



# The FEBRUARY 2017 TRUMPETER

*St. Christopher's Episcopal Church*  
**8:00 & 10:15 AM Sunday Services**  
**5:30 PM Wednesday Holy Eucharist**



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*and so much more!*

**SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE**  
8 am - Holy Eucharist Service  
9 am - Adult Formation (Lenten Study: The Basics of Christian Life)  
10 am - Christian Formation for Children & Youth  
10:15 am - Holy Eucharist Service  
*Coffee Hour following 10:15 am Eucharist*

***Every first Sunday of the month  
there will be a Parish-Wide Potluck Brunch at 9 am!***

**LENT WEDNESDAY EVENING SCHEDULE**  
4:30 pm - Bells Rehearsal  
5:30 pm - Holy Eucharist in the Columbarium Chapel  
6 pm - Soup Supper  
7 pm - Choir Rehearsal  
7 pm - Adult Lenten Study (*The Book of Forgiving*)

**ST. CHRISTOPHER'S EPISCOPAL  
CHURCH**  
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## STAFF

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*Bishop Provisional, Diocese of Eastern MI*

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St. Christopher's  
Episcopal Church

## THANK YOU

The family of Phyllis Cooley (Karen & Fr. Mike Carr) sent us a very nice thank you card. The card can be viewed on the kiosk in the gathering space.

To our St. Christopher's Family,

Thank you for all your love, support & prayers.

We miss mom, but are comforted in knowing we have a special angel watching over us.

Blessings,  
Karen & Mike Carr

*In moments of sorrow; it's family and friends who bring love and peace. Thank you sincerely.*

Family of Phyllis Cooley



## YOUTH FORMATION UPDATE

Our Sunday Youth Formation continues to be a source of Christian education - for kids and teachers alike - and after a recent teachers meeting, we have a structured environment in place.

Class meets at 10 a.m. every Sunday in the classroom down the main hallway. We open by lighting a candle and saying a brief prayer. The two teachers then take 25-30 minutes to engage the children in the lesson and discussion before taking on the weekly activity to close the class.

Everyone returns to the worship space in time for Holy Communion.

Some weeks, we have as many as 12 children; some weeks *continued on page 3...*

## **Youth Formation Update ...continued from page 2...**

as few as four. Our teachers are very positive, motivated and knowledgeable and please know that all children, regardless of age, are more than welcome to join us each Sunday.

On a personal note, I attended a Youth Ministry conference at the Diocese earlier this month and picked up on some great ideas moving forward that we can hopefully soon implement here at St. Christopher's.

When we restarted Youth Formation last fall, we knew it would be a process, but we are certainly moving in the right direction — and that is exciting!

Thank you to everyone that has joined us and if you have any questions or suggestions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at any time.

-Matt Mackinder  
Director of Christian Education

## **JUST A LITTLE THOUGHT... SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT**



I'll start by thanking Linda Rathburn for her dedication and service as senior warden these past 18+ months. Saying that she began with "a running start" is not an exaggeration. Her time of service was during a pinnacle time here at St. Christopher's and she was handed her share of challenges. Thank you again Linda for your time, dedication, service, and hard work here at St. Christopher's. We are all grateful.

I would like to welcome and congratulate our newest Vestry members that were elected at our Annual Meeting in January – Bill Anderson and Bill White.

Each of them has really stepped up and in! Bill Anderson is tackling our Outreach program, and I can not wait to see what he has planned. Bill White graciously accepted the Vestry's nomination of Junior Warden and has been off to a running start.

During Father Don's annual address, he had a poignant statement that I think bears reminding for those of us who heard it and it defiantly needs to be said for those of us who didn't – "WE are the Church!" He reminded each one of us, that every one of us is The Church. We, collectively and individually, make up The Church of St. Christopher's. The Church is not defined by the spaces we inhabit, but by the people inhabiting those spaces – wherever those "spaces" may be. In order to truly be the church we want to be, and are called to be, we need to have some gaps in our leadership filled. We need: A Welcoming chairperson, an In-reach chairperson, a Youth leader, and a Treasurer. These are all important and vital roles in our ministry, in OUR Church. I want to make it clear that I am not asking for one person to take on one of these areas all by themselves, that would be too much for one person to do alone, and in the community of a church – no one is alone. So, I am offering a challenge to each and every member of this church.... Pray. Pray to be open to the voice of God. Pray to truly feel the presence of God. Pray to have God reveal to you where your special, unique, and individual gifts can be used in our, YOUR church. Pray to have God show you where you are needed. Then . . . **Listen**

And...With God's Help, Let's Make It Happen!

