

The Communicator



Highlights of Parish Life at Christ Church Grosse Pointe

July 25–August 1, 2010

A Time of Transition

As most of you know, The Rev. Brad Whitaker has resigned his position as our rector in submission to the requirements of the Sentence of Suspension administered by The Rt. Rev. Wendell N. Gibbs, Jr., Bishop of the Diocese of Michigan.

As a member of the parish, you should have received a letter last week from the Bishop and one from Brad. Parishioners were invited to attend a meeting last Tuesday to hear together the reading of the Bishop's letter, Brad's resignation letter and the Vestry's statement on the matter.

It is a sad day in the life of our parish and we want to be available to help you through this difficult time. Members of the Vestry continue to be available after the weekend services to answer any questions or concerns you may have. In addition, a Vestry representative will be available for the next few weeks between 6:15 and 6:30 pm following the Thursday Evening Prayer service at 6 pm. We have also published our statement and a compilation of frequently asked questions on the matter. These are available in the Communication Center near the church office.

We want to affirm our commitment to doing our best to lead the church in the days ahead as we call an interim rector and begin the task of establishing a search committee for a new rector. We offer ourselves to you in mutual love and Christian service and encourage you to join us in caring for and nurturing one another. We look with hope to our continued unity as the Body of Christ and our future as the parish of Christ Church Grosse Pointe.

The Peace of God be with you,

The Vestry of Christ Church Grosse Pointe

Libby Candler (Sr. Warden), Peggy Beadle (Jr. Warden), David McCoy, Denise Crenshaw, Ted Hagan, Chris Harrison, Hope Hoffman, A. David Jones, Joseph Katulic, Paula Labadie, Mark Lorenger, Wendy Niven, Amie Sweeney, Jeff vonSchwarz, John Woodhouse, David Gaskin and Jean Redfield.

Summer Get-Together: Parish Picnic

This Tuesday, July 27 at 6 pm

Join with us this Tuesday evening for our second Parish Picnic of the summer on the church lawn. Hamburgers, chips and lemonade will be provided. Also, utensils, plates, cups and hot grills. Bring a dish to pass and BYOB. We are in need of volunteers who can help set up, grill burgers or help with clean-up. Please contact the church office if you can help.



THIS WEEK AT CCGP

SUNDAY, JULY 25

- 8 am Holy Eucharist (N)
- 10:15 am Holy Eucharist (N)
- 11:15 am Lemonade on the Lawn (Front Lawn)

MONDAY, JULY 26

- 7:30 am Eastside Take Control (U)
- 7 pm Guild of the Christ Child (B213)

TUESDAY, JULY 27

- 11 am Staff Meeting (B-213)
- 10:30 pm Stitch-in-Time (U)
- 6 pm Parish Picnic (Outdoors)

WEDNESDAY, JULY 28

- 8 pm AA Meeting (LL-B-017)

THURSDAY, JULY 29

- 6 pm Evening Prayer Service (N)
- 6 pm Pointers Sustained (LL-B-017)
- 6:15 pm Parish Q&A Forum (FR)
- 6:30 pm DA Meeting (B-217)

SATURDAY, JULY 31

- 5:30 pm Holy Eucharist (RG)
- 8:30 pm AA Meeting (N)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 1

- 8 am Holy Eucharist (N)
- 10:15 am Holy Eucharist (N)
- 11:15 am Lemonade on the Lawn (Front Lawn)

Room Abbreviations

BL–Bicknell Library, C–Columbarium,
CC–Children's Chapel, CEW–Christian Education Wing,
CR–Choir Room, DO–David's Office, LL–Lower Level,
MH–Miller Hall, R–Rectory, RG–Rose Garden,
U–Undercroft, N–Nave

Summer Blood Drive

This Thursday, July 29, 9 am – 9 pm
Grosse Pointe War Memorial

Schedule an appointment to donate blood at this critical time of the year when the need for all blood types is needed. The Red Cross has issued a special appeal for Type O blood this summer. To avoid waiting, call Harriet Kamm at 313.884.5542 to schedule an appointment; otherwise feel free to drop in at your convenience.

