on motion duly made and seconded, the Vestry resolved to reschedule the Pentecost Picnic to June 9, 2024. The parishioners will be notified promptly by way of FlockNote, or for those few parishioners who do not utilize email and therefore do not receive FlockNote, telephone calls will be made.

With no further business to come before the Vestry, upon motion duly made and seconded the meeting was concluded with a closing prayer by the Rector at 7:57 PM.

ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH
131 N. STATE ST., PAINESVILLE, OHIO
**BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION
CONCERT SERIES**
SUNDAY, AUGUST 25, 2024
at 3:00 p.m.


SNOWBELT BRASS QUINTET
Snowbelt Musical Arts Association
Chardon, Ohio

Music includes:
classical, marches,
show tunes, rags
and pop tunes

ICE CREAM SOCIAL
to follow
No charge for admission
A free-will offering
is appreciated

FACEBOOK LIVESTREAM
YOUTUBE RECORDED EVENT


Scan Me

SUNDAY AUGUST 4		MONDAY - 5	TUESDAY - 6	WEDNESDAY-7	THURSDAY-8	FRIDAY- 9	SATURDAY-10
8 am Holy Eucharist	10:15 am Holy Eucharist	Celebrant: The Rev Canon Jesse Dodson		4:00 Prayer Shawl	OFFICE CLOSED		
EM: Kitty Thomas	John Irwin						
LECTOR: Annete Lowe	Becky Everett & Dixon Morgan						
ALTAR: Teri Ianni	Neal Lee						
USHERS NA	Brian Wright & Dixon Morgan						
HOSTESSES	Judy Holmes				8:00 AA		

SUNDAY AUGUST 11		MONDAY - 12	TUESDAY - 13	WEDNESDAY-14	THURSDAY- 15	FRIDAY- 16	SATURDAY- 17
8 am Holy Eucharist	10:15 am Holy Eucharist	9-12 BB PreSort	6:30 PM Grief		OFFICE CLOSED		
EM: Charley Marston	Hayley Kosmatka						
LECTOR: Michelle Brockett	Neal Lee & Fran Sarkisian						
ALTAR: Michelle Brockett	Neal Lee						
USHERS NA	Ron & Neal Lee						
HOSTESSES	Sabrina Zickel				8:00 AA		

SUNDAY AUGUST 18		MONDAY - 19	TUESDAY - 20	WEDNESDAY-21	THURSDAY- 22	FRIDAY- 23	SATURDAY-24
8 am Holy Eucharist	10:15 am Holy Eucharist	Morning Prayer		9-12 BB PreSort	OFFICE CLOSED		
EM: Becky Everett	John Irwin						
LECTOR: Teri Ianni	Judy Holmes & Lucy Lytle						
ALTAR: Sue Marston	Renee Kolecki						
USHERS NA	Leslie Marting & Kurt Liljedahl						
HOSTESSES	Larry Richmond				8:00 AA		

SUNDAY AUGUST 25		MONDAY - 26	TUESDAY - 27	WEDNESDAY-28	THURSDAY- 29	FRIDAY- 30	SATURDAY-31
8 am Holy Eucharist	10:15 am Holy Eucharist	Celebrant: The Rev Richard Israel		OFFICE CLOSED 9-12 BB PreSort	OFFICE CLOSED		
EM: Kitty Thomas	James Gallagher						
LECTOR: Michelle Brockett	Courtney Schmidt, Chandler Everett Sr.						
ALTAR: Sally Conley	Courtney Schmidt						
USHERS NA	Ron Lee & Peter Thatcher						
HOSTESSES	Neal Lee			7:00 Vestry	8:00 AA		

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 1		MONDAY - 2	TUESDAY - 3	WEDNESDAY-4	THURSDAY-5	FRIDAY- 6	SATURDAY-7
8 am Holy Eucharist	10:15 am Holy Eucharist		OFFICE CLOSED				
EM: Charley Marston	John Irwin						
LECTOR: Kitty Thomas	Chandler Everett & Brian Wright						
ALTAR:							
USHERS NA	Brian Wright & Charlene Currutt						
HOSTESSES	Lucy Lytle		4:00 Prayer Shawl		8:00 AA		

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

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

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

440-423-4451

stchrisbytheriver@gmail.com

AUGUST 2024 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)

Morning Prayer will be held on
August 18 and September 1.

GRIEF GROUP

Zoom Meeting

AUG 13

6:30-8:00 PM

To attend, please contact Kathy Pender:
440-463-7378 or kp@momshrink.com

8:30 – 2:30

TUES & WED only

Please check calendar for
changes around Labor
Day weekend.



St. Christopher by-the-River

Thank you!
AND FAREWELL

**We wish a fond farewell to
Mother Ann and give her
thanks beyond words for her
10 years of ministering and
caring for St. Christopher's**

