



The

Clarion

Volume 25, Issue 12, December 2021

A Monthly Publication

DECEMBER HAPPENINGS

Adult Forum: The Poetry of Advent—December 5 and 12

During Lent we explored some of the poetry of Mary Oliver's book *Devotions*. We will visit her again this Advent, reading poems that relate to our Advent readings. In the introduction to our study guide we read:

The Christian year begins not with the lilies of Easter, or the poinsettias of Christmas, or the stirring winds of Pentecost – but rather with Advent, four weeks in the shadows of despair, conflict, sorrow, and hate. For it's here, in the shadows, that the God of grace will arrive. Waiting, longing, and preparing for that arrival, we light candles of hope, peace, joy and love.

On each Sunday, we will gather after our 10:00 worship in the parish hall to read a few of Oliver's poems, steeped in wisdom of the natural world and in the Spirit, and explore their intersection with the season of anticipation for the mystery of the Incarnation. For a preview, see page 2.

Hangings of the Greens—Sunday, December 19

We will hang the greens of Christmas on, immediately after 10:00 worship. There are jobs for everyone, so plan to stay and join in the fun.

Christmas Eve—Friday, December 24th at 7:15 PM

Christmas Eve will have a new look this year. Same shepherds, same star, same miracle of Jesus' birth, just a different schedule than you may remember.

- **At 3:00 PM** we will join our friends at Oakwood Village for Holy Eucharist. The Carter family will provide music for this festive occasion.
- **At 7:30 PM** we will celebrate a festival Holy Eucharist Rite II. The service will be livestreamed for those unable to be present. Be sure to join the community by 7:15 for special music. Those that do not have a Facebook page can find the services on the Christ Church's website at www.christspringfield.org.

On Sunday, December 26 we will have ONLY the 10:00 service, which will be livestreamed.

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Christ Episcopal Church
in the Diocese of Southern Ohio



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in the Diocese of Southern Ohio

**Provisional Bishop:**

The Rt Rev. George Wayne Smith

Priest-in-Charge:

The Rev. Canon
Dr. Lee Anne Reat

Senior Warden:

Dawn Ivy

Junior Warden:

Scott Yeazell

Music Director:

Dr. Christopher Durrenberger

**Parish Administrator/
Program Coordinator:**

Kelly Zeller

Facility Manager:

Paul McAfee

Bookkeeper:

Tina Knox

Clarion Editor:

Joyce Spangler

**DON'T HESITATE** by MARY OLIVER

If you suddenly and unexpectedly feel joy,
don't hesitate. Give in to it. There are plenty
of lives and whole towns destroyed or about
to be. We are not wise, and not very often
kind. And much can never be redeemed.
Still, life has some possibility left. Perhaps this
is its way of fighting back, that sometimes
something happens better than all the riches
or power in the world. It could be anything,
but very likely you notice it in the instant
when love begins. Anyway, that's often the case.
Anyway, whatever it is, don't be afraid
of its plenty. Joy is not made to be a crumb.

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

**... and the Nominating Committee Wants YOU!**

In preparation, the Nominating Committee, Joyce Spangler, Bonnie Bingman, Denise Sharp, Richard Martin, Bonnie Shelbourne, Jeff Carter, and ex officio, Priest-in-Charge, The Rev. Canon Dr. Lee Anne Reat are now considering candidates for four at-large Vestry members, and the Junior and Senior Wardens. If you would like to be part of the Vestry or find out more about the responsibilities of Vestry, please contact The Rev. Dr. Cannon Lee Anne Reat at lareat@disohio.org. Please prayerfully consider whether God may be calling you to serve!



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

WEEKLY WORSHIP SCHEDULE CHANGING

Beginning **Sunday, December 5** Christ Church will begin livestreaming our 10:00 service of Holy Eucharist. Those unable to be present in worship will be able to be more “present” and able to hear and see the gathered congregation.

This brings two additional changes:

- **We will no longer record and stream a Zoom worship at 9:00** as we have been doing since the beginning of the pandemic. Instead, tune in to the Christ Church Facebook page and join us just have you have been at 10:00 instead of 9:00. The livestreamed service will be recorded for later viewing.
- **8:00 AM worship**, with no music and using Rite I language, will resume on December 5.