The Cloister Bookshop is open Sundays after the 10:15 am service.

Community Life at CCGP

The Vestry Person of the Day will be available in the Family Room after the 5:30 pm, 8 am and 10:15 am services to answer any questions you may have.

TRANSITION

Parish Question and Answer Forum

— For the next few weeks, a Vestry representative will be available in the Family Room on Thursday evenings between 6:15 and 6:30 pm, following the Evening Prayer Service at 6 pm, to give parishioners the opportunity to continue the dialogue about the congregation's next steps at this time of transition.

Children's Chapel — Immediately following the Gospel reading today, all children and youth are invited to join The Rev. Lisa Flores in the Children's Chapel to talk about the transition that is beginning here at Christ Church.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School Volunteer Training — This Tuesday, July 27 at 10 am and 7 pm.

Training sessions will be offered this week for those who will volunteer to serve as sign-in helpers, family leaders and in other positions at Baobab Blast VBS August 2-6 at St. James Lutheran Church. (You need to attend only one.) **We are still in need of additional volunteers.** Please contact Lorraine Phelan at l-phelan@hotmail.com or 313.885.2531 as soon as possible if you can help in these areas:

- Family Leaders to help take children around to stations. Need 2-3 adults or mature high school students.
- Nursery or Preschool Workers to help

care for a small number of children four and under. Need 1-2 adults.

- Family Leader Assistants and Nursery Assistants. Need 6 upper elementary, junior or senior high youth.
- Photographer to record each day's events.

PARISH LIFE

Lemonade on the Lawn — Join us after the 10:15 service this morning for refreshments and fellowship on the front lawn.

Layweedeers — Volunteers are essential to maintaining the church's landscaping. Join the Layweedeers on Saturday, August 7 anytime between 8 am and Noon. Come for 30 minutes, an hour, or stay as long as you like. For more information, contact Mike Fournier at ext. 109 or Candy Sweeny via email at candyclees@aol.com.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Summer Baptism — Baptism is a commitment to the life in Christ as given by God through Jesus. Baptism will be offered at services on August 7 and 8. If interested in Baptism, contact Kay at ext. 107.

COMMUNITY NEEDS

Mariners Inn Mosaic Project — Mariners Inn launched the Mosaic Project as a way of bringing the community together to create a mosaic mural on the side of Mariners' building. Using broken pieces of glass, ceramic, etc., found on the streets in their community, Mariners Inn clients and community members will express themselves through their artwork. Mariners is looking to CCGP to bring in broken/chipped glass or ceramic items for this

Carillon Conert

Next Sunday, August 1 at 11:15 am

Ann-Kirstine Christiansen of Denmark will perform a concert at CCGP after the 10:15 am service. She is the city carillonneur at Løgumkloster and Head of the Department of the Scandinavian Carillon School. Since 2002, she has served as organist and Cantor at Møgeltonder Church, a former castle church for the royal castle, "Schackenborg." Bring a picnic lunch and plan to enjoy the concert from the Rose Garden (weather permitting). **The prayer labyrinth will be available for use during the concert.**

project and invites us to create our own tiles at Mariners on Saturday, July 31 and August 14. If you have items to donate or want more information, contact Ted Hagan at hth3rd@sbcglobal.net.

CAREER NETWORKING

Eastside Take Control, an ecumenical career networking group meets on **Monday, July 26, 7:30-8:30 am** here at Christ Church. Topic: "Using Recruiters" Questions? Contact Richard Gibson at 313.822.6148.

SHARING WITH OTHERS

Food Baskets — Crossroads Soup Kitchen is in desperate need of non-perishable food, such as canned vegetables, fruit, ravioli and spaghetti; baked beans; tuna fish; chili; dry cereals and dry pasta. Make a habit of placing one or two of these items in your car to bring to church each week.

