



ST. CHRISTOPHER BY-THE-RIVER

OCTOBER 2024 NEWSLETTER

We are moving forward with all of the tasks facing us in this time of Transition. At its meeting last month, the Vestry appointed two of its members to the Search Committee, Kitty Thomas and Richard Radis. In addition, the Vestry appointed non-vestry member David Dickenson, and those three individuals began the process of forming the Search Committee. The Vestry asked that the membership of the Search Committee be broadly representative to include long-time members of the parish, newcomers to the parish, men, and women. The Vestry asked that the Search Committee interview, select and propose between seven or nine people to serve on the Search Committee. The committee proposed the following members:

David Dickenson, co-chair	Larry Richmond
Kitty Thomas, co-chair	Alison Wolf
Richard Radis	Leslie Marting
Alison Benek	James Gallagher
Bruce Mavec	

I presented these names to the Vestry on September 25, 2024, for their information. In as much as the Diocesan “Search Process: Guidelines for Parishes” specifies that the responsibility for appointments to the Search Committee rests with the Senior Warden, I approved these appointments.

The Vestry also approved retaining Anne Schmidt to serve as our Interim Consultant as recommended by the Transition Officer, the Rev. Jessie Dodson. The Interim Consultant will work closely with the Wardens, the Vestry, and the Search Committee throughout the lengthy search process. Anne Schmidt has extensive experience in dealing with parishes in transition and will be a great help throughout.

As we go through this transition, by the grace of God and the generosity of our parishioners, we are in good financial circumstances. Our Annual Giving Campaign which begins on October 1 will again be led by Becky Everett, who has been instrumental in our recent, very successful campaigns. We look forward to everyone’s continued support of the parish at this time.

As we transition, we have made arrangements for regular supply clergy to continue our services. Father Richard Israel and Mother Rose Ann Lonsway, both well-known to St. Christopher, will be our main sources of supply. In addition, Father Richard has been engaged by contract to provide pastoral care service and he will be available on call. He will also supervise pastoral care services from our other ministries including the Stephen Ministers and Eucharistic Visitors. On dates when supply clergy are unavailable, we will conduct Morning Prayer.

As our Bishop has said, we are a stable parish, and I expect that we will remain strong, active, and stable throughout the entire transition. I am confident that we will find the right person to serve as our next Rector.

Respectfully,

John R. Irwin, M.D.
Senior Warden

Present: Ms. Charlene Currutt, Dr. John Irwin, Mr. Ron Lee, Mr. Richard Radis, Mr. Peter Thatcher, Ms. Kitty Thomas.

Dr. Irwin declared a forum was present and opened the meeting with a prayer at 7 PM. Dr. Irwin served as Acting Clerk.

Previous Minutes

The draft minutes of the Vestry meeting on July 12, 2024, were then reviewed. Upon motion, the minutes were approved as drafted.

Financial Statements

The June 2024 financial statements previously distributed as exhibits were reviewed and found to be in order. The retirement of the Rector has reduced expenses, which will cushion the ongoing budget for the remainder of this year. On motion made and seconded, the financial statements were approved.

Junior Warden Report

The Junior Warden then reported on the status of several projects, including, first, the retirement party for Ann Kidder. That turned out very well and was attended by approximately 100 people. An anonymous donor paid for all of the party's expenses.

Our air conditioners passed inspection, and some additional Freon was added.

A number of trees behind the Rectory are pathways for chipmunks, squirrels, and other uninvited visitors into the attic, so they need to be removed.

The inside of the Rectory will require some serious work. Some of the rooms will need to be repainted; the main dining room area floor needs to be resurfaced, and all carpeting is old and must be removed and replaced. Some windows cannot be opened and need to be repaired; the washing machine and dryer will need to be replaced. We will probably need to upgrade the air-conditioning equipment upstairs. The toilets in all three bathrooms need to be replaced and the roof needs further inspection and probably some repairs.

All of these projects can be completed over time while we are in transition, and when we reach the point where candidates may wish to visit, we certainly should have all of this done.

The Junior Warden is making arrangements accordingly and will update the Vestry regularly.

Senior Warden Report

The Senior Warden reported on the status of the Transition of Ministry, including the upcoming visit by the Canon to the Ordinary, the Rev. Jessie Dodson. The Diocesan Guidelines for the Search Process were also reviewed and discussed.

The proposed agreement with Father Richard Israel for supply clergy services and pastoral care was reviewed and then approved on a motion duly made and seconded.

