



The
Clarion

Volume 24, Issue 2, February 2020

A Monthly Publication

Annual Parish Meeting Sunday, February 23rd

Christ Church's 2020 Annual Meeting will be held **after a combined 9 AM worship service on Sunday, February 23rd**. We will meet while enjoying a festive brunch together in the Parish Hall. Please make plans to attend this meeting whether you are an "8-o'clocker" or "10-o'clocker"—this is an opportunity to spend time in fellowship together, reflect on highlights of the past year, and elect new lay leadership for 2020! Please speak with Rev. Maggie (RevMaggieLS@gmail.com) or Senior Warden Dawn Ivy (dvivy0960@yahoo.com) if you have any questions.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE UPDATE

An enormous **THANK YOU** to all who stepped forward to be considered for this year's open elected lay leadership positions! The Nominating Committee completed its work of prayerful discernment and inquiry throughout the month of January, and has identified the following slate of candidates for election at the Annual Meeting on February 23rd:



Senior Warden (1 year term): Dawn Ivy
 Junior Warden (1 year term): Jim Whipp
 At-Large Vestry (3 year term): Keith Doubt
 Youth Representative (1 year term): Sarah Schubert

2019-2020 Nominating Committee members were Ann Chitkara, John Richardson, Chris Wells, Joy Carter, and Rev. Maggie (*ex officio*).

The Clarion

is the independently edited, local monthly newsletter of Christ Episcopal Church, 409 East High Street, Springfield, OH, 45505 and published by Christ Episcopal Church upon authority of its Rector.

Office: 937/323-8651
ChristSpringfield.org

*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:

John Richardson

Organist:

Dr. Christopher
Durrenberger

**Parish Administrator/
Program Coordinator:**

Kelly Zeller

Facility Manager:

Paul McAfee

Bookkeeper:

Tina Knox

Youth Teacher:

Abby Glass

Clarion Editor:

Joyce Spangler



FROM THE RECTOR

"Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up the other; but woe to one who is alone and falls and does not have another to help. Again, if two lie together, they keep warm; but how can one keep warm alone? And though one might prevail against another, two will withstand one. A threefold cord is not quickly broken."
(Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 NRSV)

Dear friends,

Now that we are a few weeks into 2020, we're preparing to begin Lent, welcome new Vestry members, and embark on a season of profound inner and outer holy work. I feel compelled to share with you all my vision for this parish in 2020—specifically, the adaptations we need to make together to move further on our journey towards institutional stability and healthy functioning. The church is a living, breathing, moving body; a body comprised of many members, a holy body that is at its best when the many members dedicate themselves to a collective mission.

The Book of Ecclesiastes (quoted above) claims to be written by the great King Solomon, reflecting on his experiences as a leader and shepherd of his people. It's one of the most beautiful and timeless examples of sacred Jewish Wisdom literature, and we are blessed to have it as part of our scriptural heritage. These verses from the fourth chapter speak to the power and vital importance of teamwork, shared mission, and collective labor. It's obvious that working together is more powerful and sustainable in the long run than working alone... and yet, we so easily forget this lesson, and persist in "silo-ing" (resting an entire effort or project on one person's shoulders, without support/backup/communication, until that person burns out and we're left scrambling to carry on somehow).

Your Wardens and Vestry and I are dedicated to forming, establishing, and empowering a set of core Ministry Teams this year. We have an existing Caring Team dedicated to pastoral care, and we are currently gathering Ministry Teams for Worship, Outreach, and Buildings & Grounds. There will be other areas that need attention and other Teams to develop (PR/Communications? Children & Youth? Fellowship?); but these four are our initial focus. If you feel called to serve on one of these Teams, or if you have questions, please talk to me!

I believe that functioning Ministry Teams are vital to the future of Christ Church—not only because working together is Biblical and collective efforts are stronger than solo ones, but also because current demographic, economic, and social trends in our community (and our nation) indicate that congregations like ours are changing rapidly, and will continue changing in the years to come. This is no cause for alarm; it's simply an honest recognition of our current context, and a call to each one of us to consider how we might "step up" and become part of the solution. We cannot continue with "business as usual" indefinitely, so what are we going to do about it? What would Our Lord Jesus have us do?