Today's Scripture Lesson in Stained Glass — Luke 11:1-13

This space is to inform you about the way the entire Bible (Old and New Testament) is portrayed in the stained glass windows, especially the Proper for each Sunday. There will be times, as today, when the Proper is not obviously referenced. So we will share other facts about the way our windows illustrate scripture to draw us nearer to God.

There are many occasions when the stories are told in more than one Gospel. Today, in Luke 11:1-13, Jesus teaches His disciples to pray. He gives them a parable to demonstrate the A.S.K. principle for how much our heavenly Father wants to give us good gifts if we persist in our effort to know Him by "Asking and we will be given; Seeking and we find; Knocking and the door will be opened."

This same story is depicted in Matthew 7:6-8, but the location where both scriptures take place is different. At the end of Luke 11:1-13, Jesus asks rhetorically, "How much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!" The Holy Spirit is the gift Jesus requested for us from His Father to replace His presence with us after He ascended to heaven. Depictions of the Holy Spirit, as a dove, are seen in "Salvator Mundi" #12, the center section of the tracery (heart of a window) at the top. Can you find two more examples in other windows? — Elaine Yates



Community Life at CCGP

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

NOTE: In order to keep our prayers for healing meaningful and current, we will keep names on the Prayer List for four weeks unless a longer or shorter period is requested. Please contact us regarding your prayer concerns, and also let us know if a loved one will need long-term prayer support. You may call Kay Yntema-Gruner or leave a written prayer request at the church office.

We pray for the Church:

In the Diocese of Michigan Cycle of Prayer: Christ Church Cranbrook, Bloomfield Hills; St. Andrew's, Jackson; and our sister congregation, Church of the Messiah.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray: For L'Eglise Episcopal du Rwanda and the Diocese of Kigali.

In our Parish Cycle of Prayer we pray this week for: John and Laura Hetzler and sons Robert, John and Matthew; Phyllis Hewitt; Hugo Higbie; Susan Higbie; Michael and Eliza Hix and daughters Moira and Maeve; T.D. and Ann Hoag.

We pray for those in active service for our country: Harry G. Constant, Jr.; Barry Crossman; Bryan Crossman;

Michael Gommel; Colin Jackson; Jeff Jarrell; Bryce Kaymeier; Michael Mazzi; Ian Williams McConnell; John Nickles; Margaret Sweeny; Jason Tonn; Wilson Wehmeier; Frank Weisser; Ryan Worrell.

We offer prayers for: Bill Kendall; Geoff, Elise and family; Allan Altovilla; Elsie Babcock; Peter Beierwaltes; Debbie Boyle; Nathaniel Boyes; Julie Capozzolo; Thomas Cence; B. D. Charlop; Dick Connell; Bill Cummings; Jill Curtiss; Jeannie Davis; Heidi Denler; Kyle Douglas; Evan Eatherly; Trish Erichsen; Emmajean Evans; Barrie FitzSimons; Ed Gaspar; Peter Gushée; J.L. Guyton (COM); Emma Hanoian; Bill Hart; Helen Kirk; John Henry Klekamp; The Rev. Peter Klein (COM); JoAnne Kramer; Helen and Eddie Lawrence; Jenna Lee; Jim Librizzi; Byron Love; Julie Lynch; John Maurer; Don & Jan

McMillan; Pat Mentzer (COM); Anne Marie Miller; Helen Montie; Clare Morison; Joe Muzzi; Vicki Nelson; St. Paul's, Macon, GA; Jessica Randolph (COM); Brenda Rittenhouse; David Scruggs and family; Dick Stanley and Carol Hindle; Doreen Taylor; Kathleen Toole; Blair Tily; Emily Turner; Jackie Wagoner; Alice Wark; Brad Whitaker and Family; Mary Zedan; Christopher Zimmer; George Zinn. Added to the list this week: Denise Sinclair (COM).

We pray for those who are pregnant: Laura Green; Meredith Jones; Molly vandenBosch.