The Senior Warden then reported on the formation of the Search Committee. He asked members of the Vestry to consider and propose the names of parishioners who might be suitable and willing to serve on that Committee. The Committee should include long-time parishioners, new and younger parishioners, and parishioners with particular interests and ministries in the church, all of whom could broadly represent the parish on the Committee.

A motion was then made to establish the Annual Giving Campaign Committee and to appoint Becky Everett to chair it. She has done that previously and has been very effective and successful in leading those Campaigns. On motion duly made and seconded, the Committee was authorized accordingly.

Police officer Jessica Newsome will visit with the Vestry after the 10:15 AM service on August 4, 2024, to conduct a security review. She will provide information and suggestions to protect the church and parishioners from untoward events.

The last item the Senior Warden discussed was forming a “Funday” committee to organize and host fellowship and entertainment opportunities. The Diocese has expressed great interest in encouraging such activities at all of its churches. During our discussion, it was suggested that Dr. Bruce Long be asked if he would be willing to chair this committee. The formation of a Funday Committee was approved on a motion duly made and seconded.

There being no further business to come before the Vestry this evening, Dr. Irwin offered a closing prayer, and on motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

The next meeting of the Vestry is scheduled for Wednesday, August 28, 2024, at 7 PM in the Guild Room.

RALLY DAY



Sunday, September 8th, was successful despite the challenging weather and the picnic being served in the Fellowship Hall to approximately 50 parishioners. The Blue-Ribbon Meats & Seafood burgers and hot dogs provided by the Rich and Hayley Radis family were expertly grilled by Charlie Marston and Bruce Long, and received rave reviews.

Thanks also to Luis and Lucy Calvo for their attentive assistance in prepping and carrying out the event. Thanks also to all the terrific volunteers who helped with set-up on Saturday and who were there on Sunday to keep everything running smoothly and to help with clean up afterwards.

Thanks also to all those who responded so well and tastefully to the request to contribute accompanying food, most especially to Larry Richmond for the over-the-top cake honoring Yuri McElliott’s 30 years of service as our music director.



2025 ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN



October 1, 2024 is the official launch date for the 2025 Annual Giving Campaign! Our theme, “From Our Hearts, With Love”, reminds us that God Is Love. His love for us is unconditional and endless. With all that is going on in the world around us, it is vital that we remember His love and show that love to St. Christopher’s and the rest of the world. One way to do this is to look into our hearts and choose to be good stewards of our church, a church that is known for its outreach and service to others. Please help us as we enter this next year of transition and begin to search for our next rector by continuing to love one another, love and care for our church home, and love our neighbor as ourselves. You can do this by pledging your

support for the coming year. Our goal for the 2025 Annual Giving Campaign is 80 formal pledges totaling \$185,000! The success of last year’s campaign has helped to lead us to the positive place we are now. Help us continue our journey on this road to the hopeful, positive future which the Holy Spirit has in store for us by submitting your formal pledge NOW! The official campaign runs through November 15th. We are asking that each of you maintain, and possibly increase, your current level of support.

This year, any formal pledge that gets to the church office by noon on October 31, 2024, will automatically enter that individual/family into a drawing for two incredible prizes! The first is a \$100 gift certificate to Sara’s Place located right over the bridge from the church. The second prize is a set of two tickets to the Playhouse Square Broadway Series show, Shucked, which will be in town in April 2025. This prize also includes free parking at the Playhouse Square garage. The drawing for these two prizes will be Sunday, November 3rd, at the 10:15 AM service. You must be present at the 8:00 AM or 10:15 AM service that day to be eligible for the drawing!

Thank you all for your past, present, and future support of St. Christopher’s – a church that we all love and would like to see continue on this positive path! Let’s all join together to share and show God’s love for our church and for the world around us!

Feel free to print this pledge card to use if you misplaced yours!



NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

St. Christopher by-the-River Episcopal Church 2025 Annual Giving Campaign

“Let all that you do be done in love.” - 1 Corinthians 16:14



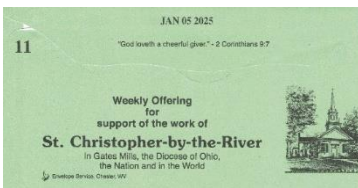
In gratitude for God’s gifts and in support of St. Christopher’s ministries, in 2025, I/we plan to give

\$ _____ .



I/we have included St. Christopher by-the-River in my/our will or estate plans

2025 OFFERING ENVELOPES



Anyone interested in weekly offering envelopes, please contact Mary in the office. I do appreciate people using the envelopes! If you would like just a handful of undated offering envelopes, we would be happy to send them to you with your number written on them as this helps Mary in the office with processing checks from each Sunday.

