



# ST. CHRISTOPHER BY-THE-RIVER

NOVEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER

On the evening of October 23, 2024, the Vestry met and dealt with a large number of issues, including ongoing repairs and improvements to the Rectory and further advances in the search process for a new Rector.

Contracts have been let for a number of updates and improvements to the Rectory including repairs to the roof, to the chimneys, painting the interior of the Rectory and a number of other projects. All of these projects are being managed by our Junior Warden, Charlene Currutt who is doing a fantastic job in the face of a huge workload.

The Vestry approved the contract with the diocesan recommended Search Consultants Anne Schmidt and her colleague Nora Smith. Their fees are quite modest and they have a major role to play in guiding the Search Committee, and accordingly the parish, in the process of identifying, evaluating and ultimately guiding the Vestry toward the proper candidate to serve as our next Rector.

The Search Committee has been finalized and will be commissioned shortly. The Search Consultants will contact the Search Committee and begin the process of fulfilling all of the necessary steps in this transition. We anticipate that this process will take several months, but I remain very optimistic that the results will be excellent.

We plan to have a photo display in the narthex in the near future with pictures of each member of the search committee so that all the parish will know who is undertaking this work and feel comfortable communicating with the Search Committee about each person's desires, wishes, and prayers about a new Rector. Two members of the Search Committee are members of the Vestry, but it is the Search Committee itself which does the work of identifying a candidate. The role of the Vestry is to support, financially and otherwise, the work of the Search Committee, but not to perform the search itself. Accordingly, please direct your comments, input, questions, concerns, and of course your prayers, to the members of the Search Committee. They will be calling upon all the parishioners as this process moves forward in order to generate a broad and representative picture of what we feel will be best for this church in the years to come.

Respectfully,

John R. Irwin, M.D.  
Senior Warden

A friendly recycling reminder:

**Lucy says....**

***“Blue bin for bulletins,***



***trash for everything else.”***



**Present:** Ms. Charlene Currutt, Dr. John Irwin, Dr. Bruce Long, 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 August 28, 2024, were then reviewed. Upon motion, the minutes were approved as drafted.

### **Financial Statements**

The July 2024 financial statements not yet ready for distribution and accordingly, a review of same was deferred until the next Vestry meeting.

### **Junior Warden Report**

The Junior Warden then reported on the status of several projects, including multiple issues that need to be addressed in the Rectory. Ms. Currutt is obtaining quotes, estimates and recommendations from a variety of contractors relating to the roof, the chimneys, and the trees behind the Rectory garage running along Mrs. Rankin's property line.

Ms. Currutt also reported on the need to have an assessment made of the water issue on the bridge easement side of the Church. Most concerning is evidence of water coming through the wall on which the electrical panels are mounted. An insurance adjuster for the Episcopal Church insurance company has inspected the area, and there are several possible solutions, beginning with an inspection of the gutter drainage pipes serving that area, as well as the consideration of a French drain to facilitate heavy runoff. Ms. Currutt will report on these issues further as additional estimates and information becomes available.

### **Senior Warden Report**

The Senior Warden then reported on the formation of the Search Committee. He submitted a proposal containing information to the Vestry regarding the formation of the Search. A copy of the proposal is attached to these minutes as an exhibit.

A lengthy discussion ensued during which many names of parishioners were offered and discussed for consideration on the Search Committee. The Senior Warden then called for a resolution to begin the formation of that Committee and to appoint David Dickenson and Kitty Thomas as co-chairs, as well as Richard Radis as an additional Vestry representative on the Search Committee Formation Group. On motion duly made and seconded, the motion was passed.

That Group would be assigned

the undertaking of selecting additional parish members to constitute a Search Committee of seven or nine members. In accordance with Diocesan guidelines, those names will then be presented to the Senior Warden for approval.

On motion duly made and seconded, the motion was passed.

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 8:50 PM.

The next meeting of the Vestry is scheduled for Wednesday, September 23, 2024, at 7 PM in the Guild Room.

