



Christ Episcopal Church  
*There is a place for you at God's Table!*

Volume 25, Issue 10, October 2021

The

# Clarion

A Monthly Publication

## Every Perfect Gift



When you think of October, what comes to mind? Pumpkin-spice lattes? Carving Jack O'Lanterns? Trick or treating? Crisp evenings around a fire pit? Stewardship?

Yes, here at Christ Church it's Stewardship season! This year, the theme *Every Perfect Gift* reminds us of the font from which springs all generosity, all love, all gift—God.

Both the theme and image for *Every Perfect Gift* are wrapped in the metaphor of the butterfly and chrysalis. To the ancient Greeks, the butterfly represented the image of rebirth and freedom. The word they used for butterfly was *psyche*. It also means *spirit*. The humble and beautiful butterfly contains the philosophical and spiritual idea of the soul breaking free from its shell — free to discover, to inspire, to create, to communicate, to share.

These are also spiritual gifts—gifts that when we free ourselves to serve in the world, we need and share with others; and they are gifts of our stewardship.

As we share our time, talent, and treasure with our church and with the world, we unleash those same gifts in our communities: discovery, inspiration, creativity, communication, sharing.

Through the ministries that are enabled by our gifts, the inspiration we show to our neighbors to unlock their generosity in the world, and the stories we tell about ourselves and our experiences, we participate with God in an abundant vision for the world. Every perfect gift comes from God above.

We invite you to prayerfully consider the gifts you have received from God and Christ Church during this stewardship season.

## Every Perfect Gift

**The Clarion****Volume 25, Issue 10**

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*Christ Episcopal Church*  
in the Diocese of Southern Ohio



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The Rt Rev. George Wayne Smith

**Priest-in-Charge:**

The Rev. Canon  
Dr. Lee Anne Reat

**Senior Warden:**

Dawn Ivy

**Junior Warden:**

Scott Yeazell

**Organist:**

Dr. Christopher Durrenberger

**Parish Administrator/  
Program Coordinator:**

Kelly Zeller

**Facility Manager:**

Paul McAfee

**Bookkeeper:**

Tina Knox

**Clarion Editor:**

Joyce Spangler



# FROM THE RECTOR

**Rev. Cannon Dr. Lee Anne Reat**

Dear Friends at Christ Church,

During this past year with you I have learned of your grace and generosity. Of all the gifts of this parish, I have been most impressed by your spirit of giving. You give to one another the gift of prayer and friendship. You give to the community the gift of service and financial support. And you give to Christ Church the gift of participation in ministries and your financial pledges. The giving away of your gifts returns ever greater gifts back to you.

As you look forward to welcoming a new priest, you have the gifts of faith, hope and joy to move you into the next phase of your life together as a community of believers. As followers of the Perfect Gift, Jesus Christ, the opportunity to share the Good News within and beyond this parish has never been greater. Out of the generous gifts each of you has been given, you are called to share those gifts with others.

The Stewardship committee will have much more to share in the weeks leading up to the ingathering of pledge cards for 2022. The theme this year, "Every Perfect Gift," encourages us all to consider our relationship with Christ, our relationships with one another, and our relationship to the many gifts with which we are blessed. We must ask ourselves how our gifts can be used in the service of Christ, one another, and the church. Imagine those gifts expanding as they are shared with the world, touching others, blessing others.

All stewardship decisions begin with prayer. I offer this prayer as one way to discern God's call to you:

*Giver of Life and Source of Freedom, we know that all we have is received from your hand. Gracious and loving God, you call us to be stewards of your Abundance, the caretakers of all you have entrusted to us. Help us always to use your gifts wisely and teach us to share them generously. Send the Holy Spirit to work through us, bringing your message to those we serve. May our faithful stewardship be a witness to the love of Jesus Christ in our lives. We pray with grateful hearts in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.*



The Church Office will be closed on **Monday, October 11th** in recognition of the **Columbus Day** holiday. Please plan accordingly!



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



**Christ Church on Social Media!**

If you're on Facebook, go to Christ Episcopal Church's Facebook page and like the page. You'll receive information on upcoming events, learn historical facts, and view beautiful pictures. You will be in the know! If you would like to view the Facebook page and are not on Facebook you can visit Christ Church's web page at [christspringfield.org](http://christspringfield.org), scroll to the bottom of the home page, click on the small **f** and it will redirect you Christ Church's Facebook page.

**Prayer Services Offered Wednesdays at Noon**

The Rev. Canon Dr. Lee Anne Reat and Judy Johnson will take turns offering a Noonday Prayer service on the church's Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/christspringfield.org/>) Wednesdays at noon. The Noonday Prayer service's text is located on page 103 in the Book of Common Prayer or online at <https://www.bcponline.org>



**Calling in Via Telephone for Sunday Worship Audio**

Below are instructions for calling in via telephone to listen to the audio of our virtual Sunday service.

