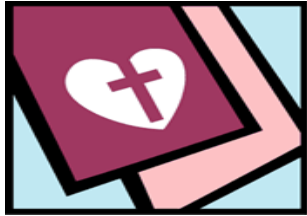




The
Clarion

Volume 24, Issue 3, March 2020

A Monthly Publication



FROM THE RECTOR

We have now entered the Season of Lent—a time for slowing down, praying, examining, and being honest and transparent (with ourselves and with God).

What do we need to acknowledge?
 What do we need to admit?
 What do we need to lay down?
 What do we need to offer up?

*"As Jesus knew, going into the barren and uncomfortable places isn't about proving how holy we are, or how tough, or how brave. It's about letting God draw us into the place where we don't know everything, don't **have** to know everything, indeed may be emptied of nearly everything we think we know."*

~ Jan Richardson
 (from *The Painted Prayerbook*)

There is holy liberation in letting go of our illusions of grandeur. There is holy freedom in knowing that we are God's children, meant to learn and grow through our failures and mistakes. And there is holy glory in humble submission to a Divine Love far greater than we could ever conceive on our own.

May your Lenten days be filled with peace, quiet, and God's holy truth!



Blessings,
 Rev. Maggie L-S
 (RevMaggieLS@gmail.com)

The Clarion

Volume 24, Issue 3

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*Christ Episcopal Church
in the Diocese of Southern Ohio*



Bishop:

The Rt. Rev. Thomas Breidenthal

Priest:

The Rev. Maggie Leidheiser-Stoddard

Deacon:

The Rev. Rick Incorvati

Senior Warden:

Dawn Ivy

Junior Warden:

Jim Whipp

Organist:

Dr. Christopher Durrenberger

**Parish Administrator/
Program Coordinator:**

Kelly Zeller

Facility Manager:

Paul McAfee

Bookkeeper:

Tina Knox

Clarion Editor:

Joyce Spangler

Church Staff Hours

Rector: The Rev. Maggie Leidheiser-Stoddard (Office Hours on Tuesdays 8 AM –2 PM & Thursdays 11:30 AM - 2 PM)

Deacon: The Rev. Rick Incorvati

Sr. Warden: Dawn Ivy (dvivy0960@yahoo.com)

Jr. Warden: Jim Whipp (jwhipp925@yahoo.com)

Parish Administrator/Program Coordinator: Kelly Zeller (Mon.-Thurs. 8 AM – 2 PM)

Organist and Choir Director: Dr. Christopher Durrenberger (Sunday mornings & by appointment)

Facility Manager: Paul McAfee (Mon.-Fri. 7–11 AM)

Bookkeeper: Tina Knox (Tues. & Thurs. 8–10 AM)

Youth Teacher: Abby Glass (Sundays 9:45 AM –12:15 PM)

Your Vestry

Senior Warden: Dawn Ivy

Junior Warden: Jim Whipp

Treasurer: Ken Bladh

Vestry at Large: Bonnie Bingman, Chris Oldstone-Moore, Cathy Hasecke, Denise Sharp, Brian Shelburne, Joyce Spangler, and Keith Doubt

Youth Representative: Sarah Schubert



Staff Vacations

Youth Teacher Abby Glass will be on vacation Sunday, March 15th. Rev. Maggie will be on vacation Monday, March 23rd (leaving after church the day before) through Sunday, March 29th. The Rev. Terri Thornton will be our Guest Priest on

March 29th. Kelly Zeller will be on vacation Thursday, March 26th. Please plan accordingly!

Day of Change: Sunday, March 8th

As our clocks “spring forward”, we will once again collect loose change (bills gladly accepted too!) to support our Christ Church Food Pantry. Use your change to make a change in the lives of the hungry. Baskets will be passed at each service for this offering.





Worship... Offering meaningful, relevant, and welcoming worship in the Episcopal tradition for people of all ages.



Altar Flowers

If you would like to sponsor the Altar flowers for 2020 in memory of or thanksgiving for someone, please sign up on the sheets on the **kiosk**. Please be very specific in what or who you are dedicating the altar flowers, and if you have a particular choice of flower, also, please note when you signed up. The suggested donation is \$45. For more information, contact Kelly Zeller, zellerk0611@gmail.com.