## MEET YOUR SEARCH COMMITTEE



Kitty Thomas, co-chair



David Dickenson, co-chair



Bruce Mavec



Larry Richmond



Leslie Marting



Alison Benek



Alison Wolf



Richard Radis

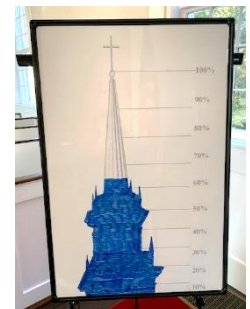


James Gallagher

## 2025 ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN



Congratulations to all of you who have heeded the call and returned your 2025 Annual Giving pledge cards! Our goal is 80 formal pledges and we have reached 48% of our goal with 38 pledges as of last Thursday, October 24th! We are also at \$118,920 pledged for next year which is 64% of our goal of \$185,000! We are giving so much love, from our hearts, and I know we can keep adding to this total as we continue on in our effort!



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 14<sup>th</sup> so that the Vestry can begin to plan for the budget for next year. If your pledge is returned by October 31<sup>st</sup>, you will be eligible for the prize drawing which will be held during the 10:15 AM service on Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>! Please remember, however, that you must be present at either the 8 AM or 10:15 AM service that day to win!



# JUNIOR WARDEN REPORT

## Our Rectory is officially open for a facelift!

1. The chimneys and roof of the rectory are now set and ready to go! Tuckpointing on all three chimneys, plus new stack collars, caps and the surrounding roof/shingles were repaired. (\$2400)
2. The floors will be finished this coming November. (\$7,000)
3. The vestry has recently approved a company to paint a much-needed interior of the rectory. (\$24,000). Three quotes were received and reviewed. Painting will commence in January.
4. New Man Doors have been purchased for the rectory garage. Luis will replace them soon before the critters start searching for a warm home!
5. Most of the left-over Rectory furniture was Sold at Bargain Box. There are a few pieces left, available for free to anyone who can pick them up. (See pictures below)



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

# NEMAC

Meeting, Wednesday, October 23, 2024

## Attendance

**Epiphany:** Nancy Geiger; **Christ Church:** Sandy Pavick; **St. Andrew:** Rev. Lisa O'Rear, Andy Spiesman; Chris Whitaker; **St. Christopher:** Laura Cotton; **St. Hubert:** Rev. Keith Owen, Diane Hunt; **St. James:** Rev. Rachel Harrison, Eric Saylor; **St. Luke:** Rev. Chris McCann; **St. Martin:** Cheryl Gray; **St. Peter:** Rev. Peter Nielsen, Laura Nielsen **Other:** Linda Saylor, former St. James member, meeting note taker

## Openings

**Prayer.** A minute of silence was observed for Deb Zimmerman, Harry Dodds, and the memory of Mary Bowins, after which Chris led our opening prayer.

**Minutes, 4/09/24 Meeting. Moved: Approve the minutes as presented, Diane; Seconded, Eric > Carried.**

**Financials.** Our balance is \$1,633.00.

**Diocesan Council [Nancy].** Council met on September 23, examining the financial situation and work roles and responsibilities at Trinity Commons. A reorganization of financials files by Christina Butterfield has helped to provide user clarity. Thanks to Peter Nielsen for his service as NEMAC priest Council representative.

## New Business

**New Rep.** Chris Whitaker has joined us as lay rep, St. Andrew. Welcome!

**Election of Officers.** Peter Batcheller and Linda Saylor are vacating their roles for health reasons. Chris wishes to become our Diocesan Council Priest representative. Lisa O'Rear [Chair], Sandy Pavick [Co-chair] and Andy Spiesman [Secretary] have volunteered. **Moved: Nominate Andy, Lisa, Sandy and Chris for the roles described; Eric; second, Diane > Affirmed.**

**Funding Request. [Christ Church & St. Peter]** Christ requests \$200 to defray costs for salt, pepper and spices paired with the food given by St. Peter at the annual Christmas meal giveaway on December 23.

