

The Herald

News and events at Christ Episcopal Church
PO Box 97, 157 Shore Road - Somers Point, NJ
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Work Work Work

It's hard for me to believe but it has now been three years since we last had a permanent rector at Christ Church. Time does go by very fast. Father Steve stopped leading us in worship in June of 2007. While the Beatty's stayed in the Rectory during Fr. Steve's search for a new parish to call him, it took six months before the Beatty's moved on. For many of you, however, I know these last three years have not gone by "very fast" – they've been a long, hard journey. Nevertheless, what we need now is patience. The last thing we want to do is rush the process at this critical stage. As you will read in their announcement, below, the Discernment Committee is working hard at, well, discerning. The very word discernment means "good judgment" and now is a critical phase in their work. They still have much work to do so please keep them in your prayers.

"Much work to do" is our theme this summer. The Rectory is in need of general repairs (the running toilet is an example), the boiler in the Church and the boiler in the Parish Hall failed inspection and need plumbing work (see the May Vestry Minutes, below, for more details). So there's much to do around Christ Church. If you can help in any way, please call the Parish Office to offer your assistance.

Respectfully,
Mark Kelsey
Sr. Warden



A Note from the Discernment Committee

Friends in Christ:

The Discernment Committee for finding a new rector continues to make significant progress. We are charged with soliciting applicants and have received from the Diocese a list of potential candidates. We are sending interested candidates information about Christ Church and asking them for more information about themselves. With the candidate pool respondents, we hope to soon conduct telephone interviews that will help us decide which persons to evaluate further. If necessary we may request additional profiles from the Diocese. Then we plan to have interviews in person with the most suitable candidates. At the end of the process, we hope to submit the names of one or more candidates to the Vestry for final consideration.

Please keep the Discernment Committee and its work in your prayers.

Yours in Christ,

The Discernment Committee (Tom Aishton, Nora Broszeit, Jim Franklin, Dennis Huey, Sue Meyer, Walt Minot, Charlotte Murdoch, and Patti Meunier- Chair)



Youth Group Meetings are held in the “Recreation Room” in the basement 8:45AM on Sundays during the regular school year. During the summer, the YG meets for special events and outings. Check the calendar in the Narthex for the events schedule. You may have noticed the beautiful flowers recently planted in the St. Francis Garden (the plot under the Narthex stained glass window). Thank you to the YG for the work helping to beautify the church. A special thank you to those with driver's licenses who routinely stop by to weed and water the garden. We are truly blessed with committed youth.

Eddie Zipf played Pachelbel's Canon on the violin at the 10AM service on June 20th. Look for other YG members making guest musical appearances at the 10AM service this summer as the Senior Choir is on a well deserved hiatus. The Youth Group has participated as readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Acolytes, Ushers and Oblationers during recent Youth Services.

Congratulations to Isabella Fiore, Chuck McIlvane, and Amanda Zipf who graduated and will be starting college in September. We wish all of you the best and will keep you in our prayers as you head off to college.



Special Music for the Summer

While our choir is taking their summer hiatus, our Music Director Christine Fellows, would like to invite anyone with a vocal or instrumental talent to perform special music during the Offertory portion of the 10AM service. There is a signup sheet in the Narthex for anyone who is interested. Please sign up to share your musical talents with the Parish. If there are any questions, please contact Christine at 408-8041.

Parish Picnic, Sunday July 18th

The ECW suggested having a Parish Picnic in the Church Parking Lot, rain or shine, after the 10AM service on July 18th. There's a sign-up sheet in the Narthex for food. Hamburgers and hotdogs will be grilled so we need volunteers to provide potato salad, coleslaw, beans and the like. And we need gas grills. If you have a portable gas grill you can bring to church please sign up in the Narthex!

The Book of Genesis

Can a twenty-first-century Episcopalian really believe the Book of Genesis? Did God really create everything in six days? Did He create Eve at the same time He created Adam? Was Sarah, Abraham's wife, really too old to bear a child (and did she really need divine intervention)?

These and many other puzzling questions will be discussed in the Adult Bible Study Group beginning in September. If you are interested in learning more about the first book in the Bible, please join the group at 9:15AM on Sunday mornings in the church parlor beginning in September. Everyone from high school students and older is welcome. All you need is a Bible and willingness to learn. Walter Minot



Taxes Taxes Taxes, What Do They Want From Us?