EVENTS HAPPENING



CARILLON CONCERT FOR DAVID

Saturday Morning, October 12, 2024, 11AM to Noon
St. Christopher by-the-River
Gates Mills, OH

In honor of David Osburn's 30 plus years of playing the bells in Gates Mills



A carillon concert with
Becky Everett
St. Christopher's resident carillonneur
and
featuring
Keiran Cantilina



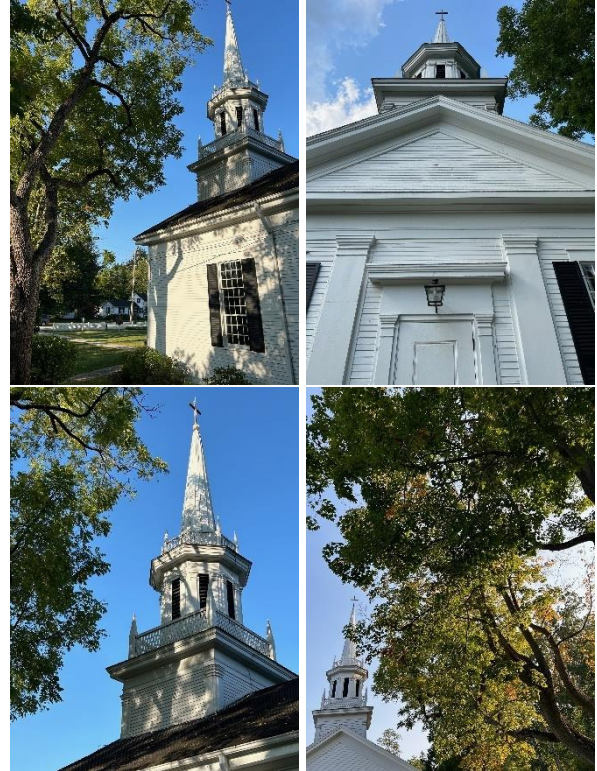
Graduate of the Royal Carillon School in Mechelen, Belgium
and a finalist in the
2019 Queen Fabiola International Carillon Competition

Keiran lives in Lakewood, OH, is the Principal Research Engineer at the Cleveland Clinic Lerner Research Institute, and performs frequently on the McGaffin Carillon at the Church of the Covenant

Come One, Come All!

The bells are a'ringing for our village's longest serving carillonneur!

Special thanks to Peter Griesinger and The Improvement Society



The Gates Mills Players Invite Your Family to Join Us for Our
3rd Annual Chili Cook-Off and Dinner



Admission includes chili samples, a green salad, cornbread/rolls, dessert, soft drinks, and beer/wine for adults. Plus a pinata for the children!

Saturday, October 19

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Gates Mills Community House

Sponsored By

BERKSHIRE
HATHAWAY
HOME SERVICES
PROFESSIONAL
REALTY

TASK TEAM
REALTY

Celebrity Judges:

Mayor Steve Siemborski

Police Chief Gregg
Minichello

Personal Chef Laura Cotton

Come Cheer For This Year's Contestants—They Need Your Votes!

Alison Phillips: Game Day Gourmet Chili. Treat your friends and family to a delicious feast of beef short ribs, ground beef, beans and tomatoes with traditional and modern ingredients. Game day is always a "win" with this chili!

Becky Everett: White Chicken Chili. This recipe features rotisserie chicken, bacon, corn, black beans, cream cheese and much more. You'll definitely add it to your list of favorite comfort foods!

Richard Greco: Richard's Supreme Chili Featuring All World Andouille Sausage. A beef and pork chili with just the right amount of heat. We make the sausage by hand at our All World Sausage shop on Hillcreek Lane.

Tracy Blake & Beth Silverman: Meat Lovers Vegan Chili. This vegan chili blends spices to give it a smoky medium heat and uses vegan sausage for a delicious meaty flavor.

Anthony & Jessica Tripi (Gates Mills Elementary School's PTC): Slow-Burn Homestyle Chili. Just like grandma used to make it but with the added kick of some heat and the malty sweetness of a Guinness.

Margaret Robey: Marg's Meatless Mexican Mole Chile. A purely plant-based chili con frijoles with a rich, spicy mole-inspired sauce.

Joe Robey: Zesty Smoky Chipotle Chili. A smoky, somewhat spicy, herbaceous chili with hints of lime and cumin.

Carl Fazio, Jr.: Meatless 3-Bean & Grain Chili. A delicious gluten-free and vegan chili made with kidney, great northern, and pinto beans, brown rice, and quinoa. Meat eaters love it too!