**Moved: Approve \$200 for the Christ Church-St. Peter meal giveaway initiative; Andy, second, Eric > Carried.**

## Prior Business

**Neighbor to Neighbor Collaborative. [Lisa]** Several attended a virtual meeting last November. The national organization offers training for volunteers to help immigrants settle. Contact Lisa at [revlisastandrew@gmail.com](mailto:revlisastandrew@gmail.com) to learn more. Here is the Collaborative web site: <https://episcopalmigrationministries.org/neighboroneighbor>

**Human Trafficking. [Cheryl]** 17 people attended the *Striving For Hope* walk August 3, raising \$336.00 for trafficking victims and survivors to attend a horse farm retreat through Renee Jones Empowerment Center.

## Parish Updates

**Epiphany.** Service times were adjusted so the organist could accept a second Sunday playing opportunity.

**Christ Church.** 15 churches will be showcased during the *Historic Churches of Ashtabula County Tour* on November 23. Signed copies of *Historic churches of Ashtabula County* by our own Sandy Pavik will be available for purchase at each church, with a portion of the proceeds given to the respective church.

**St. Andrew.** There will be a Celtic Christmas Advent study. New external lighting to provide better visibility from the street is planned. A Christmas concert December 14 will benefit the parish Food Pantry.

**St. Christopher.** A search consultant has been assigned. Fr. Richard Israel and RoseAnn Lonsway are serving as supply priests. Names are needed for potential donations after the conclusion of next spring's Bargain Box sale.

**St. Hubert.** Priest candidate nominations are closed. There will be a Harvest dinner in late November. A 24-hour monastery event on December 24 includes dinner, Evensong, breakfast, prayer, Eucharist and Advent Quiet Day.

**St. James.** The parish's Bicentennial year culminates with a dinner Saturday evening, November 16, with Bishop Jolly keynoting, and an organ concert Sunday afternoon, November 17 by renowned organist Tom Trenney.

**St. Luke.** There will be a Charlie Brown Christmas play in December.

**St. Martin.** The parish will hold a children's pageant on December 9.

**St. Peter.** In collaboration with Christ Church, the parish is looking forward to its joyful Christmas dinner giveaway on December 23.

**Closing**

**Proposed 2025 Meeting Dates.** Mon. January 13; Tue. April 15; Wed. July 16 and Thu. October 16.

**Prayer.** M. Rachel led us in our closing prayer. The meeting concluded at 6:45 p.m. *Respectfully submitted,*  
*Andrew Spiesman, Secretary*



- |                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Don Negrelli     | 16 Andrew Everett |
| 32 Denny Currutt   | Alexandra Wolf    |
| 5 Michael Marting  | 17 Susie Thorpe   |
| 7 Kathy Pender     | 18 Sue Marston    |
| 12 Helen Cicirello | 23 Will Barnes    |
| 13 Yuri McElliott  | 27 Carolyn Miscko |
| Tim Thirion        | Caleb Thirion     |
| 14 Hope Lomas      | 30 Lucy Lytle     |
| Betsi Morris       |                   |

**FLOWER DEDICATIONS**  
**OCTOBER 2024**  
In loving memory of:

- Jane & Rick Bauschard and Jimmy and Nora Bauschard by Laura Bauschard
- Bob Trebar by Renee Kolecki
- Robert & Virginia Chase by Charley & Sue Marston
- Bonnie Gepfert by Leslie & Michael Marting

**EVENTS HAPPENING**

**St. James Episcopal Church**  
131 N. State Street, Painesville, Ohio

**BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION  
CULMINATION CONCERT**  
featuring  
**TOM TRENNEY**  
Renowned Organist

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2024**  
**4:00 P.M.**

**NO CHARGE FOR ADMISSION  
A FREE-WILL OFFERING IS  
APPRECIATED**

FOR MORE INFORMATION,  
PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE  
[WWW.STJAMESOH.ORG](http://WWW.STJAMESOH.ORG)



ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
131 N. STATE STREET, PAINESVILLE


**BICENTENNIAL BANQUET**  
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2024  
@ 5:30 P.M.  
HELLRIEGEL'S INN  
1840 MENTOR AVE., PAINESVILLE

