



The

Clarion

Volume 27, Issue 11, November 2023

A Monthly Publication

Stepping Out into the Vision: Stewardship 2023



“For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.” – Jeremiah 29:11

Throughout the summer, our Hebrew scriptures have focused on two of the great stories of the Hebrew people: the story of Joseph, who travelled to Egypt against his will but then brought his brothers and their families to join him; and the story of Moses, who led the descendants of Joseph out of Egypt and into the promised land. Both stories have offered us some opportunity for reflection as we consider our own life together as the people of God gathered at Christ Episcopal Church.

Joseph called his family to Egypt to shelter them during the famine and give them a new start. But, as the Bible tells us, years later the Israelites found that their situation had changed; they could no longer thrive in Egypt. So, Moses called them

to follow him, to a land of promise. And each Israelite family faced a choice: to stay, or to step out into Moses’s vision.

Likewise, many of us at Christ Church can remember a time when things were going very well. The church and the Sunday schools were full, a variety of ministries and social gatherings filled the parish calendar. But now we find that the situation has changed, both in Springfield and in Ohio. I believe God has a vision for us, and where we are called to serve God and our community in this time. At the end of September, we participated in two listening sessions, to help us discern that call.

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Christ Episcopal Church
in the Diocese of Southern Ohio



Christ Episcopal Church
in the Diocese of Southern Ohio



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The Rev. Dr. Michelle Boomgaard

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Dr. Christopher Durrenberger

**Parish Administrator/
Program Coordinator:**

Kelly Zeller

Facility Manager:

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Bookkeeper:

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Joyce Spangler



The office will be closed
November 23rd and 24th
for Thanksgiving Day.
Please plan accordingly.

Stepping Out into the Vision: Stewardship 2023, Continued

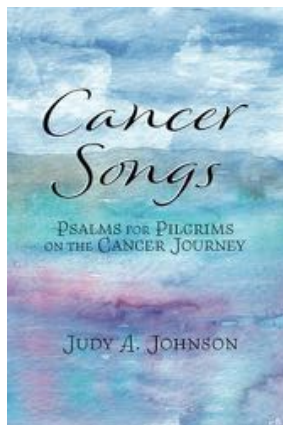
But, like the Israelites in Egypt, it is not enough to know that there is a promise out there. We need to be ready to take some first steps, to head out to that promised future.

This year's stewardship campaign ties directly to the vision we created in September. Our proposed budget includes funds for new worship initiatives (like Taizé and dinner church—two things that participants specifically named). It also includes funds to allow us to explore Godly Play—a worship and formation program that has been used in a variety of settings across the Episcopal Church and around the world: in Sunday schools, chapel programs in schools, and even as part of a family-friendly worship service. The budget also includes smaller earmarks to expand our hospitality offerings and the ways in which we welcome visitors and new members. It also reinforces things that are important to us: continuing our generosity in outreach, preserving our beautiful building, and giving our staff cost-of-living salary raises.

Our stewardship also includes a request to give of time and talent: to help support our existing programs as well as start the new ones. Now is the time to consider trying on a ministry that you have wondered about, or to take part in fleshing out the vision we have created. There are a variety of new opportunities to make a difference: whether that's working out the details of some new worship opportunity, or helping plan a seasonal parish outing, or being part of our new member welcoming process.

Our stewardship packets should be in the mail soon. Please consider them your invitation to join us as we step out to create the vision we discerned together, following God's plan for us.

2023 Pledges *If you would like an update on what you have given thus far in fulfillment of your pledge for 2023, email Kelly Zeller at zellerk0611@gmail.com for a statement.*



Judy Johnson's second book of meditations, *Cancer Songs: Psalms for Pilgrims on the Cancer Journey*, is now available on Amazon and on bookshop.org. The book contains fifty meditations on five emotions—fear, anger, sorrow, joy, and gratitude—experienced by patients with cancer or other serious illnesses. A poem and abstract watercolor introduce each section; a verse from the book of Psalms begins every selection. Epic Books in Yellow Springs will host a book launch party on November 5 at 4 P.M. Judy will read from *Cancer Songs* and sign books, which will be available for purchase.



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

**All Saints Day and Day of Change
Sunday, November 5th!**

- **All Saints.** We will remember those loved ones who have gone before us with prayer, candles, and music.
- **Day of Change.** As our clocks “fall back” in the wee hours, that morning, we will 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 hungry Springfielders. Baskets will be passed at each service for this offering. If you are unable to attend the service, feel free to drop off your change at the Parish office! Just contact Kelly Zeller at zellerk0611@gmail.com.