Tickets Go on Sale September 1 at gatesmillsplayers.com

Adults: \$25 / Children Under 12: \$15 (Reservations Required / No Walk-Ins)

Or mail a check made out to the GM Players for the total number of dinners to

Lucy Lytle, 1063 Chagrin River Road, GM 44040

Payment must arrive no later than Monday, October 14. Please include your phone number in case of questions.

ST JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

131 N. STATE STREET, PAINESVILLE

BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

CONCERT SERIES

ORGAN CONCERT & RECEPTION

BRYAN T. MITNAUL

DISTINGUISHED ORGANIST AND CHOIRMASTER
COME AND ENJOY A CONCERT THAT WILL CONSIST
OF A TRIP THROUGH THE LITURGICAL YEAR IN
ORGAN MUSIC.

MUSIC BY BACH, BUXTEHUDE, KARG-ELERT, BRAHMS,
EGERTON AND DAQUIN.

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2024
3:00 P.M.**

FOR MORE INFORMATION,
PLEASE VISIT OUR



WEBSITE


WWW.STJAMESOH.ORG



NO CHARGE FOR ADMISSION


**A FREE-WILL OFFERING IS
APPRECIATED**

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 29		MONDAY - 30	TUESDAY - 1	WEDNESDAY-2	THURSDAY-3	FRIDAY- 4	SATURDAY-5
8 am Morn Prayer	10:15 am Morn Prayer	<p>MORNING PRAYER</p> 	 OCTOBER 4:00 Prayer Shawl		9:00 Staff		
EM: John Irwin	John Irwin & Hayley Kosmatka						
LECTOR: Michelle Brockett	Chandler Everett & James Gallagher						
ALTAR: Michelle Brockett	Courtney Schmidt						8:00 AA
USHERS NA	Peter Thatcher & Gabe Brachna						
HOSTESSES	<i>Nothing Bundt Cakes!</i>						

SUNDAY OCTOBER 6 -- The Reverend Richard Israel		MONDAY - 7	TUESDAY - 8	WEDNESDAY-9	THURSDAY- 10	FRIDAY- 11	SATURDAY- 12
8 am Holy Eucharist	10:15 am Holy Eucharist	<p>9 AM: Animals 12 PM: Beagles</p> 					<p>11 AM Carillon Concert</p>
EM: Kitty Thomas	John Irwin						
LECTOR: Teri Ianni	Chandler Everett Sr. & Dixon Morgan						
ALTAR: Sue Marston	Alison Wolf						
USHERS NA	Bria Wright & Charlene Currutt					8:00 AA	
HOSTESSES	Larry Richmond						

SUNDAY OCTOBER 13		MONDAY - 14	TUESDAY - 15	WEDNESDAY-16	THURSDAY- 17	FRIDAY- 18	SATURDAY-19
8 am Holy Eucharist	10:15 am Holy Eucharist	<p>Celebrant: The Rev Richard Israel</p>					<p>6-8 Chili Cook off GM Comm House</p>
EM: Becky Everett	Hayley Kosmatka					9:00 Staff	
LECTOR: Annette Lowe	James Gallagher & Judy Holmes						
ALTAR: Sally Conley	Carolyn Miscko						
USHERS NA	Ron Lee & Gabe Brachna					8:00 AA	
HOSTESSES	Sabrina Zickel & Judy Holmes						

SUNDAY OCTOBER 20		MONDAY - 21	TUESDAY - 22	WEDNESDAY-23	THURSDAY- 24	FRIDAY- 25	SATURDAY-26
8 am Morn Prayer	10:15 am Morn Prayer	<p>MORNING PRAYER</p>					
EM: Kitty Thomas	Brian Wright						
LECTOR: Michelle Brockett	Chandler Everett Sr. & Dixon Morgan						
ALTAR: Teri Ianni	Laura Cotton						
USHERS NA	Judy Holmes & Dixon Morgan					8:00 AA	
HOSTESSES	Neal Lee						

SUNDAY OCTOBER 27		MONDAY - 28	TUESDAY - 29	WEDNESDAY-30	THURSDAY-31	FRIDAY- 1	SATURDAY-2
8 am Holy Eucharist	10:15 am Holy Eucharist	<p>Celebrant:</p>					
EM: Kitty Thomas	James Gallagher					9:00 Staff	
LECTOR: Teri Ianni	Fran Sarkisian & Neal Lee						
ALTAR: Michelle Brockett	Courtney Schmidt						
USHERS NA	Ron Lee & Peter Thatcher				7:00 Vestry	8:00 AA	
HOSTESSES	Elise Bennett						

CONGRATULATIONS YURI ON 30 YEARS AT ST. CHRISTOPHER'S!