1. A few minutes before 9:00 AM, call **312-626-6799**. A recording will answer, saying "Welcome to Zoom!"
2. It will ask you to enter your Meeting ID, followed by #. That's **841 1414 5583#**
3. When asked for your Participant ID Number press #
4. When asked for your password, enter **712122#** Now you'll be able to hear our worship!

**NOTE:** if you don't hear anything right away, don't panic. Sometimes we run a few minutes late, so just hang on and trust that we'll begin as soon as we can.



Revised Common **LECTIONARY**



<b>October</b>				
Date	First Lesson	Psalm	Second Lesson	Gospel
October 3rd	Job 1:1; 2:1-10	26	Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12	Mark 10:2-16
October 10th	Amos 5:6-7, 10-15	90:12-17	Hebrews 4:12-16	Mark 10:17-31
October 17th	Isaiah 53:4-12	91:9-16	Hebrews 5:1-10	Mark 10:35-45
October 24th	Jeremiah 31:7-9	126	Hebrews 7:23-28	Mark 10:46-52
October 31st	Deuteronomy 6:1-9	119:1-8	Hebrews 9:11-14	Mark 12:28-34

**Church Staff**

**All staff are currently working from home as much as possible!**

**Priest In-Charge:** The Rev. Canon Dr. Lee Anne Reat

**Senior Warden:** Dawn Ivy

**Jr. Warden:** Scott Yeazell

**Treasurer:** Ken Bladh

**Parish Administrator/Program Coordinator:** Kelly Zeller

**Music Director:** Dr. Christopher Durrenberger

**Facility Manager:** Paul McAfee

**Bookkeeper:** Tina Knox

**Your Vestry**

**Vestry at Large:** Bonnie Bingman, Kay Koeninger, Denise Sharp, Linda Mortensen, Joyce Spangler, and Keith Doubt



Monthly chapel services have returned to Oakwood Village. We will gather in the chapel for Eucharist at

**10:00 AM** on the third Thursday of each month. Due to continued COVID precautions, only two non-residents may attend the services. As soon as possible, we hope to open the service to as many Christ Church members as can attend to more concretely connect our Oakwood Village congregation to the larger Christ Church congregation. We are, of course, always connected through our prayers and communications.



**Cans Needed for Flower Delivery**

Do you buy tomato or fruit juice in 46oz cans? Christ Church has an **immediate** need for such cans to use to deliver altar flowers to our homebound or ill

parishioners. Please place them in the food pantry basket by the elevator. Thank You!!



**Calling all Christ Episcopal Church singers!**

**There is still time!**

Come one come all for good fellowship and music making with the Christ Church adult choir commencing. No tryouts are required. All are welcome to join! Contact Chris Durrenberger at [cdurrenberger@wittenberg.edu](mailto:cdurrenberger@wittenberg.edu) for more information.

**OCTOBER Birthdays & Anniversaries**

**Birthdays**

- Destany Peterson..... Oct 5
- Juanita Artis ..... Oct 6
- Lexie Boblitt ..... Oct 6
- Aileen Oldstone-Moore ..... Oct 7
- Cathy Crompton..... Oct 16
- Nancy Henderson ..... Oct 17
- Anne Strothman..... Oct 18
- Andrew Bingman ..... Oct 20
- Joan Hurley ..... Oct 20
- Sophie Smith ..... Oct 23
- Ann Chitkara ..... Oct 24
- Rose Farrar ..... Oct 26
- Becca Callicoat ..... Oct 27
- Barbara Gray ..... Oct 30

**Anniversaries**

- Jamie & Cameron McGregor ..... Oct 6
- Dan & Judy McGregor..... Oct 12
- Don & Liz Wheeler ..... Oct 18
- Joe & Kathy Schmitt..... Oct 31

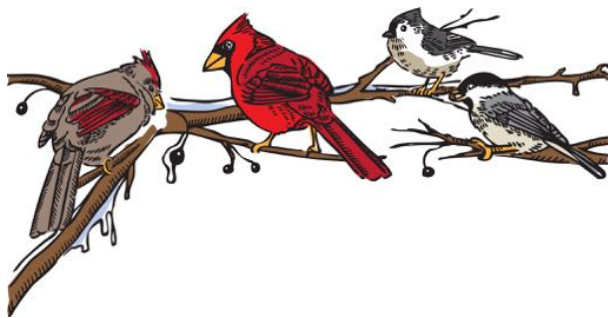


Is Your

Pledge

Up to Date?

If you would like an update of what you have given thus far in fulfillment of your pledge for 2021, please email Kelly Zeller at [zellerk0611@gmail.com](mailto:zellerk0611@gmail.com) for a statement.