So many of you have been very generous in your giving to the ECW's fundraising efforts. For that we are truly grateful. To those of you who have given of your hard earned savings to the Community Food Bank we thank you and trust that if your contribution was given by check or identified with an envelope number, we have recorded your donation in the church's computer and you will receive due credit at the end of the year for tax reporting purposes. To those of you who place food contributions in the basket in the Narthex, we are also thankful. But... because those contributions are difficult to track, we are unable to credit your food contributions to you for tax purposes. If you would like to have your food contributions accounted for at the end of the tax year, please submit your grocery store receipt to the church office for recording as a "contribution in kind." If the grocery store receipt includes any items which were purchased at the same time but not donated, please be sure to circle only those items which were donated in the Narthex. Also be sure to write your name or envelope number on the receipt and Sharon will record your contribution for tax purposes. Thank you for your cooperation and above all, thank you for your generosity.



Water Was Running in the Rectory

Previously it was reported about the running toilet in the Rectory. I want to thank everyone who made a special contribution to the church to help pay this unexpected bill -it was a whopper, over \$900 all tolled. We've written to the water company and pleaded for consideration – showing them the plumber's bill for the repairs. Nevertheless, whether the water company gives us some relief or not, many parishioners stepped up and made additional contributions to Christ Church. Your donations and conscientious offerings are what make this church so special and we are truly grateful. Thank you for coming through when we needed you.

Church Bells

The computer bell system has been repaired. The amplifier was damaged by the bell Tower leak (since repaired). The amplifier cost \$160 to repair but through the generous donation of a parishioner, the amp was fixed without cost to the church. Note that this \$160 to repair the amplifier was much more reasonable than the \$500 it would have cost to replace the amplifier.

The genuine bronze church bell which is in the top of the Bell Tower needs electrical work. The estimate to repair the electrical connection to the bell is in the neighborhood of \$300. Hopefully, by the time you read this edition of The Herald, you will have already heard the familiar "gong" which coincides on Sundays with the words "...for the remembrance of me."



More About Parish Finances

As mentioned above, many of you generously gave additional contributions to the church to help pay the unexpected water bill. And as you will see below, the fundraiser for the new stove is going well. And as you will also see, below, in the Treasurer's Report included within the vestry Meeting minutes for May, our expenses still exceed our income. We're not out of the woods yet but you're hearing the call and stepping up on behalf of your church. Thank you very much for your generosity and dedication to Christ Church.

Parish Office Summer Hours

The office will be open Monday through Thursday, 9:30am to 2:30pm. The office will be closed Fridays. But whether the office is open or not, you can always call 927-6262. If no one answers the phone, please do leave a message.

The Return of Post Office Box 97

Remember to address any correspondence sent to the church to:

CHRIST CHURCH
P.O. BOX 97
SOMERS POINT, NJ 08244



Fashion Show Fund Raiser was a Success!!

By now many of you know we've had problems with the stove in the Parish Hall kitchen. It's over 30 years old and when a gas leak was repaired a few months back, South Jersey Gas recommended the stove be replaced. As of this writing we have raised over \$1400 towards the new stove for the Parish Hall kitchen. The ECW Fashion show was held on the 27th of June and was an overwhelming success. Over 50 people attended the show including over a dozen volunteers. Several donated prizes were won including a beautiful painting. And the dessert table was fantastic with parishioners making some of their favorites: Jewish Apple Cake, Lemon Cake, Orange Cake, Cheese Cake, Pecan Pie, Chocolate Kiss Cookies, Pistachio Biscotti, Pizzelles, Brownies, Snickerdoodles and much more. The ECW raised over \$600 (after expenses) during this most enjoyable fund raising event. Many thanks to all those who helped, both behind the scenes and those walking the runway! There were many planning meetings held and work divvied up, ticket sales, posters printed and spread about, press releases written, donations made, furniture moved, decorations put up, tables set, food prepared and coffee made. And let's not forget our models, Nora, Patti and Ann, who had to change eight times, each, during the course of the show!



Thank you to everyone who helped make the Fashion Show a success. Those who attended, remember, for a limited time you have a 20% discount available at Gabrielle & Co on the fashions you saw at the show.



Donations for Altar Flowers are accepted for the weekly arrangements that adorn the Retable behind the Altar. The suggested donation is \$30. Please use the sign up book in the Narthex or call Sharon in the Parish Office at 927-6262, or mail your donations to Christ Episcopal Church, PO Box 97, Somers Point, NJ, 08224.