God is calling to us, right now, amidst all the noise of this world. How will we respond?

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



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



+ On Sunday, February 2nd, we'll celebrate the Feast of the Presentation (sometimes called Candlemas) at both worship services. Candlemas is always Feb. 2nd, and when it's also a Sunday, celebrating the liturgical feast day takes priority over the regular lectionary readings. Our Gospel reading will be Luke 2:22-40, which tells of Mary and Joseph bringing the infant Jesus to the Temple in Jerusalem, and meeting Simeon and Anna. We will begin worship with a special procession of light, and bless candles (an ancient Candlemas tradition).

Oakwood Village Worship

+ An Oakwood Village chapel service will be held on Thursday, February 27th at 10:00 am in the Independent Living Chapel. It will include Scripture reflection, prayer, anointing, and Holy Eucharist. All are welcome; you need not be an OV resident to worship with us!



AshWednesday

+ Wednesday, February 26th is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the penitential season of Lent. We will worship with the full Ash Wednesday liturgy from the *Book of Common Prayer* at 10:00 am (in the chapel) and at 7:00 pm (in the nave). The evening service will include music. From 7:30-8:30 am and noon-1:00 pm, Rev. Maggie will offer private prayer and imposition of ashes in the chapel for any and all comers.



+ On Sunday, February 23rd, we will worship together in a single Combined Rite Holy Eucharist at 9:00 am (with our Annual Parish Meeting and brunch to follow). "Combined Rite" simply means that some elements

of the service will be from the Rite I liturgy, while others will be from the Rite II liturgy.

Revised Common **LECTIONARY**

February 2020				
Date	First Lesson	Psalm	Second Lesson	Gospel
February 2	Malachi 3:1-4	84	Hebrews 2:14-18	Luke 2:22-40
February 9	Isaiah 58:1-9a	112:1-10	1 Corinthians 2:1-12	Matthew 5:13-20
February 16	Sirach 15:15-20	119:1-8	1 Corinthians 3:1-9	Matthew 5:21-37
February 23	Exodus 24:12-18	99	2 Peter 1:16-21	Matthew 17:1-9



Giving statements have been mailed for tax purposes. If you didn't receive yours please contact Kelly Zeller at zellerk0611@gmail.com or 937-323-8651. Thank you!

Church Office Closed

The Church Office will be closed Monday, February 17th for President's Day. Please plan accordingly!



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, please contact Kelly Zeller (zellerk0611@gmail.com).



Altar Flowers



Christ Church Winter Weather Policy

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.





Security Update

Last month, a gunman killed two people at a Church of Christ service

just west of Fort Worth Texas before a member of the church's well-trained security team opened fire on the gunman and killed him within six seconds after he pulled out his rifle and began firing. The shooter, wearing a long trench-coat and fake beard, had attracted the attention of the church security team who strategically positioned themselves close to him. The shooter had been a frequent visitor to the church office looking for handouts. He'd received regular food-aid but became angry at the congregation when the minister kept refusing to give him cash.

The following week, in a North Carolina church, ushers tackled a suspicious individual just after he'd entered the church with a rifle. The individual intended to kill members of the congregation, but never had the chance.

How likely are these scenarios to play out at Christ Church? Not very likely. Here's why.

The High Street entrance to the sanctuary is always locked, and the East entrance is locked and manned with a security-trained greeter, so the chances of a church shooter entering the church is remote. The greeters are trained to refuse entry to those who, like the Texas shooter, fit the profile of a church shooter. If there's any problem, the greeters are trained to sound an alarm and radio the volunteer church security officer in the sanctuary who'll direct ushers to lock the sanctuary door and the congregation to shelter-in-place under the pews or evacuate the building through the front door, depending on the situation.

All this is part of a comprehensive security plan developed with the vestry's guidance,

which sets emergency procedures to deal with tornado warnings, building evacuation, building lock-down, active shooter, assaults, medical emergencies, and theft on property. Greeters, ushers, nursery and youth teachers are trained on what to do in the event of one of these emergencies.