Angela Campbell  
Senior Warden

# WITH GOD'S HELP... LET'S MAKE IT HAPPEN!

## *Answer the call?*

We are in desperate need of **Lay Leadership** in many areas here at St. Christopher's. You can help!

Most of the below leadership positions will not take up a huge amount of your time each month and a couple are not necessarily a year-round commitment (you will be very busy for a couple of months only). However, as all our leadership communication is via e-mail (a great savings of expenses), accepting the call indicates a willingness to have e-mail and check it at least a couple of times daily.

### **Outreach Team Chairperson**

We have people working with the Giving Tree, Family Promise and our Food Pantry. What we need is coordination of our efforts so that we can alert the congregation and get more and more interest. Outreach is a major value of our parish.

### **Welcoming Team Chairperson**

We have visitors almost every Sunday, yet we do not have anything to give them to welcome them, we do not have a process to connect with them after their visit. In many instances, our visitors are not welcomed. We need a chairperson to get moving in this area. We need to let people that visit our church know what St. Christopher's is all about.

### **Inreach Chairperson**

We have events and activities throughout the year. We need a person to get folks who are interested in dinners, baseball game trips, game nights, pot-luck brunches and anything else formed into a Team and have fun. Sometimes this is called social ministry or event planning. Whatever it is called, it improves morale.



### **Stewardship Committee Chairperson**

The Stewardship Committee works with the Wardens and the Vestry to establish Stewardship Education throughout the year and conduct the annual Stewardship Campaign. If you are interested, please contact the senior warden.

# **WE WANT YOU!**

### **Treasurer**

The position of Parish Treasurer is currently vacant. The Vestry was unable to elect anyone as there were no candidates. This is a very important position. The person interested must have some accounting skills but must also possess good software and computer competency.

### **Usher Lead**

The Usher Lead coordinates, schedules and provides training for all of ushers. The Usher Lead is a member of the worship team and participates in liturgy design.

### **Nursery Attendant (Paid Position)**

The Nursery has been closed for a number of months due to the absence of a nursery attendant. The Attendant must pass background checks as required and complete our Safeguarding God's Children course.

*continued on page 5...*

## **With God's Help...continued from page 4...**

She/he must also be well recommended and have completed CPR and other education necessary for the care of infants and young children. A volunteer will assist the attendant so that there are two people in the nursery whenever children are present.

### **Office Angels**

Office Angels help Fr. Don on Wednesday and Thursday mornings and other times as needed. Jane Yorks is the coordinator and is always looking for more folks to assist.

### **Prayer Team Chairperson**

Every week we have folks who need our prayer. Of course, anyone can pray, no need to be at any place or assume any particular stance. A Prayer Team person receives a name and passes it along with a big promise, only first names are used and no reason for the prayer is stated. God knows the details, and a prayer team is not a gossip team.

### **Also**

If someone in the parish has expertise in the area of Facebook, Twitter and or website design, their assistance would be extremely helpful.

If you are interested in any of these positions within the church, please send me an e-mail at [frdon@stchrisgrandblanc.org](mailto:frdon@stchrisgrandblanc.org).

We need you, and we all need to step-up so that..."with God's help, we will make it happen."



## **SATURDAY SERIES: THE YEAR OF THE BIBLE**

The Year of the Bible is a survey course covering the Hebrew Scriptures and the New Testament held in conjunction with the Academy for Vocational Leadership. Each class consists of a video lecture to be viewed ahead of class and in-person discussion and content by a local instructor. This course is a great foundation for lay preachers or anyone interested in learning more about scripture.