July Supply Clergy Schedule

We are pleased and honored to have Father Jesse Anderson lead us in worship for the entire month of July!



Return of Christ Church Keys

If anyone use to be the head of a group/organization and has church keys you no longer need, please return them to the Parish office so we can keep them in circulation for those who do need them.



Christ Church Vestry Minutes

May 16, 2010

6pm to 8:24pm (a new record for brevity!)

Attendance: Mark Kelsey, Ann Smith Gray, Jean Eichorst, Nora Broszeit, Amy Seaman, Ralph Henkel, Marilyn Anderson, Dennis Huey; Guest: Juanita McMenamin

- I. Mark opened the meeting with prayer.
- II. Juanita gave the ECW report.
 - a. The financial report lists \$767.50 in new stove fund. Sue Meyer wants a separate sheet for counters to record ECW funds.
 - b. The parish picnic date was moved to July 18th. (Vestry meeting will be canceled that day.) Volunteers are needed to bring grills to church.
- III. Minutes of April 18, 2010 meeting were read and approved. It was requested the minutes be emailed to Vestry members before the next meeting.
- IV. Nora presented the Treasurer's report. All reports are filed up to April 30, 2010.
 - a. CD has earned \$524.45 in interest. Checking account as a balance of \$11, 590.40; ECW checking account has \$3,809.25, and investment account has \$146,794.60.
 - b. We currently have a loss of \$18,519. We had budgeted to take in \$55,066, but we took in only \$49,604 leaving a shortfall of \$5,461. We budgeted to spend \$68,622 and spent \$68,124. However we took in \$49,605 and spent \$68,124, so we have over spent by \$18,519.
 - c. We took in \$3000 for Easter. Envelope giving is \$8000 less than budget and plate is under budget by \$575. Investment income is more than \$1000 over budget, and building use is almost \$1000 over as well.
 - d. The gas bills were high the first 3 months being over budget by more than \$5000. The electric bill is under budget by \$1700, but we are now coming into the time of year when the shift from gas to electric will even out the spending. Grounds are \$4600 over budget, R&R over budget by almost \$4000 and Minor Repairs \$1700 over budget.
 - e. Baton class only pays \$100 a month to rent the hall, but meeting 4 times a week only comes to \$2 per hour. We will look into raising the price.
- V. Vestry member shared whom they have called to ministry this month. It was noted that P.O. Box 97 is once again in use by the church.
- VI. Service—Ed (not present)
 - a. No report
- VII. Worship—Ralph
 - a. Rite I service was using a bell that didn't have a nice sound. Ann will order a new bell with a better sound. Joan Hess will reimburse the church, so there is no cost to the church.
 - b. Ralph suggested for the population count done by the ushers in church for Communion that we use post card stock paper and print a form in the office rather than use scrap paper as has become the habit.
- VIII. Evangelism—Jean
 - a. 7 blankets and 2 hats were delivered to Shore Memorial Hospital this week. Patt Mathis crocheted two exceptionally nice blankets.