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: RT. REV. ANNE B. JOLLY  
BISHOP OF DIOCESE OF OHIO

**COST: \$35.00 PER PERSON**  
TURKEY AND HAM BUFFET DINNER WITH ALL THE FIXINGS  
ANNIVERSARY CAKE FOR DESSERT


TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED ON-LINE BY  
SCANNING THE QR CODE BELOW, ON OUR  
WEBSITE AT [WWW.STJAMESOH.ORG](http://WWW.STJAMESOH.ORG), OR  
AT THE CHURCH OFFICE



SUNDAY NOVEMBER 3 -- The Reverend Richard Israel		MONDAY - 4	TUESDAY - 5	WEDNESDAY-6	THURSDAY-7	FRIDAY- 8	SATURDAY-9
<b>8 am Holy Eucharist</b>	<b>10:15 am Holy Eucharist</b>		4:00 Prayer Shawl		9:00 Staff  8:00 AA		
<b>EM:</b> Charley Marston	John Irwin						
<b>LECTOR:</b> Kathy Pender	Chandler Everett Sr. & Judy Holmes						
<b>ALTAR:</b> Teri Ianni	Leslie Marting						
<b>USHERS</b> NA	Brian Wright & Charlene Currutt						
<b>HOSTESSES</b>	Becky Everett						

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 10 -- The Reverend Richard Israel		MONDAY - 11	TUESDAY - 12	WEDNESDAY-13	THURSDAY- 14	FRIDAY- 15	SATURDAY- 16
<b>8 am Holy Eucharist</b>	<b>10:15 am Holy Eucharist</b>				8:00 AA		
<b>EM:</b> Charley Marston	Hayley Kosmatka						
<b>LECTOR:</b> Kitty Thomas	Becky Everett & Dixon Morgan						
<b>ALTAR:</b> Sally Conley	Renee Kolecki						
<b>USHERS</b> NA	Ran & Neal Lee						
<b>HOSTESSES</b>	Lucy Lytle						

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 17		MONDAY - 18	TUESDAY - 19	WEDNESDAY-20	THURSDAY- 21	FRIDAY- 22	SATURDAY-23
<b>8 am Morn Prayer</b>	<b>10:15 am Morn Prayer</b>				9:00 Staff  8:00 AA		
<b>EM:</b> Charley Marston	Randy Cole & Eric Jayne						
<b>LECTOR:</b> Annette Lowe	Chandler Everett & Judy Holmes						
<b>ALTAR:</b> Sue Marston	Lucy Lytle						
<b>USHERS</b> NA	Leslie Marting & Judy Holmes						
<b>HOSTESSES</b>	Sue Marston						

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 24 -- The Reverend Richard Israel		MONDAY - 25	TUESDAY - 26	WEDNESDAY-27	THURSDAY- 28	FRIDAY- 29	SATURDAY-30
<b>8 am Holy Eucharist</b>	<b>10:15 am Holy Eucharist</b>			7:00 Vestry	 8:00 AA		
<b>EM:</b> Kitty Thomas	James Gallagher						
<b>LECTOR:</b> Kathy Pender	Chandler Everett Sr. & Neal Lee						
<b>ALTAR:</b> Sue Marston	Laura Cotton						
<b>USHERS</b> NA	Ron Lee & Peter Thatcher						
<b>HOSTESSES</b>	Larry Richmond						

SUNDAY DECEMBER 1 – The Reverend Richard Israel		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>				9:00 Staff  8:00 AA		
<b>EM:</b> Charley Marston	John Irwin						
<b>LECTOR:</b> Teri Ianni	Fran Sarkisian & Brian Wright						
<b>ALTAR:</b>	Laura Cotton						
<b>USHERS</b> NA	Brian Wright						
<b>HOSTESSES</b>	Neal Lee						



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

**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:

November 17<sup>th</sup>: 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](mailto:stchrisbytheriver@gmail.com)

NOVEMBER 2024 Newsletter

**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

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



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

**2025 OFFERING ENVELOPES**

Anyone interested in weekly offering envelopes, please contact Mary in the office. 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.