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NOVEMBER 2016

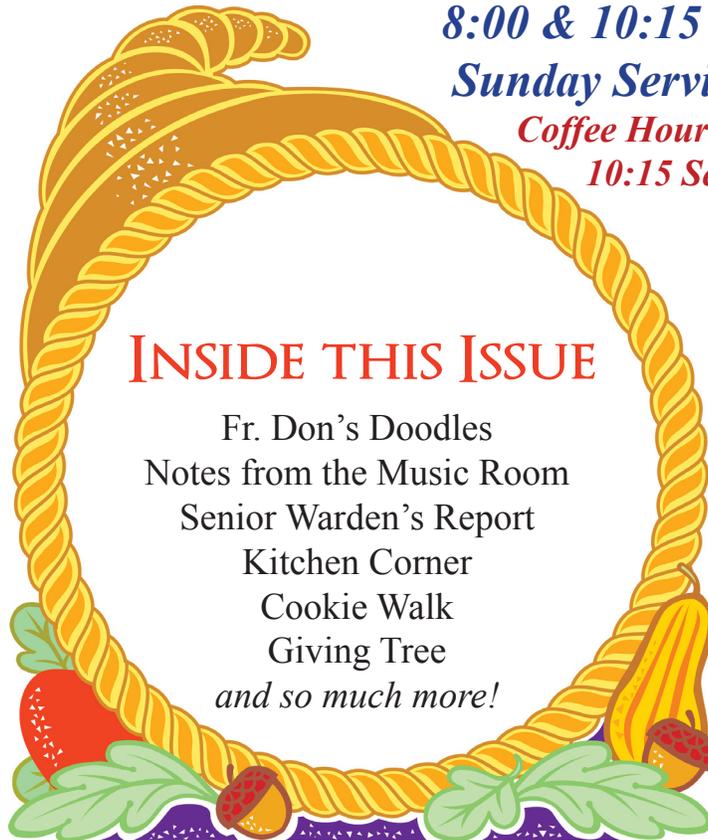
# TRUMPETER

*St. Christopher's Episcopal Church*

**8:00 & 10:15 AM**

**Sunday Services**

**Coffee Hour following  
10:15 Service**



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*and so much more!*

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT FANTASTIC

We have been having tons of fun at our family nights on Wednesday! Come, bring your family, bring your friends and join us for this new and exciting time at St. Christopher's!

4:30 - 5:30 pm	Adult Bells
5:30-6:00 pm	Meal Prep/Set-Up
6:00-6:30 pm	Family Simple Supper
6:30 - 7:00 pm	Children's Ringers & Singers
7:00 - 7:30 pm	Children's Formation
7:00-8:30 pm	Adult Choir

\*Beginning soon - Adult Formation will be offered from 6:30 - 7:30 pm\*

Thank you to the families that help by providing soup and food for our simple meals! Please make sure that, if you are bringing food, it is here by 6 pm (earlier if it needs to be heated) so that we can begin our simple supper on time!

**Come and join us this Wednesday at St. Chris!**

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S EPISCOPAL  
CHURCH

9020 S. Saginaw Rd., Grand Blanc, MI 48439

(810) 694-3600

*Office@stchrisgrandblanc.org*

Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday, 9 am - 4 pm

STAFF

The Right Reverend Todd Ousley,  
*Bishop of Eastern Michigan*

The Reverend Donald F. Davidson,  
*Priest in Charge*  
*frdon@stchrisgrandblanc.org*

The Reverend Dr. Michael Carr,  
*Priest in Residence*

The Reverend Elizabeth Morris Downie,  
*Associate Emeritus*

Nada Radakovich, *Director of Music*  
*nada@stchrisgrandblanc.org*

Dr. Greg Hassold, *Parish Organist*  
*greg@stchrisgrandblanc.org*

Elizabeth Sauvie, *Administrative Assistant*  
*Elizabeth@stchrisgrandblanc.org*

Stephanie Finn, *Sexton*  
*Stephanie@stchrisgrandblanc.org*

STAY UP TO DATE!