Closed-circuit TV cameras survey the church and its parking lot, and monitors were placed at the sanctuary usher station and at the Linden Avenue exit so the church can be monitored during all services.

Our entryways are hardened to prevent forced entry, and we added locks, blinds and door privacy film to our children's classrooms, so they can safely shelter in place during a time of danger. All this was done in order to make our worship spaces and classrooms safe and worry-free.

Ushers and greeters are trained and can refresh their training at any time by reading the *Christ Church Emergency Procedures* booklet. If you're an usher or greeter and can't find the security booklet you got at training, let me know and I'll get you another one. If you're not an usher, greeter, or youth teacher, there are four booklets at the usher's station in the back of the church sanctuary for you to borrow and leaf through if you'd like to read the detailed procedures. If you'd like to keep the booklet, just let me know, and I'll get you one.

As we mourn the lives of those lost in any church shooting, we can rest assured that Christ Church is prepared and ready to deal with every emergency.

Jack Ivy, Security Director



Christ Church has acquired a NEW number for you to call in the event after-hours pastoral emergencies—**937-504-1319**. Please make a note of it.



2020 ABSALOM JONES SYMPOSIUM AND ECUMENICAL SERVICE

“Exploring Our Journey Together as the Beloved Community”

A Symposium on Racial Reconciliation and Social Justice

Sponsored by The Bishop Herbert Thompson Chapter of the Union of Black Episcopalians and The Diocese of Southern Ohio

Saturday, February 15 | 9:30am
Ecumenical Worship Service | 2:00pm

Hosted By

Allen Temple AME Church
7030 Reading Rd.
Cincinnati, OH 45237

Symposium Participants

Panel Moderator

The Rev. Karen Montagno | Canon Missioner
Christ Church Cathedral

Panelists

Dr. Karen Shuster Webb | President
Union Institute & University

Carl Westmoreland | Historian
Freedom Center

Dr. Adam Clark | Associate Professor
Department of Theology, Xavier University

The Rev. Dr. Gerald Cooper | Pastor
Wayman Chapel, AME Church

Bishop Frank Madison Reid III | Preacher



Keynote Speaker
Dr. Karen Shuster-Webb
President
Union Institute & University



Preacher
Bishop Frank Madison Reid III
Ecumenical Officer
and Endorsing Agent
for the AME Church

Celebrant

The Rt. Rev. Bavi Edna “Nedi” Rivera

Goodwill Offering—including a continental breakfast and lunch. **Registration is required.**

Register on [eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com) and search keyword **Absalom**

Bus transportation provided from Dayton and Columbus. For information, contact Nannette Reynolds @614-582-5941.

Set us free, Heavenly father, from every bond of prejudice and fear: that, honoring the steadfast courage of your servants Absalom Jones and Richard Allen, we may show forth in our lives the reconciling love and true freedom of the children of God, which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.



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



The next outing for the "Lunch Bunch" is on Tuesday, February 11th, 2020 at 11:30 AM at Collier's Family Restaurant, 2800 West First Street (Springfield). This group welcomes all

men and women who are available at lunchtime for some good food and fellowship. Please email Anita Beardsell at anitabeardsell1234@gmail.com to RSVP. If you need a ride, please let her know that, too.



The next Taizé service will held at St. Raphael Catholic Church (225 East High Street) on Sunday, February 23rd at 5 pm. Taizé is a quiet, peaceful service of readings, songs, prayers, and candlelight. The name Taizé comes from an ecumenical religious community in France. After WWII, young adults from all over Europe flocked to it, looking for healing and reconciliation. To help these people of many different languages worship together, the monks of Taizé wrote simple, beautiful, moving chants, which are easily learned. Taizé continues to be a pilgrimage destination for young people—now from all over the world— and their simple, quiet worship is held all over the world, as well.