New Security Policy: No Weapons Allowed



Christ Church, like many other businesses, churches, and schools, has implemented a new policy prohibiting all firearms and weapons on church property. This was approved at the August 6th Vestry meeting. Signs have been posted which meet the legal requirements for this policy to comply with Ohio law. The policy is effective immediately.

Questions? Contact Security Director, Jack Ivy at zis1942@yahoo.com



If the Clark County Sheriff calls a Level 1 Snow Emergency, Christ Church will cancel the 8 am Sunday Service, the 10 AM Wednesday Chapel Service and the office, meetings and any other activities. If the Sheriff calls a Level 2 Snow Emergency the 10 AM Sunday Service will also be cancelled. If Christ Church has to close on a Sunday, we will do our best to send out an email and post it on Channel 7. Please be safe! Whatever the snow emergency level, use your best judgement.

Revised Common **LECTIONARY**

March 2020				
Date	First Lesson	Psalm	Second Lesson	Gospel
March 1	Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7	32	Romans 5:12-19	Matthew 4:1-11
March 8	Genesis 12:1-4a	121	Romans 4:1-5, 13-17	John 3:1-17
March 15	Exodus 17:1-7	95	Romans 5:1-11	John 4:5-42
March 22	1 Samuel 16:1-13	23	Ephesians 5:8-14	John 9:1-41
March 29	Ezekiel 37:1-14	130	Romans 8:6-11	John 11:1-45

CHRIST CHURCH CLASSIFIEDS: SPRING 2020

Please consider serving in one (or more) of these ministries. They may seem like small things; but it takes many willing servants, each joyfully doing their small part, to do great and holy work together! Talk to Rev. Maggie if you'd like to serve.

Acolytes -- ISO 3-4 folks passionate about our worship traditions, to assist with the 10:00 service on a rotating basis. Acolytes can be youth or adults! Duties include carrying the cross, leading worship processions, and assisting Deacon Rick in preparing the altar for communion.

Videographers -- ISO 4-5 folks with smartphones willing to use the tripod at the back of the church to record sermons during the 10:00 service on a rotating basis, and post the videos to the church's Facebook page that day. John Richardson can provide guidance.

Lay Eucharistic Visitors (LEVs) -- ISO 2-3 folks to visit and share the sacrament of communion with our homebound members. LEVs must complete "Safe Church" training (available online). Each LEM takes communion to 1 or 2 homebound members on a monthly basis.

Caring Team Members -- ISO 2-3 new members for the Caring Team. The Caring Team gathers on Sundays from noon to 1:30 pm four times each year, to share updates about those in our community who are ill, struggling, or could use some extra support. Team members send cards, make phone calls, and occasionally visit to let people know that we love and care for them.

Lectors -- ISO 2 folks from each of the Sunday morning worship services to read Scriptures or the Prayers of the People on a rotating basis. Rev. Maggie can provide guidance as needed.

Children's Chapel Leaders -- ISO 2 adults (or high schoolers) who would enjoy leading our elementary-age children in a simple lectionary-based discussion/activity time during the first half of the 10:00 service, on a rotating basis. Leaders are assisted by Kelly Zeller each Sunday, and suggested lesson outlines are provided. Leaders must complete "Safe Church" training (online).

Interfaith Hospitality Network

(IHN) Servers -- ISO 5-6 folks with hearts for outreach, to work in teams to plan, prepare, and serve a meal (dinner on Saturday or Sunday) 2-3 times a year for the residents of the IHN shelter. Reimbursement is available for expenses. Lori Swafford is coordinator.

Convention Delegates -- ISO 2 folks (high schoolers or adults) to attend the 2020 Convention of the Diocese of Southern Ohio, along with Rev. Maggie, Deacon Rick, Brian Shelburne, and Kathleen Schubert in Cincinnati on Sat., Nov. 7th. Carpool seats provided.