### **Remaining classes for Spring 2018:**

**Mar 17:** The Roman Period/Gospel of Mark: Register on/before 3/7

**Apr 14:** Gospels of Matthew and Luke/Acts: Register on/before 4/11

**May 12:** Gospel of John/The Apostle Paul: Register on/before 5/9

**June 16:** Paul and the Canon: Register on/before 6/6

All sessions are Saturdays from 9-3:30pm at the Colombiere Center in Clarkston. The cost to attend is \$50 per class, which includes lunch. Register at [eastmich.org](http://eastmich.org) (go to Ministries, Saturday Series).

## **UPCOMING LESSONS**

RCL YEAR B

### **Feb. 25 - Lent 2**

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16  
Psalm 22:22-30  
Romans 4:13-25  
Mark 8:31-38

### **March 4 - Lent 3**

Exodus 20:1-17  
Psalm 19  
1 Corinthians 1:18-25  
John 2:13-22

### **March 11 - Lent 4**

Numbers 21:4-9  
Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22  
Ephesians 2:1-10  
John 3:14-21

### **March 18 - Lent 5**

Jeremiah 31:31-34  
Psalm 51:1-13  
or Psalm 119:9-16  
Hebrews 5:5-10  
John 12:20-33

### **March 25 - Palm Sunday**

*The Liturgy of the Palms*  
Mark 11:1-11  
*The Liturgy of the Word*  
Philippians 2:5-11  
Mark 14:1-15:47

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



## FR. DON'S DOODLES...

### PEACE

As I write, I am just back from a few days away. Marcie and I left ahead of the big storm of February 9-10 for Marietta along the Ohio River in the southeast corner of Ohio. We stayed at the historic Hotel Lafayette which is located at the point where the Marquis de Lafayette arrived on a visit in 1825. The current version of the Hotel was opened in 1918 and except for some huge floods, the hotel has been in constant operation.

Our room had a lovely view of the river and the old Baltimore and Ohio line in West Virginia. We watched as many barges made their way upriver to Pittsburgh and beyond. We enjoyed our time with old friends and brought home a calico kitten we named Cinnamon to join our family.

Getting out of town is a very important thing to do for a member of the clergy or anyone for that matter. I am particularly called to that part of my native state as I love the hills and that old river. While at the old Hotel I remembered staying there with my parents in 1968. I was enthralled with the sights of the river. Later I spent three-years near the river at Rio (pronounced Rye-oh) Grand College (now the University of Rio Grande) near Gallipolis, Ohio.

I find peace in my soul just watching that old river. There is something about the history, the memories, the constant motion that mends the wounds that make life difficult. I find peace by that old river and while that is a medicine of sorts, I find Lent to be a season of peace for all of us. Instead of a big river, we have nearby Lakes and forests the likes of which I could not have imagined. Lent is a time to let go of the wounds, the pain, and the betrayals of our lives and allow them passage away from us. Lent is a time to think about how all peace, and all love, and all grace is grounded for us in the suffering, death and resurrection of one man.

I hope we all find a new peace this Lent. I hope we learn something we did not know, sing something we had never sung, pray new prayers, join with folks we had never met before and altogether grow in the wonder of God's presence in our lives. I hope we allow Lent to be our old river moving us ever onward to love and know God, more and more.

See you in church (and on Wednesday evenings),

Don+

# HOLY WEEK

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
MARCH 25 - APRIL 1, 2018

## PALM SUNDAY - MARCH 25

8 am - Holy Eucharist (spoken)

10:15 am - Holy Eucharist (with music)

## HOLY MONDAY - MARCH 26

Noon - Holy Eucharist (spoken)

## HOLY TUESDAY - MARCH 27

7:30 am - Holy Eucharist (spoken)

## HOLY WEDNESDAY - MARCH 28

5:30 pm - Holy Eucharist (spoken)

## MAUNDY THURSDAY - MARCH 29

7 pm - Holy Eucharist (with music)

## GOOD FRIDAY - MARCH 30

Noon - Good Friday Liturgy

7 pm - Grand Blanc Community Good Friday Service @ Holy Spirit Lutheran

## EASTER SUNDAY - APRIL 1

8 am - Holy Eucharist (spoken)

10:15 am - Holy Eucharist (with music)