Church Staff Hours

Rector: The Rev. Maggie Leidheiser-Stoddard
(Open Office Hours Tues. 8am-2pm,
Thurs. 11:30 am-2pm)

Deacon: The Rev. Rick Incorvati

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

Jr. Warden: John Richardson

(richardsonjohnd@gmail.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: John Richardson

Treasurer: Ken Bladh


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

New Security Policy: No Weapons Allowed

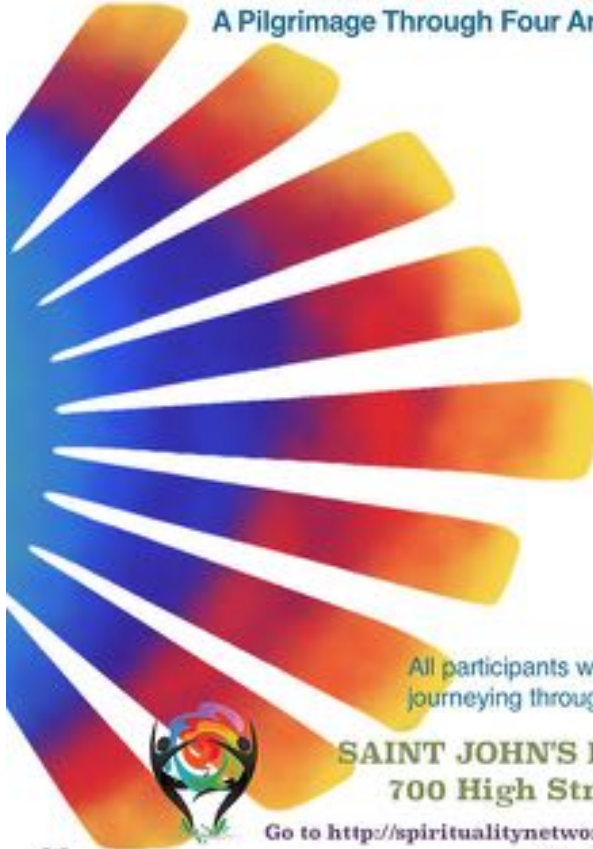
Christ Church, like many other businesses, churches, and schools, has implemented a new policy prohibiting all firearms and weapons on church property. This was approved at the August 6th Vestry meeting. Signs have been posted which meet the legal requirements for this policy to comply with Ohio law.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



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

ARTIGRAS 2020 
Re-mem-bering Our Lives
in the Presence of Witnesses
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22nd
8:30 AM - 4:00 PM

A Pilgrimage Through Four Artistic and Spiritual Practices:



Authentic Movement

Led by Kelly Hurlburt
 Embodying and witnessing to our questions.

Ceramics

Led by Mary Ruth Kamp
 Exploring interior and exterior spaces.

Poetry

Led by Emily Patterson & KPB Stevens
 Finding words and practicing the pause.

Ikebana Flower Arranging

Led by Matt Weinstein
 Becoming comfortable with arrangement & disarrangement.

All participants will have the shared experience of journeying through all four practices.

SAINT JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
700 High Street, Worthington

Go to <http://spiritualitynetwork.org/artigras.html> to register.

The SPIRITUALITY NETWORK
 Awakened lives transforming the world

Cost: \$40

YOUTH PRESIDENT'S DAY TRIP TO COSI

On **Monday, February 17th** there's no school and the church office is closed, but that doesn't mean we'll be sitting at home watching Netflix all day! All middle and high schoolers are encouraged to join us for a day trip to the Center of Science & Industry (COSI) in Columbus. We'll leave from the church parking lot at 9 AM, and return in the evening (after dinner at one of central Ohio's premier dining establishments, Dirty Frank's Hot Dog Palace). Total cost is \$40 per person (which includes COSI admission and dinner). Folks should also bring a bag lunch and extra money if they want to hit up the gift shop. Youth are welcome to bring a friend -- but we will need signed permission slips for everyone. Sign up by emailing or texting Rev. Maggie (RevMaggieLS@gmail.com, 937-605-1536) **by 10 PM on Sunday, February 9th**. If the cost is a problem, just let Maggie know (scholarship funds can be made available)



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

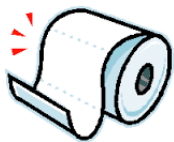
February 19 from 11–2 is pantry day!