[www.stchrisgrandblanc.org](http://www.stchrisgrandblanc.org)



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St. Christopher's  
Episcopal Church

## FR DON'S DOODLES...

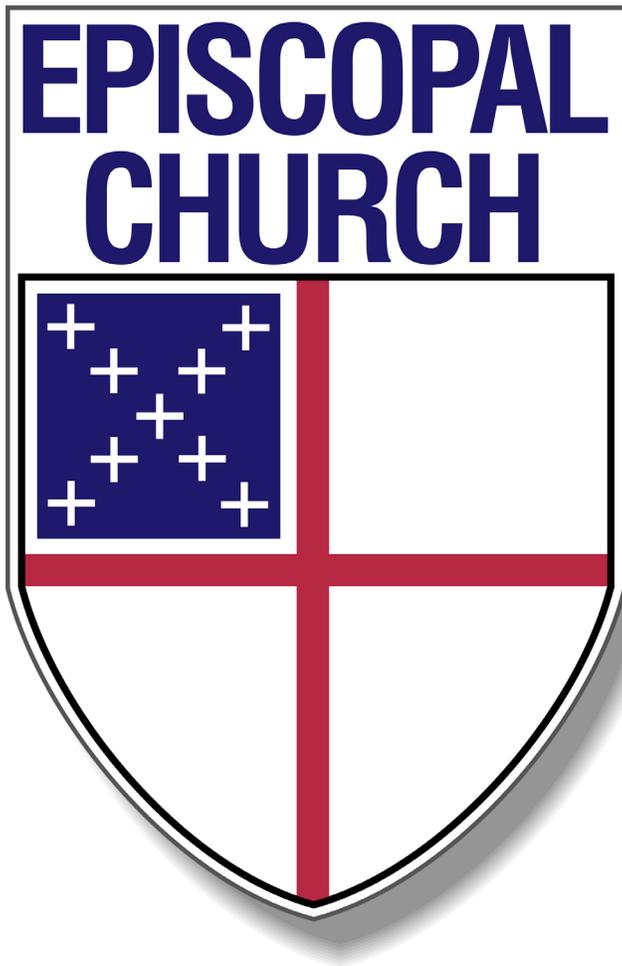
In many ways, the Episcopal Church is odd as we have a church structure that is unique from any other. Part of the reason is our heritage from the Church of England and part because we are both catholic and protestant. If you grew-up in the Episcopal Church, you might well find our unusual way of governance as quite right and in order. If not, you may be perplexed. Through the years many well-meaning laity and clergy have attempted to make the church act like another church or another denomination. Good Luck.

Let me begin with the definition of the word Episcopal for understanding that word may shed bountiful light. Episcopal is a Latin to English word meaning: "of or relating to Bishop(s)." St. Christopher's exists because of its Episcopal relationship, its relationship to a Bishop. That relationship made possible by the laying-on-of-hands in ordination allows us to have a direct link to the apostles; a relationship known as Apostolic Succession. Due to this relationship; priests, deacons and laity have roles which, by their nature, assure that the local parish stays within boundaries upon which the church is built: Scripture, Reason and Tradition. Through this founding church law, policies and customs have developed over the centuries.

Each local church has a vestry made up of leaders within the parish. These individuals are "vested" with the financial, fiduciary authority per the civil laws of the state and the law of the church (Canon). At St. Christopher's there are 9 voting members. Each parish prescribes (under Canon) their own qualifications for election and how long an elected person can serve. To provide discipline and order the vestry elects Wardens which supervise the work of the vestry along with other duties. In England, the vestry was a wee bit like the county (parish) commission as it had both secular and ecclesiastical authority, the Church of England being a part of the government.

Our vestry is about the work of considering whom to nominate at the Annual Meeting in January. There will be three open seats and each person elected is expected to serve a three-year term. Persons nominated need to be active communicants of the parish who have made a pledge for 2017 and are at least 16 years of age.

The vestry is not a "one meeting and done" kind of group. Each member of the vestry should be a vital worker in the parish in one area or another. For example, right now one of our vestry members takes charge of an Outreach project while another is coordinating our Wednesday evening program. Another member is working with the Finance Committee and on it goes. The vestry and the priest (Rector) are equal players with specific roles. One does not out-rank the other, nor is the vestry super-



visory over the Rector or the other way around. Indeed, the two must work together to equal the checks and balances.

Budget, Stewardship, Building, Maintenance are all things under the vestry, while worship, music, education and day-to-day operations are under the Rector. This brings us back to where we started...it is all about relationships. As we exist because we are in a relationship with our Bishop, our parish operates at its best when the people work with their vestry and the priest works with the people and the vestry.

Being on the vestry can be interesting, it also can have moments of pure frustration as...well...our system is odd. If you feel called to this ministry, please let Dr. Lanre' Aluko (the chair of the Nominating Committee) or any other vestry member know.