Greeters -- ISO 2-4 friendly folks from each worship service to stand (or sit) at the East Entrance doors for 20 minutes before worship begins and approximately 10 minutes after worship begins to open the door and welcome worshippers as they arrive, on a monthly rotating basis. We'll pair you up with an experienced greeter the first few times you serve.



Anniversaries

Wayne and Deb Southward March 15
 Ted and Wendy DeLong March 27



The next outing for the “Lunch Bunch” is on Tuesday, March 10 at 11:30 AM at Mundy’s Diner (920 Selma Rd. in Springfield). This group welcomes all men and women who are available at

lunchtime for some good food and fellowship. Please email Anita Beardsell to RSVP. (anitabeardsell1234@gmail.com) If you need a ride, let Anita know that as well.

Welcome Your New Vestry Members!

Junior Warden: Jim Whipp
Vestry at Large: Keith Doubt
Youth Representative: Sarah Schubert



EASTER FLOWERS

Easter can be a wonderful time to remember loved ones with a gift to Christ Church for flowers. Fill out this form and place it in the offering plate along with your check, payable to *Christ Episcopal Church*. Please write Easter Flowers on the memo line of the check. The deadline is Sunday, March 22nd.

Donor(s) _____

In thanksgiving for _____

In memory of _____



Birthdays

Alan Ladd..... Mar 1
 Rick Everingham.....Mar 1
 Joann Albright.....Mar 2
 Keith Harbaugh.....Mar 3
 Stacy Whitt.....Mar 6
 Cheryl Whipp.....Mar 6
 Bailey DoanMar 7
 Judy McGregorMar 8
 Wayne SouthwardMar 14
 Elisabeth Rigsbee.....Mar 15
 Deb Southward.....Mar 16
 Babs ReedMar 16
 Olivia Chitkara.....Mar 17
 Ian ShelburneMar 18
 Traudie Milleck.....Mar 25
 Norm Silliman.....Mar 25
 Jennifer Oldstone-MooreMar 27
 Kevin RigsbeeMar 27
 Lori Swafford.....Mar 27
 Wade Smith.....Mar 28





Outreach... helping to provide the physical, material, social, and spiritual needs in Springfield and beyond

March 18th from 11–2 is pantry day!

Thank you to those who helped with February’s Food Pantry. We gave out lots of meat, beef stew, eggs, cereal, milk, soup, fruits, and fresh produce and the extras of pet food, soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, and toilet paper. Pantry volunteers come from Covenant Presbyterian Church, Christ Episcopal Church and other faith communities. Volunteers are needed to help pick up and unload food, pack food, and help with customer service. Contact either Ann Chitkara at ann@nova.pcc.com or Anne Randolph at annejrand@aol.com to volunteer.



26th Annual Empty Bowls: Thursday, March 19th

The 26th Annual Wittenberg University Empty Bowls is Thursday, March 19th from 4:30–7 pm (Central Dining Room, Student Center of the Wittenberg Campus). Bowls are \$15, which includes a humble meal of soup and bread. The goal is to raise \$45,000 this year. All proceeds go to Second Harvest Food Bank. For information, contact Scott Dooley (937-327-6327).



Woof! Woof! Purr... There is a growing need for pet food in our community. If you would like to donate, please place your dog food, cat food, or dog biscuits in

the black receptacle in the East Entrance. Donations will be distributed at the Food Pantry. Hungry cats and dogs and their humans thank you! If you have any questions, please contact Anne Strothman (937-242-3475 or astrothman01@gmail.com).

News from the Food Pantry Eligibility Information from Ann Chitkara

Have you ever wondered who qualifies for the food pantry? Perhaps you! We distribute quality food each month and your income level might fit the parameters to receive goods. If you do qualify and would like to receive food but are not comfortable waiting in the line on the third Wednesday of the month between the hours of 11:00am–2:00 pm you could sign a proxy letter and I would be willing to pick up your food on your behalf. At right are a few examples of the maximum income requirements. Feel free to contact me either by phone (937) 925-4008 or email me at annnovaswim@gmail.com or see me at Church.