Join us for an Interfaith Thanksgiving Service as we worship with our Jewish, Islamic, and Christian brothers and sisters, giving thanks to God for our many blessings. There will be an Interfaith Choir made up of people from all of the involved congregations, and a reception will follow the service. Watch the weekly Newsnote for more details, including the place and time!



Cans Needed for Flower Delivery

Do you buy tomato or fruit juice in 46oz cans? We need such cans to use to deliver altar flowers to our homebound or ill parishioners. Please place them in the basket by the elevator. Thanks!

Wednesday Bible Study

Bring Your Own Bible Study is on Wednesdays at 4 PM in Hollenbeck House. Join us for fellowship, insight, and maybe a little inspiration as we study the book of Genesis together. Feel free to bring your favorite Bible translation to read and discuss.

Revised Common **LECTIONARY**

November				
Date	First Lesson	Psalm	Second Lesson	Gospel
Nov 5	Revelation 7:9-17	Psalm 34	1 John 1-3	Matthew 5:1-12
Nov 12	Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25	Psalm 78	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18	Matthew 25:1-13
Nov 19	Judges 4:1-7	Psalm 123	1 Thessalonians 5:1-11	Matthew 25:14-30
Nov 26	Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24	Psalm 100	Ephesians 1:15-23	Matthew 25:31-46

Worship, continued



Watch Us on YouTube

The easiest way to watch our church services from home is on YouTube. Here's how it works.

- Open the YouTube app on your TV. (*This depends on your TV and if you are using a cable service or a ROKU-type device.*)
- Go to "Search." Enter *Christ Church Springfield*. By the time you have entered *Christ Church Spr*, a list will have appeared on the left side of the screen. Do **NOT** type *Christ Episcopal*. If you do, our church will not appear on the list.
- Select *Christ Church Springfield*, about the third one down. That's all there is to it!

Wednesday Chapel Service is on a break. Please join us when we resume meeting!



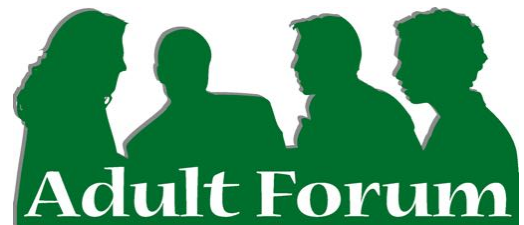
Advent Quiet Day

SAVE THE DATE! On December 9th there will be Advent Quiet Day tentatively scheduled for 10 AM until 3 PM at the Church. More details to come!

Diocesan Convention

On November 11th, delegates from each congregation in the Diocese of Southern Ohio will gather at the Vern Riffe Center at Shawnee State University or via Zoom for the annual 149th Diocesan Convention. Our parish delegates are Beth Deger, Kay Koeninger, Steve Sharp, and Brian Shelburne, along with the Rev. Dr. Michelle Boomgaard. Please keep them and the entire convention attendees in your prayers as they make decisions that affect the entire Diocese and our individual congregations.

Congratulations to Alex Bickel and Gayle Rich on being confirmed at Proctor!



Join us after the 10 AM service!

- Nov. 5** - Envisioning a budget
- Nov. 12** - Imagining new styles of worship
- Nov. 19** - Learning through Godly Play; Learning about Godly Play
- Nov. 26** - Stewardship wrap-up—forging new connections



Hospitality...welcoming, nurturing, and supporting the members of our parish and greater community.



Lunch Bunch will meet on **Tuesday, November 14th at 11:30 AM** at **Hickory Inn**, 652 North Limestone Street, Springfield. If you are planning to come, please let **Anita Beardsell**, 937-390-6548, know so she can make plans with the restaurant.



If you like to make soup *and* nurture others, this is the ministry for you! Place homemade soup in disposable containers (labeled with the type of soup and date) in the church refrigerator and then let Kelly know <zellerk0611@gmail.com> that you've dropped it off. The soup is used to provide a little TLC for parishioners. Thanks so much for considering helping with this ministry.

November Birthdays

- Lisa Pankratz Nov 2
- Reilly Smith Nov 5
- Joy Meyers..... Nov 5
- Miles Dooley Nov 16
- Ava Sullivan..... Nov 21
- Katrina Dooley Nov 22
- Hannah Spangler..... Nov 22
- Sara Boblitt Nov 23
- Don Wheeler..... Nov 24
- Pat Duncan Nov 29

November Anniversaries

- Rick & Anne Guyton Dunbar Nov 19
- Bob & Dawn White Nov 26
- Richard & Joyce Spangler Nov 27



All are welcome to join the *We Should Do Something Group!* They meet at different locations once a month to play a variety of board and card games.

The next meeting will be **Thursday, November 16th**, from 6–8 pm. at COhatch, 101 S Fountain Ave, Springfield, OH 45502. Feel free to bring a friend or a game to share. If you have questions, contact Rev. Michelle at mboomgaard@christspringfield.org.