Let's move forward together with a strong, active, enthusiastic and vibrant vestry.

Blessings,  
Don+

## CURRENT MINISTRY OPENINGS

There are still many areas where you can help around St. Christopher's. Please take a look at each of the following areas where there is a need. Contact the church office if you are interested!

**Coordinator & Teachers for Wednesday Night FaNtASTiC** at St. Christopher's. (Will need Safeguarding Training.)

**Acolyte Lead** takes care of scheduling and assists the Priest with training and recruiting acolytes. (Will need Safeguarding Training.)

**Nursery (Childcare) Attendants** for Sunday and Wednesday. (Will need Safeguarding Training and background check.)

**Lectors** read the lessons at services. They do not vest.

**Lay Eucharistic Ministers** serve at the Holy Table and are licensed (following training) by the Diocesan Bishop.

Let the office know if you are interested in any of these ministry areas. Thank you for considering how you may engage your gifts for ministry at St. Christopher's.



# THE SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT



This month I'm still involved in the Stewardship Campaign. We've received fewer than half the pledge cards back that we created and the Finance Committee must work on the budget this month so the Vestry can vote on it next month. Of course, a major part of the budget is the funds promised for 2017 so we know what money we have to work with next year.

To those of you who have returned your pledge cards already: Thank you very much for your prompt response. (If you also added your leaf to our "family" you deserve an extra "Thank you.") If you were able to increase your pledge, my gratitude is overwhelming.

At this point we're still a long ways from even last year's budget (which included a large deficit) let alone what we need for next year (which will probably also include a large deficit). Details are available from either Fr. Don or myself if you want them before the annual meeting at which time the budget will be made public.

Those of you who have not yet returned your card will be receiving a phone call in the next couple of weeks to encourage you to return your pledge card so we'll know where we stand. The call will NOT be to ask how much or even to suggest an amount but just to return your card. If you need a card for any reason, you can find one on the yellow table in the narthex next to the tree drawing or contact the office to request that one be mailed to you.

We continue to work on cutting expenses wherever possible. Angela Campbell, our amazing Junior Warden, is working with our various contractors and outside agencies to see exactly what we get from them for what we pay. The Vestry can then determine if we're getting good value for our money or if we should look for replacement vendors.

Please note that we have an on-going list of voluntary ministry positions which we have not yet been able to fill. Usually several are included in the weekly Pew Pulse and we request that you prayerfully determine which position might be calling you to spend some extra time helping your congregation/church family. A more comprehensive list is available on our website.

With the election now behind us and the consequences still to come, I hope we can all remember and emulate Jesus' example of loving and respecting all.

Linda Rathburn, Senior Warden

## UPCOMING LESSONS

RCL YEAR C - TRACK 1  
& YEAR A

### **Nov. 20 - Pentecost 27**

Jeremiah 23:1-6  
Canticle 16  
Colossians 1:11-20  
Luke 23:33-43

### **Nov. 27 - Advent 1**

Isaiah 2:1-5  
Psalm 122  
Romans 13:11-14  
Matthew 24:36-44

### **Dec. 4 - Advent 2**

Isaiah 11:1-10  
Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19  
Romans 15:4-13  
Matthew 3:1-12

### **Dec. 11 - Advent 3**

Isaiah 35:1-10  
Canticle 15  
James 5:7-10  
Matthew 11:2-11

### **Dec. 18 - Advent 4**

Isaiah 7:10-16  
Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18  
Romans 1:1-7  
Matthew 1:18-25

**Find the readings every  
week on the church  
website or at  
[lectionarypage.net](http://lectionarypage.net)**

## Worship Servers Schedule

		Lector/LEMs	Ushers	Greeters	Acolytes
Nov 13	8 am	Tom Dyke	Judy Miller Lou Alarie		
	10:15 am	Frank Burger Kathy Curtis	Paul Bassett Bob Carter	Mary Van Duyne Flo Gjerstad	Dotun Aluko (C)
Nov 20	8 am	Tim Weston	Sharon & Dale Rice		
	10:15 am	Linda Rathburn Angela Campbell	Flo Gjerstad Helen Lackey	Steve Huber Joe LePard	Jacob Stuart (C)
Nov 27	8 am	Time Weston	Kay Van Natta Jane Brewer		
	10:15 am	Joyce Thewalt Linda Rathburn	The Wise Family	Carol & Rick Lutgens	Dotun Aluko (C) Jack Keyes (T) Abby Keyes (A) Daniel Keyes (B)
Dec 4	8 am	Judy Miller	Jim & Jackie Beal		
	10:15 am	Marsha Kump Kathy Curtis	Mike Latesky Frank Burger	Joyce & Bill Thewalt	
Dec 11	8 am	Tom Dyke	Judy Miller Lou Alarie		
	10:15 am	Frank Burger Kathy Curtis	Bill White Mary Van Duyne	Flo Gjerstad Helen Lackey	

## CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

If you would like to donate money toward the Christmas flowers this year, there will be offering envelopes on the table near the main entrance in the gathering space beginning Sunday, November 20th. You can also give with your normal offering, but please make sure you clearly mark that your money should go to Christmas flowers. Thank you for supporting all of St. Christopher's ministries throughout the year!



Join us for  
**A Community  
Thanksgiving Service**

**Wednesday, November 23,  
7:00pm**

**Grand Blanc United Methodist Church**

*(515 Bush Ave, Grand Blanc)*

***Hosted by:* First Congregational United Church of Christ ,  
St. Christopher's Episcopal, Holy Spirit Lutheran Church,  
Kirkridge Presbyterian, and Halsey, South Mundy &  
Grand Blanc United Methodist Churches**

There will be a community choir; an offering for FISH will be taken,  
and you are also welcome to bring canned goods for donation .

Individuals are welcome to bring their favorite pie (or dessert) to  
share during fellowship after the service.

**Come Join Us for a Time of Thanksgiving!**

# ST. CHRISTOPHER'S GIVING TREE

It's almost time for our annual giving tree outreach! The giving tree will be up Sunday, Nov. 20th, and all gifts must be at the church no later than Monday, Dec. 12th. As it has been in past years, when you remove a name from the tree be sure to fill in the sheet sitting on the table nearby with your name, the family number, and the child's sex and age.

"Waddles and Toddlers" will add \$5.00 to each \$20.00 gift certificate that you purchase. You must give them the family number to receive the additional \$5.00. "R & B Books" will give an additional \$5.00 for every \$10.00 certificate purchased. Again you must give them the family number and pay in cash.

DO NOT wrap the gifts but put them in gift bags, boxes, etc., and label it with the family number, and child's sex and age. If you are contributing cash, or have purchased gift certificates, please put them in envelopes (be sure to state the family number and child's age and sex on the envelope) and turn them into the church office.

Fish of Grand Blanc is also in need of men and boy's jeans and boy's coats. If you can donate either new, or gently used jeans or coats to their Clothes Closet (they also will be happy to accept money so that they can purchase needed clothing), please bring your donation to the church marked "Clothing Closet" and we will see that it is delivered to Fish.



Jean sizes needed are: boy's: 6, 8, 10 and 12  
men's waist: 30, 31, 32, 33, and 34  
men's length: 30, 32, and 34

Boy's coat sizes: 6, 8, 10, 12, 14 and 16

We also need wrapping supplies. Wrapping paper and tape can be donated and left under the tree with the gifts. Thank you for supporting this important community program!



## COOKIE WALK - BAKERS NEEDED!

On Saturday, December 10th from 10 am - Noon, we would like to have a cookie walk that is open to the public. In order for this to happen we need bakers...Lots of bakers! There will be a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall. We are asking each baker to bake 6 dozen or more cookies. If you are a snow bird, you can still help us, as your baked cookies can be frozen ahead of time. Thank you.

Once enough people have signed up to bake cookies, we will be sending out more information about the event! Stay tuned!

## NOTES FROM THE MUSIC ROOM

Greetings from the Music Room! As we all still wait patiently for our organ to be voiced, I must ask everyone to please continue to be of good cheer and hang in there just a little bit longer! This fabulous old/new pipe organ will be such a wonderful asset to our church! (In fact, the American Guild of Organists has asked if they can hold their annual chapter Music Festival here at St. Christopher in May. I will provide more detail about this event as Spring approaches!) We are so lucky to have our very own parish organist in Dr. Greg Hassold; he has very generously been working to help our 'loaner' instrument sound as grand as possible. Greg is a great blessing to our church, and I know that I am very grateful that we get to enjoy his organ prelude and postludes on Sundays.