### For love of animals

St. Francis of Assisi, known for his affection for animals, is honored on October 4. Some congregations observe this day by blessing pets, remembering that God pronounced animals — along with all creation — good. God saved not only Noah's family but animals of all kinds from the Flood. And despite Jonah's protests, God had compassion on Nineveh — "and [its] many animals" (Jonah 4:11). How intriguing that the prophet adds this point!

Care for all living creatures is clearly part of the divine character. Animals don't do anything to earn God's favor except be themselves. From this, we can learn that God pours out love unconditionally. As Psalm 36:6 (CEV) declares, "All people and animals are under your care."

## Book Study: *The Church Cracked Open*

All are invited to study Canon Stephanie Speller's (our convocation keynote speaker!) new book *The Church Cracked Open*. We will meet on Zoom from 6–7:30 every Thursday in October (7, 14, 21, 28)

[Click here to register](#)

[Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)



Sometimes it takes disruption and loss to break us open and call us home to God. It's not surprising that a global pandemic and once-in-a-generation reckoning with white supremacy—on top of decades of systemic decline—have spurred Christians everywhere to ask who we are, why God placed us here and what difference that makes to the world.

In this critical yet loving book, the author explores the American story and the Episcopal story to find out how communities steeped in racism, establishment, and privilege can at last fall in love with Jesus, walk humbly with the most vulnerable, and embody beloved community in our own broken but beautiful way.

*The Church Cracked Open* invites us to surrender privilege and redefine church, not just for the sake of others, but for our own salvation and liberation.

***"This book will make a profound difference for the church in this moment in history."***

— The Most Reverend Michael B. Curry



**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.*

## Adult Forum

Thanks to all who participated in the adult forum on books that shaped us as children and all who donated children's books. Jake Studebaker conveyed the books to the library at Lagonda Elementary School, where he is an instructional coach.

During October, please join us after the 10:00 service for a time of stimulating discussion following brief videos curated by the diocese for anti-racism training. Presented by a variety of speakers known and respected in their field, these videos challenge our thinking about race. Participants remain masked and can keep social distance in the Parish Hall.

## African Bible Study Tuesdays at 7:30 PM via Google Meet

To join, share your interest and send your email address to Keith Doubt at [kdoubt@gmail.com](mailto:kdoubt@gmail.com). Use this link to join the Google meet [meet.google.com/rzd-oidf-ffz](https://meet.google.com/rzd-oidf-ffz)

**What is African Bible Study?** The approach refers to the method's origins. It's a structured, disciplined, and very meditative approach to learning from scripture. It not only discourages but prevents crosstalk and intellectualizing on a reading. It instead encourages listening to others and ourselves as opposed to talking as a group.

### THE FORMAT

**Opening Prayer:** O Blessed Lord, who caused all Holy Scripture to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our savior Jesus Christ, Amen.

### Procedure:

1. One person reads passage slowly.
2. Each person identifies the word or phrase that catches their attention. (1 minute)
3. Each shares the word or phrase with the group. (3-5 minutes, NO DISCUSSION)
4. Another person reads the passage slowly (from a different translation, if possible.)
3. Each person identifies where this passage touches their life today. (1 minute)
4. Each shares. (3-5 minutes, NO DISCUSSION)
5. Passage is read a third time (another reader and translation, if possible.)
6. Each person names or writes: "From what I've heard and shared, what do I believe God wants me to do or be? Is God inviting me to change in any way?" (5 minutes)
7. Each shares their answer. (5-10 minutes, NO DISCUSSION)
8. Each prays for the person on their right, naming what was shared in other steps. (5 minutes)

**Closing:** The Lord's Prayer



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

## Reminder from Outreach Team Member Deb Southward

Just a REMINDER! Continue to **\$AVE PENNIES** for the Warder Literacy CENTER & **\$AVE PULL-Tabs** for Dayton Ronald McDonald House. The Warder Literacy CENTER is opening on a limited basis & there will be a growing need for their services given that kids have been out of school (some without access to computers) & will need to play catch up. The Dayton Ronald McDonald House is continuing to be a safe haven for healthcare professionals to rest & relax without exposing their families if they so choose. Not sure when they plan to transition back to families. Rolls/baggies of pennies/pull-tabs can be dropped in the Hollenbeck House mail slot or returned in the church building when we resume in-person worship. THANKS in advance for everyone's continual support!

## Woof! Woof! Purr...

There is a growing need for pet food in our community. If you would like to donate, place your dog food, cat food, or dog biscuits in the black receptacle in the East Entrance or email Kelly Zeller at [zellerk0611@gmail.com](mailto:zellerk0611@gmail.com) to drop it off at the Parish office. Donations will be distributed at the Food Pantry. Hungry cats and dogs and their humans thank you!