Thank you to those who helped with January's Food Pantry. We gave out lots of meat, beef stew, eggs, milk, cheese, soup, fruits, and fresh produce and the extras of soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, and toilet paper. Pantry volunteers come from Covenant Presbyterian Church, Christ Episcopal Church and other faith communities. The next Food Pantry is February 19th from 11 am until 2 pm. Volunteers are needed to help pick up and 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.



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 located in the East Entrance, next to the long table against the stairs. Donations will be distributed at the Christ Church Food Pantry. Hungry cats and dogs and their humans thank you! Contact Anne Strothman with questions: 937-242-3475 astrothman01@gmail.com



Don't Forget the T.P.!!

Our Food Pantry is one of the few that gives out toilet paper with the groceries. While T.P. is something most of us take for granted, this necessity cannot be purchased with the SNAP card. A donation of a package of toilet paper is a great contribution to this amazing ministry! Place donations in (or near) the basket outside the elevator on the upper level of the church.



Christ Church is responsible for providing dinner to the guests at Interfaith Hospitality Network Sunday, **February 9th** at 6 PM and Saturday, **February 15th** at 6 PM. If you can help with this ministry please contact Lori Swafford (lori.swafford67@gmail.com (937) 605-7625).

Episcopal Calendars

2020 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.



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.



February 2 - Art historian Kay Koeninger will lead an interactive discussion on the architecture of our church, including its tie to the Gothic Revival of the 19th century in Britain and the United States.

February 9 - Join Rev. Maggie in the Parish Hall for a session on the Nicene Creed. Learn more about its origins and modifications you have noticed in our worship.

February 16 - "Why the Jews? A Frank Discussion about Anti Semitism"

Please welcome Rabbi Cary Kozberg of Temple Shalom, who will lead an informal and interactive conversation on this timely subject after both the 8:00 and 10:00 services.

February 23 - Annual Meeting! No adult forum.

*(submitted by Judy Johnson,
Adult Forum Team convener)*

FEBRUARY Birthdays

- Karen Carter Feb 1
- Jack Goble Feb 2
- Kathi Bladh..... Feb 3
- Vijay Chitkara..... Feb 3
- Jenna Rigsbee..... Feb 4
- Joni Pulver..... Feb 7
- Cameron McGregor Feb 8
- Joe Lewis..... Feb 9
- Walt Wells Feb 10
- Fred Reed..... Feb 11
- Chris Bingman Feb 14
- David Schubert..... Feb 16
- Charlene Schreiber Feb 20
- Nancy McGregor Feb 23
- Heather Wells Gaskins..... Feb 24
- Judy Irvine..... Feb 26

FEBRUARY Anniversaries

- Fred and Babs Reed..... Feb. 15
- Denny and Sharon Wells Feb. 24
- Mark and Judy Irvine Feb. 26

Interested in the life of our Diocese?

The next Annual Convention of the Diocese of Southern Ohio will be held at Christ Church Cathedral in downtown Cincinnati on Saturday, November 7th, 2020. Each parish may send a delegation comprised of its clergy and four lay delegates. If you are interested in serving as a Lay Delegate this year, please speak with Rev. Maggie (RevMaggieLS@gmail.com). Delegates will be approved by the Vestry, and names must be submitted to the Bishop's office in early March. The Diocese hasn't yet published material about this year's Convention theme/plans, but you can read up on last year's at dsoconvention.org!



Sweetness of Peace

This year is the 15th anniversary of the Springfield Peace Center's fundraiser, "The Sweetness of Peace". This event will take place Sunday, February 16th from 2 to 4 PM. The "Sweetness of Peace" celebration will be held in 105 Shouplin on Wittenberg University's campus. Sponsored by the Springfield Peace Center, all proceeds will go toward "sponsoring" children for the annual Peace Camp in June. This 34th annual Peace Camp is a community service provided free to the first 225 children who register.

Desserts will be donated by prominent area caterers. Admission to the event is \$15, which will allow you samples of 10 different desserts. The Springfield Youth Symphony Orchestra will provide entertainment and door prizes will be provided. The tax-deductible admission tickets can be purchased from any Board member (Christ Church's Scott Dooley), at the Peace Center (224 W. College) on Tuesdays or you can purchase them at the door.