Cans Needed for Flower Delivery

Do you buy tomato or fruit juice in 46 oz cans? Christ Church is in 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!!



2022 Altar Flower Dedication Chart

If you would like to sponsor the Altar flowers for 2022 in memory of or thanksgiving for someone, please Kelly Zeller at zellerk0611@gmail.com. Please be very specific in what or who you are dedicating the altar flowers, and if you have a particular choice of flower. The suggested donation is \$45.



Revised Common LECTIONARY



December				
Date	First Lesson	Psalm	Second Lesson	Gospel
Dec. 5	Baruch 5:1-9	Canticle 4	Philippians 1:3-11	Luke 3:1-6
Dec. 12	Zephaniah 3:14-20	Canticle 9	Philippians 4:4-7	Luke 3:7-18
Dec. 19	Micah 5:2-5a	Canticle 3	Hebrews 10: 5-10	Luke 1:39-55
Dec. 26	Isaiah 61:10-62:3	147	Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7	John 1:1-8





Al Hurley	Dec 1
Peng Chen	Dec 2
Fred Bartenstein	Dec 4
Doug McGregor	Dec 4
Anita Beardsell.....	Dec 5
Blake Holland	Dec 6
Bryce Holland	Dec 6
Liz Wheeler	Dec 6
Kathy Schmitt	Dec 7
Richard Spangler.....	Dec 8
Marilyn Krohn	Dec 15
Lauryn Tuggle.....	Dec 17
Leeza Wheeler	Dec 19
Isabelle Durrenberger.....	Dec 21
Bill Hicks	Dec 21
Caroline Oldstone-Moore	Dec 21
Dawn White	Dec 23
David Reichel.....	Dec 24
Marty Smith	Dec 24
Joanne Harris	Dec 27
Bill Yeazell	Dec 28
Chris Durrenberger	Dec 29

**Wednesday Chapel Virtual Noonday
Prayer Services Offered**

The Rev. Canon Dr. Lee Anne Reat and Judy Johnson will take turns offering a Noonday Prayer service on Christ Church’s Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/christspringfield.org/>) 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>



ANNIVERSARIES
to Celebrate

Scott Dooley and Lisa Pankratz.....	Dec 18
Bill and Laura Yeazell	Dec 29



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.

Parishioners,

The survey has begun!! You should have received your packet by now with directions to take the survey as well as at least one paper copy of the survey. (If not, please contact Bonnie Bingman at gbbingman@gmail.com, 937-462-9262, or 937-244-2275.) We encourage all persons of appropriate age to complete a survey so we will have the most accurate information regarding our parish.

When you have completed the survey, please send an e-mail or call Bonnie to inform her of who and how many surveys have been completed. If you are mailing the survey, you are done.

Here is the link again:

surveymonkey.com/r/CECSPRINGFIELD0H

Feel free to contact Bonnie B. if you have any questions or concerns. This is a big step forward in our search!!

Yours respectfully,

The Search Committee



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

Reminder from Outreach Team

Continue to **SAVE PENNIES** for the Warder Literacy CENTER & **SAVE 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) and will need to play catch up.

The Dayton Ronald McDonald House has reopened its 14 guest-room house to provide a safe, home-like environment where families with sick and injured children can stay while they're healing. Together we can help families stay close during medical crises at the holidays and throughout the year.

Rolls/baggies of pennies/pull-tabs can be dropped through the Hollenbeck House mail slot or into the church building in the East Entrance.



Toys for Promise Neighborhood Christmas Store

Thank you to everyone who bought toys for the Promise Neighborhood's Christmas Store! The support of

Christ Church will help lift the spirits of more than a few of our neighbors.



WE RAISED THE ROOF! A total of **13 pounds of pull-tabs** (augmented by some AI cans) were donated on 10-21-21 **worth \$5.32**. This represented over 11,000 cans kept from the landfill if they were

recycled as well. Each donation by an individual or group may not sound like much, but it does add up. I recently submitted our slip along with another church & individual's slips for a total of \$41.86 = 101 lbs!