## Episcopal Peace Fellowship~October

The Episcopal Peace Fellowship will host an online series starting in September on the first Sunday of each month through January 2022. They are one-hour presentations on different approaches to peacebuilding, both with others and within ourselves. We will meet via Eventbrite/Zoom at 4 PM Eastern time.

**Sunday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>: An honest look at the history of race leading to honest engagement with each other.** Sacred ground, presented by: Katrina Browne, producer/director of the Emmy-nominated "Traces of the Trade: A story from the Deep North" Please click on the link below to register. Watch the weekly Newsnote for future peacebuilding presentations.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/episcopal-peace-fellowship-peacebuilding-online-project-emu-trauma-tickets-154283569309?aff=ebdssbeac>





**Volunteers are needed before *and* on drive through pantry days to help unload food, pack food, and provide customer service. No matter your level of comfort with in-person contact, there's a volunteer opportunity that's right for you!**

### **Volunteer to help PRIOR to Pantry Day**

Currently, food pantry groceries are being pre-bagged so that on pantry distribution day, filled bags can be placed into client's cars. This has created an opportunity for you to volunteer as a pantry helper with little to no contact with other individuals. It is also an opportunity for your family or "pod" to volunteer bagging groceries. Ann Chitkara will arrange for either you or your pod to be the only group working on the project at one time.

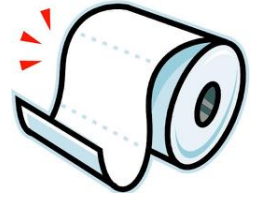
**Please look at your calendar. If you and or your pod are willing to commit to a block of 3-4 hours on October 14, let Ann Chitkara (937-925-4008 [annnovaswim@gmail.com](mailto:annnovaswim@gmail.com)) know.** Together we can arrange a time when she will meet you at the Church and provide specific directions. **Ideally, all the groceries should be bagged for distribution by October 20.**

### **Volunteer to help ON Pantry Day**

The Drive thru Food Pantry will be on September 15th starting at 10:30 am. Volunteers are needed to help unload food, pack food, and help with customer service. Please contact either Ann Chitkara at [ann@nova.pcc.com](mailto:ann@nova.pcc.com) or Anne Randolph at [annejrand@aol.com](mailto:annejrand@aol.com) to volunteer.

### **Toilet Paper Reminder~ The shelves are empty!!**

Our Food Pantry is one of the few to give out toilet paper with the groceries. While toilet paper is something most of us take for granted, this necessity cannot be purchased with the SNAP card (formerly known as food stamps). A donation of a package of toilet paper is a great contribution to this amazing ministry! Donations can be put in (or near) the basket outside the elevator on the upper level of the church.



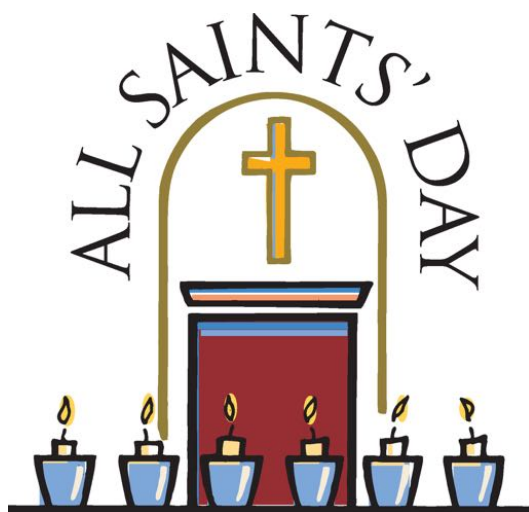
RSVP -> [flourishgala2021.eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/flourish-gala-2021-tickets-167614165481)

### **Safe Harbor's Annual Gala!**

Safe Harbor is having its annual gala on **October 7th in Urbana at the Pretty Prairie Farms and on October 14th in Fairborn at The Ohio Barn from 6:30-8:00 PM** - you choose your favorite date and location. [There is a conscious effort to be COVID-respecting by keeping attendee numbers lower and in a semi-outdoor venue (event barns) to allow for more separation and airflow.]

Attendees will hear about the beautiful work of helping trauma survivors heal and recover from addiction right here in Springfield. This would be a wonderful opportunity to understand this cause better and to discover a variety of ways to participate in it. Free tickets are at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/flourish-gala-2021-tickets-167614165481>





## **Sunday, October 31st**

Please submit any names of family, friends, and loved ones who are deceased and who you would like included in our Prayers of the People on All Saints' Day by **October 11th**. You can submit names of your saints by emailing Kelly Zeller at [zellerk0611@gmail.com](mailto:zellerk0611@gmail.com), drop the names in the giving plate, or mail them to the Parish office at 409 East High Street, Springfield, Ohio 45505.