Speaking of musical abilities, Father Don and I are very hopeful that many of us will be able to make it to our upcoming Veteran's Day service, (Sunday, November 13) wherein we will be singing several patriotic hymns as well as singing a piece "The First Song of Isaiah", which will include the Adult Choir, our newly formed Ringers and Singers ensemble, and our CONGREGATION as well! It will provide a rousing moment of beautiful music, as a means of offering our love to God.

Please keep in mind the upcoming November 23rd Thanksgiving Eve Celebration to be held at Grand Blanc Methodist Church. St. Christopher's, Holy Spirit Lutheran, Grand Blanc United Church of Christ, and Kirkridge Presbyterian will all be combining to bring this newly established tradition to fruition at 7:00 pm! Following the service, we will have a time of fellowship with home-baked pies and beverages! St. Christopher's Bell Choir may even be making an appearance at this service! You will just have to come and see!

Lastly, I would like to thank all of the people who have been preparing glorious soups and other foods for our Wednesday Night's Fantastic!! What a beautiful time for us to meet, chat and enjoy gourmet soups, corn bread and Cassidy's pink cup cakes! Can't beat it! Our bells have arrived for the children, and we have had three rehearsals already. Wow! Those kids are doing GREAT! I am so excited about this coming Sunday! Be there!

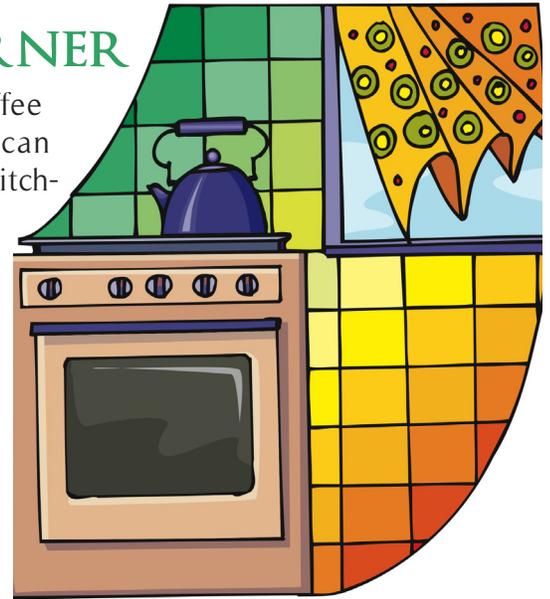
In Christ, Nada



## THE KITCHEN CORNER

Isn't it wonderful to see greater use of the church kitchen for coffee hours and other special events? For some a commercial kitchen can be intimidating. Others may not have worked in a commercial kitchen for some time and may find themselves a bit out of touch with county and state health department rules and regulations. To assist both groups, I am planning a number of small group orientation sessions for our kitchen. There will be a number of sessions to accommodate peoples' various schedules and to allow for groups to be small (about 8). I hope you will watch for more information regarding times and call the church office to sign up for one of them. I look forward to seeing you.

Louise Desgranges, Kitchen Manager



The First Sunday of Advent is November 27th. Following the 10:15 am service, we will **GREEN** the church for Advent and each group is asked to decorate their individual Advent Trees (or have them decorated by the 27th).

The following groups have volunteered to decorate an Advent Tree in the gathering space (narthex):

- Adult Choir
- 8:00 AM Service
- Wednesday Night FaNtASTiC
- Church Office Staff
- Crochet & Knitting Group

We still have one lonely Advent Tree in need of a group to decorate it! If your group is interested, please let the office know!

The Giving Tree will also be in the nave beginning Nov. 20th. Later, we will be putting Christmas Trees in both the Columbarium Chapel and the Nave. The Altar Guild would really appreciate any help with decorating the Nave for the season of Advent.



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27TH

Nov. 20th. Later, we will be putting Christmas Trees in both the Columbarium Chapel and the Nave. The Altar Guild would really appreciate any help with decorating the Nave for the season of Advent.

## ACOLYTE LEAD NEEDED

We have the best group of acolytes anywhere. Currently we have ten acolytes, but we do not have an acolyte leader. The Acolyte lead assists the priest in training the acolytes, recruiting new acolytes and scheduling the acolytes for each of the main services. In addition the lead is a member of the worship team and participates in the creative design of all worship experiences in the parish. This position requires successful completion of the Safeguarding God's Children course and a successful background check at no expense to the interested individual. It does not require a great deal of time other than Sunday services, and attendance at monthly worship team meetings. Our acolytes could do a lot more if we only had an adult step-up who was willing to be their acolyte lead. Please contact Fr. Don if you are interested.