Congratulations on the birth of: Virginia Anne Ogden, daughter of Laura and Dayton.

The altar flowers are given in memory of: John Albrecht.

Donations for altar flowers may be made at any time in memory of, in thanksgiving of, or in celebration of loved ones. Please submit your request and check made payable to Christ Church Grosse Pointe to the attention of the Altar Guild.

ASSISTING AT SERVICES

PREACHER: All services – David Dieter

ALTAR GUILD: 5:30 pm – Bobbi Gaspar; 8 am – Mary Bamford, Al Mackey; 10:15 am – Wendy Niven, Margaret Woodford

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS: 5:30 pm – Heather Albrecht; 8 am – Ted Hagan; 10:15 am – Martha Williams, Wendy Niven, Mary Holmes, Bobbi Gaspar

LECTOR: 10:15 am – Jeff Rush

PRAYERS: 10:15 am – Colin Wilkinson

ACOLYTES: 8 am – Gerard Vallee-Smith; 10:15 am – Deb Miller, April Minetola, Bradley Miller

VERGER: 10:15 am – David Gerdis

GREETERS: 10:15 am – Carol Mengden and Beverly Walsh; Tim Bledsoe and Mary Herring

USHERS: 10:15 am – Jack McCormick,

Roger Mason, Jack Williams, Kit Tennyson (Head Usher)

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL: 10:15 am – Lisa Flores (Leader), Bobbi Gaspar (Helper)

FLOWER ARRANGERS: Candy Sweeny, Mary Trost

VESTRY PERSON OF THE DAY: Peggy Beadle

COUNTERS: Penny Soby, Peggy Woodhouse

Lorraine Phelan serves as Card Angel in July. Card Angels send greetings to parishioners on the anniversary of a loved one's death and to those who are in need of comfort or encouragement.

Coming in September ...

September 13 — Financial Peace University - Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University program will be offered at Church of the Messiah for individuals and families of COM and CCGP. Questions, call Susan Heinen at 313.886.8907.

September 24-25 — Grief, Grace, Growth: A Workshop for Persons Experiencing the Loss of a Loved One – This workshop will teach you how to navigate these difficult life transitions and to grow through them. All are welcome and will benefit from the discussions held in a relaxed, warm, loving and comfortable atmosphere respecting everyone's unique path to wholeness.

The mission of Christ Church is to bring God and people together to know and live the Good News of Jesus Christ.

The Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE LESSONS

Genesis 18:20-32

The Lord said to Abraham, "How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me; and if not, I will know." So the men turned from there, and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. Then Abraham came near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" And the Lord said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake." Abraham answered, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there." Again he spoke to him, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there." He said, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it." Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it."

Psalms 138

- 1 I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my whole heart; *
before the gods I will sing your praise.
- 2 I will bow down toward your holy temple
and praise your Name, *
because of your love and faithfulness;
- 3 For you have glorified your Name *
and your word above all things.
- 4 When I called, you answered me; *
you increased my strength within me.
- 5 All the kings of the earth will praise you, O Lord, *
when they have heard the words of your mouth.
- 6 They will sing of the ways of the Lord, *
that great is the glory of the Lord.
- 7 Though the Lord be high, he cares for the lowly; *
he perceives the haughty from afar.
- 8 Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; *
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies;
your right hand shall save me.

- 9 The Lord will make good his purpose for me; *
O Lord, your love endures for ever;
do not abandon the works of your hands.

Colossians 2:6-19

As you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it. Therefore do not let anyone condemn you in matters of food and drink or of observing festivals, new moons, or sabbaths. These are only a shadow of what is to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. Do not let anyone disqualify you, insisting on self-abasement and worship of angels, dwelling on visions, puffed up without cause by a human way of thinking, and not holding fast to the head, from whom the whole body, nourished and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows with a growth that is from God.

Luke 11:1-13

Jesus was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." He said to them, "When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial." And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs. "So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

Christ Church Grosse Pointe

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