Church Staff

- Rector:** The Rev. Dr. Michelle Boomgaard
- Senior Warden:** Scott Yeazell
- Jr. Warden:** Steve Sharp
- Treasurer:** Ken Bladh
- Clerk of Vestry:** Kelly Zeller
- Parish Administrator/Program Coordinator:** Kelly Zeller
- Music Director:** Dr. Christopher Durrenberger
- Facility Manager:** Paul McAfee
- Bookkeeper:** Tina Knox

Your Vestry

Vestry at Large: Rick Everingham, Bill Hicks, Kay Koeninger, Joy Meyers, Linda Mortensen, and Lori Swafford





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



Food Pantry News

At the October Food Pantry, we served 149 households for a total of 490 people! Clients were offered hot dogs,

hamburgers, tomato sauce, cereal, fresh produce, canned goods, and a few treats—chips, cookies, and the extras of toilet paper, pet food, toiletries, and Reynolds Wrap. The clients are always grateful, and volunteers have a good time!

Please contact Brian Shelburne at bshelburne@wittenberg.edu, Kelly Zeller at zellerk0611@gmail.com, or Anne Randolph at annejrand@aol.com to volunteer.

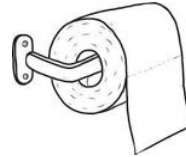
The November Drive-thru Pantry will be on Nov 15th. Check the dates below for when you can volunteer in November. **Volunteers are needed to**

- help pick up and unload food,
- help bag food, and
- help with customer service.

	Time	November
1 st Food Pick-Up	8:00 AM	1st
2 nd Food Pick-Up	8:00 AM	8th
Bagging Day	9:00 AM	9th
Pantry Day!	8:15 AM	15th

Food Pantry Volunteers

Pantry groceries are pre-bagged so that on pantry distribution day, filled bags can be placed directly into client's cars. If you can commit a block of 3–4 hours on **Nov. 9th**, let Brian Shelburne know. Most groceries should be bagged by **Nov. 15th**.



WE ARE OUT OF TP! Please Dontate!

Ours is one of the few pantries to give out toilet paper. Place donations in (or near) the basket outside the elevator on the upper level.

Woof! Woof! Purr...



There's 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 to drop it off at the Parish office. Donations are distributed through the Food Pantry. Hungry cats and dogs and their humans thank you!

Reminder from the Outreach Team

Just a REMINDER! Continue to \$AVE PENNIES for the Warder Literacy Center & PULL-TABS for Dayton Ronald McDonald House. THANKS in advance for everyone's continual support! Rolls/baggies of pennies/pull-tabs can be dropped in the Hollenbeck House mail slot or returned in the church building. We look forward to your continued support this year we continue to make a difference!



CarePortal

ONLINE AUCTION

✓ Get some early shopping done.

✓ Help Vulnerable kids and Families in Ohio.



visit

<https://www.32auctions.com/CarePortalOhio>

to bid... items added daily!!!!

The Springfield City School District and The Nehemiah Foundation have collaborated to launch an online tool that aims to fulfill students' needs outside of the classroom. Care Portal relies on the assistance of local churches. When a school staff member identifies a student's need that cannot be met, they will refer the need to the SCSD Family Outreach team, who will vet the need and input it into the Care Portal system. Churches within the system are alerted to the need and have the opportunity to respond to it.

The CarePortal is hosting an online auction fundraiser. The CarePortal Ohio Online Auction begins November 6, 2023 at 10 am. There will be gift cards galore, Coach and Michael Kors purses, Thirty-One gifts, an XBOX, 1 night stay in Amish Country, a massage, manicure, Bath & Body Works baskets, a family portrait session, beautiful artwork, jewelry, and toys.

There's something for the whole family and know that the proceeds of this online auction go to help Ohio families in crisis.

Thank you, and happy shopping!

Tami Carter

Streamline Initiative Director/CarePortal Ambassador

tami@nehemiahfoundation.org

The Nehemiah Foundation

616 N. Limestone, Springfield, OH 45503

c: 937.823.4131

nehemiahfoundation.org | careportal.org





Toys Needed for Promise Neighborhood Christmas Store!

Once again, our friends in Springfield's Promise Neighborhood are hosting a Christmas Store from December 6th through the 9th. Promise Neighborhood residents can visit the store and choose from gifts that have been donated by church folks and other community members. The Christmas Store accepts donations of NEW toys/gifts for babies through teenagers. You can bring your items to the church on or before **Sunday, November 19th** and place them around the **basket by the elevator or drop them off at the parish office**. On November 19th, we'll bless the gifts during the worship service, and then turn them over to the Promise Neighborhood leadership.