- b. There has been no success with Sunday greeters signing up. Everyone seems to mingle and greet each other as it is, so there will not be an assigned duty anymore.
- IX. Education—Amy
- a. The last day of the Living the Good News curriculum is May 30, and we will take a break for the summer.
 - b. If the fall curriculum is ordered by June 15, we can get a 10% discount.
 - c. The new summer calendar is ready for the narthex.
 - d. Presented idea for a birthday calendar/list for parishioners to add their names. Allows for recognition of each other's birthdays so we can celebrate together.
- X. Pastoral Care—Carol (not present)
- a. Paper Mache vases have been ordered for flower delivery.
 - b. Anne gave the fashion show update. It will be Sunday, June 27 from 12 until 3:00. Gabrielle & Co. is not charging to do the show. We need high attendance, so parishioners will be asked to post flyers. The store will take care of the music. They need four parishioners as models. Anne will put advertisements in an online women's newspaper.
- XI. Stewardship—Property—Marilyn
- a. The sacristy alarm is repaired and working: cost \$125.
 - b. Rectory St. Christopher's garden shed now has a lock.
 - c. The riding lawn mower in the garage was purchased in 2005 but has not been used in 2009 and 2010 because of our paid lawn care (\$85 per week). Vestry voted that it should be sold.
 - d. Church owes South Shore contractors \$2350.
 - e. Mark presented Marilyn with laser pointer for her to use when working with contractors. Thanks, Mark!
 - f. Rectory water bill from March 16 to April 14, 2010 reported 108,000 gallons of water used and cost \$600. The bill included a letter of concern-alert. Marilyn and Sue Meyer found toilet running and stopped its running. Next meter reading showed 49,000 gallons of water used, so Mark shut off water at valve in laundry room. On May 8, Marilyn and Sue found pipe coming into the house under the kitchen spraying mist. Water company shut off water at the curb and Lee bought parts and replaced leaking area of pipe. A million thanks to Lee! (The leak was before the meter, so meter was not recording leak.) Lee also fixed shut off valve next to water meter.
 - g. Two boilers failed inspection—not up to code. New insurance company sent an inspector to check on the three boilers. Parish House passed, but parish hall and church boiler failed for such things as valves in the wrong location and switch is exposed and should be covered, etc. Northfield Plumbing to do work week of May 17, 2010.
 - h. 17 people participated in the Mulch Day on May 15, 2010. 10 yards of root mulch from ACUA cost \$200 for the mulch and \$66.65 for delivery.
 - i. Sally Baumbaugh brought three large containers of liriopie from her garden for three garden areas in the parking lot area. Thanks, Sally!
- XII. Stewardship—Giving—Dennis
- a. Mark reported that giving envelopes cost \$200 per quarter. Sharon is looking into reducing the cost. To get them mailed to homes, need 200 parishioners, so families have been divided to bring up the numbers. Looking into just sending actual amount needed to the church.
- XIII. Old Business—Everyone
- a. Dennis reported the Discernment Committee is meeting for the first time tomorrow night. They will be putting together interview questions.

- XIV. New Business—Everyone
 - a. Bob Turnbull will be holding a public speaking workshop to help with sound system issues.
- XV. Mark closed the meeting with prayer. The Vestry then hurried outside together to watch the space station pass over the church.



Would you like to learn the significance of many of the items/colors adorning the Altar? When do we use white? When do we use Red? What is a Retable? When are flowers not used on the Altar? Learn all this by joining the Altar Guild and becoming a part of the team that makes worship at Christ Church possible!
 Call the Church Office at 927-6262, or talk with Nick Hillyer to volunteer!



Your healing prayers are asked for Thomas, Florence, Betty, Bob, Logan, Frances, Peggy, and Florence, we add to our prayers Denise and those beyond the parish, especially Mary Margaret, Louise, Jeanette & Harry, Nancy, and Joanne. We ask for the continued healing of Monica. We pray for the home bound, especially Irene, Mary, Betty, Peggy & Bob, Francis, Helen, Tom, Connie, Jean & Joan.

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iGive.com is an online shopping tool offering over 700 stores plus *FREE* membership and access to coupons and sales! Please check out this site at www.iGive.com/ChristChurch and start donating today. iGive.com mails the Donation Check directly to Christ Episcopal Church, Somers Point. Help Christ Episcopal Church Somers Point. Invite friends to shop @igive and earn \$5 when they make their first purchase within 45 days. You will need to register as an igive member (free).



A Thank You from Mother Joan

To all of my friends at Christ Church - thank you for all of your many expressions of compassion and kindness for myself, Rhonda and all of my family. For the beautiful flowers in the funeral home, cards, calls and most important, prayers. All of these acts of sympathy and love make bearable the unbearable sudden death of my son, Michael. Blessing on all of you. Love, Joan



Transportation on Sundays

Do you drive to church on Sunday (or Saturday) with empty seats in your car? Maybe on your way you're passing another parishioner's home. Maybe they're somebody who can't drive. Would you consider helping to bring someone to Church? Or are you a parishioner who would like to come to Church but need a ride? Mike Goloff has kindly offered to act as coordinator. Contact the office at 927-6262 and let us know if you're willing to provide transportation or if you need transportation to Church. Mike will try his best to match folks up.



Dates to Remember

July 18th – Parish Picnic after 10AM service in the Church Parking Lot



Happy Birthday to You!

Take a look at the summer calendar on the bulletin board in the narthex, and you will find a new addition to the display: a birthday calendar! Wouldn't it be nice to know fellow parishioners' birthdates so we can wish each other well? Here is our chance! Find the page of your birth month and write your name on the line next to your birth date. (Make sure you leave the current month on top when you put the papers back in their holder.) We can say the birthday prayer for those who will celebrate during the week, and we can celebrate with one another throughout the year!

Happy Birthday Frances Scanny – July 3rd!

Frances insists our church records are incorrect and she was born in 1942, not 1924!