I would like to thank everyone for celebrating my 30th anniversary as Director of Music/ organist at St. Christopher. I would especially like to thank John Irwin for his kind words, Fr. Israel for his special prayers, and Larry Richmond for baking an amazing cake for the reception! I also would like to thank Mother Ann for reminding me of this upcoming anniversary quite regularly over the last TWO years!! St. Christopher is a very special place for me, and it is a great honor for me to serve in this role and worship with all of you.

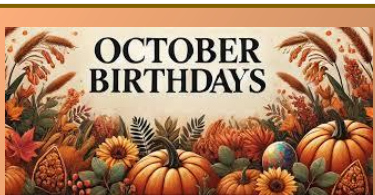
Thank you!
Yuri

FLOWER DEDICATIONS

SEPTEMBER 2024

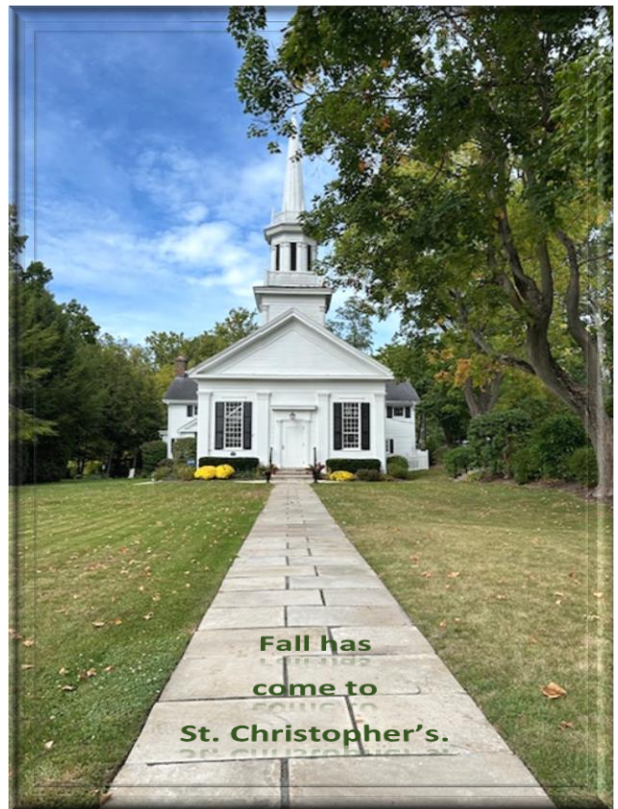
In loving memory of:

- Janet Hargrave by Becky Everett
- Laura & Ed Cole and Dove & Harvey Schlueter by Randy & Debbie Cole
- Sarah Christy Dickenson & Jeffrey R. Cudlip
- Irene & Merle Reynolds and Fred Bixler
- Jaymi Blossom Feeney and Elizabeth Bingham Blossom



- 1 Bruce Long
- Lindsey McMillion
- Brooklyn Osolin
- 2 Elise Bennett
- 6 Polly Bixler
- 7 Parker Selman
- 10 Baz DeBaz
- 13 Tillie Malm
- 14 Kerry Gndt

- 15 Mike Klinginsmith
- 16 Gretchen Fisher
- 18 Jenna Vandertill
- 19 Ralph Della Ratta
- 21 Sean McMillion
- 26 John McElliott
- Britni Ventimiglia
- 28 Margot Hoeflinger



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

Childcare available at the 10:15 service.

Exceptions:
October 20th & 27th: Morning Prayer

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

Parish Office

Mary Zup
Staffed T-W-Th 8:30-2:30
440-423-4451
stchrisbytheriver@gmail.com

OCTOBER 2024 Newsletter

St. Christopher by-the-River

VESTRY

Treasurer: Mary Murray

Class of 2024

Bruce Long
Peter Thatcher
Kitty Thomas

Class of 2025

Matthew Vazzana (Clerk)
Judy Holmes
Rich Radis

Class of 2026

Charlene Currutt (Junior Warden)
John Irwin (Senior Warden)
Ron Lee

NEMAC Representative

Laura Cotton



**Don't forget about our
Food Pantry Donations**

**We are collecting
Pantry Staples:**

- Flour
- Sugar -granulated, powdered, brown
- Baking soda/powder
- Chocolate chips
- Salt, Pepper, Spices
- Oil
- Chicken/beef stock

Sunday October 6th



Blessing of the Animals

9:00 AM

Blessing of the Beagles

12:00 PM