A special thank-you goes to members **Sue Allender & Anita Beardsell** who contributed 2.5 lbs. The other 10.5 lbs were donated by three friends of the church, one business, and six anonymous participants.

Keep saving PULL-Tabs from pop, beer, and flavored water aluminum* cans as you celebrate the holidays with family and friends. Attach a return address label if you want us to know you are participating.

*Note: Aluminum pull-tabs will *not* stick to a magnet like steel pull-tabs will.

"Day of Change" Results

As the clocks were falling back one hour, we brought our change to church. Thanks to your generosity, **\$122.00** has been given to the Christ Church Food Pantry to support their work in feeding hungry people of Springfield.

Episcopal Calendars

2022 Calendars are available in the East Entrance on the Greeter table. Thank you to Richards, Raff, and Dunbar Funeral Home for providing them for our use.



Annual Alternative Christmas Market

Covenant Presbyterian Church at 201 North Limestone Street in Springfield, Ohio will host its Annual Alternative Christmas Market on Sunday, **December 5th** from **11:30 AM to 2:00 PM**. This is an ALTERNATIVE approach to commercial Christmas shopping while caring for our community. Shoppers talk to representatives from local and global organizations and fill out a shopping list of items such as children's books (for Clark County Literacy), **Christ Church Food Pantry**, or a warm blanket (for Interfaith Hospitality Network). Items like these symbolize a monetary contribution to the organization, in the name of a loved one. All gifts purchased are tax-deductible (receipt provided) but no names are put on any mailing list. If you have questions, please contact Ann Chitkara at annnovaswim@gmail.com.

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.



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 will be distributed at the Food Pantry. Hungry cats and dogs and their humans thank you!

Directory updates!

Please email Kelly Zeller at zellerk0611@gmail.com if you have updates to your address, phone, or email. Thank you!

Baby Jesus Needs His Fruits & Veggies!



Christ Church has a long tradition of collecting & donating baby food for little ones in need around Christmastime, through the work of Help Me Grow, FYI-Parent

Network (Springfield), etc. **We will be collecting** baby food *throughout Advent & the 12 Days of Christmas* and dedicating a few jars as a symbolic offering for God's service by blessing them at our 10 AM worship service on Epiphany Sunday, Jan. 9th. Please drop off your baby food donations in the basket by the elevator anytime between now & Jan. 9th. Slips with Shopping Tips will be on the wall beside the basket. Thank-YOU for helping feed hungry babies *throughout* this Holy Season! Questions? Contact Deb Southward 937-925-1977 (call/text) or email at dpsouthward@aol.com

PANTRY NEWS



Christ Church Food Pantry served **103 households on November 17th** representing 353 people. We gave away meat, milk, eggs, fresh produce, and some Thanksgiving side dishes. We started

distributing around 10:10 AM and all the food was distributed by around 12:15 PM.

Upcoming Food Pantry opportunities:

December 1: The first food delivery to Christ Church, at approximately 7:45 AM

December 5: Alternative Christmas Market at Covenant Presbyterian Church 11:30 AM - 2:00 PM (201 N. Limestone Street). Please come to support Christ Church and or 2nd Harvest.

December 8: The second food delivery to Christ Church, at approximately 7:45 am.

December 9: Grocery bagging day; start time around 9:00 AM

December 15: Food Pantry Day! Start time at 8:30 AM

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 December 9th, let Ann Chitkara (937-925-4008; annovaswim@gmail.com) know. Together we can arrange a time when she will meet you at the Church and provide specific instructions. **Ideally, all the groceries should be bagged for distribution by December 15th.**



Volunteer to help ON Pantry Day

The Drive thru Food Pantry will be on **December 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 or Anne Randolph at annejrand@aol.com to volunteer.





Christmas Flowers

The flowers that adorn the church at Christmas are given by parishioners in memory of or in thanksgiving for loved ones. To contribute to the beauty of our Christmas Eve services, please fill out the form below by ***December 12th*** and put it in the offering plate or mail it into the Parish Office at 409 East High Street, Springfield, Ohio 45505, with a check payable to Christ Episcopal Church.

CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS & THANKSGIVINGS

Donor's Name _____

In memory of _____

In thanksgiving for _____