Household Size	Yearly Income	Monthly income	Weekly income
1	\$24,119	\$2,009	\$463
2	\$32,479	\$2,706	\$624
3	\$40,839	\$3,403	\$785
4	\$49,199	\$4,099	\$946
5	\$57,559	\$4,796	\$1,106
6	\$65,919	\$5,493	\$1,267
7	\$74,279	\$6,189	\$1,428
8	\$82,639	\$6,886	\$1,589
9	\$90,999	7,583	\$1,749



Education... *providing people of all ages rich opportunities to form a strong spiritual relationship with God so they may become good stewards of their faith to themselves and others.*

Lens on Lent

This season of reflection and penitence invites us to consider matters both serious and practical.

March 1: 40 Days in the Wilderness

Lent, the season of preparation for Jesus and us, is observed over a period of 40 days (not including Sundays), a period that may seem random. The duration of Lent isn't happenstance, but rather the product of Jesus and the church's continuance of earlier Israelite cultural signifiers. Through the usage of these signifiers, Jesus and we carry on the traditions of our ancestors while renewing our physical and spiritual selves for Palm Sunday and Holy Week. This Adult Forum, led by Jon Leidheiser-Stoddard, will present aspects of the Israelite cult that inform our liturgical calendar to help nurture our spiritual growth.

March 8: Navigating changing roles (our own and others) with grace and humor: Lessons from 80- and 90-year-olds and their families

As an advocate, assistant, and companion for a number of individuals in their 80's and 90's, Joyce Morrissey will share important lessons and insights that these relationships offer. The conversation will include some of the challenges faced by family members living at a distance while trying to oversee the care and support of a loved one, and some considerations for those of us hoping to "age in place."

March 15: As Moses Said

Rev. Maggie will lead us in a brief exploration of the Mosaic Law (contained primarily in the Book of Leviticus). What are the different kinds of laws? How have they been interpreted over the years? And how should Christians understand them today? If you have a favorite Bible translation at home, bring it along!

March 22: Hospice: A Final Journey of Life and Love

Join the Rev. Pam Gaylor, a chaplain with Vitas Healthcare, for an overview of hospice, including when and how to begin services, and what to expect from a hospice team.

March 29: The Sacrament of Confession

Didn't the Protestant Reformation render the Sacrament of Confession obsolete? But if so, why does it continue to be a Church practice? The very words 'Sacramental Confession' conjure up for many images of trembling sinners waiting in darkened confessionals to a concealed, almost ghostly priestly presence. Yikes! Today, however, the spiritual reality of the rite of reconciliation is far from this forbidding picture. An exploration of this ancient but still relevant Sacrament reveals it has a surprisingly helpful application to an individual's spiritual formation and remains an excellent restorative for the soul. Join us as Pat Cary, Christ Church member and chaplain at Springfield Regional Hospital, shares the benefits of the Sacrament of Confession.

SAVE THE DATE!

A Quiet Day to begin Holy Week

Saturday, April 4, 10:00AM—3:00PM

In the parish hall (lunch provided)

"OK God, here I am. Now what?"

Exploring Prayer"

Along with the formal prayers we offer in our worship, we have all kinds of ways and opportunities to be in contact with God. We will briefly explore why God would want to hear from us, along with different approaches to prayer. It's not always formal and solemn. There will be time for discussion, questions, praying together, silent reflection, and private prayer. Sister Diana of the Community of the Transfiguration in Cincinnati is in a state of nearly constant, grateful astonishment that God hasn't given up on her yet and keeps on trying to live this thing called prayer a little more faithfully.

Wittenberg University Choir at Christ Church
Monday, March 9th at 7 PM



The Wittenberg Choir will present a concert at Christ Episcopal Church (409 East High St.) on Monday, March 9th, at 7:00 PM. The program, “Life and Breath” directed by Dr. Erik Zinter, the Director of Choral Activities and Assistant Professor of Music at Wittenberg University, will feature a wide variety of music in five sets:

- Celebrating a Legacy,
- Shelter through the Storm,
- I Will Rise,
- Three American Folk Songs, and
- Hymns & Spirituals.

The concert is free and open to the public—a free-will offering will be taken.