

DECEMBER 2018

The

TRUMPETER

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

8:00 & 10:15 AM Sunday Services

5:30 PM Wednesday Holy Eucharist



SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

8 am - Holy Eucharist Service

9 am - Adult Formation

10 am - Children & Youth Formation

10:15 am - Holy Eucharist Service

Coffee Hour following 10:15 am Eucharist



Sign outside of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Flint

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Children & Youth

and so much more!

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 Catherine Waynick,
Bishop Provisional, Diocese of Eastern MI

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

The Reverend Dr. Michael Carr,
Priest in Residence

The Reverend Elizabeth Morris Downie,
Associate Emeritus

The Reverend Canon Michael Spencer,
Curate

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nada@stchrisgrandblanc.org

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STAY UP TO DATE !

www.stchrisgrandblanc.org



Like us on facebook:
St. Christopher's
Episcopal Church

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

FOOD DISTRIBUTION WITH FISH

Our next food giveaway partnering with FISH will be Monday, December 17. Please consider volunteering for this wonderful program. The work is light but very rewarding. We meet at St. Christopher's from around 2:30 - 5 pm and give food out in the Fellowship Hall. There is a sign-up sheet on the kiosk in the gathering space. Or contact Bill Anderson (billtander@att.net).

Hope to see you there!

Other upcoming Food Distribution Dates (*3rd Monday, sometimes Tuesdays if schools are closed Monday*):
Tuesday, January 22
Tuesday, February 19
Monday, March 18
Monday, April 15

GIVING TREE

A family of five is currently assigned to our church to be recipients of food, toiletries and gifts.

The Giving Tree is getting some holiday action! Every card has been taken off of the tree!

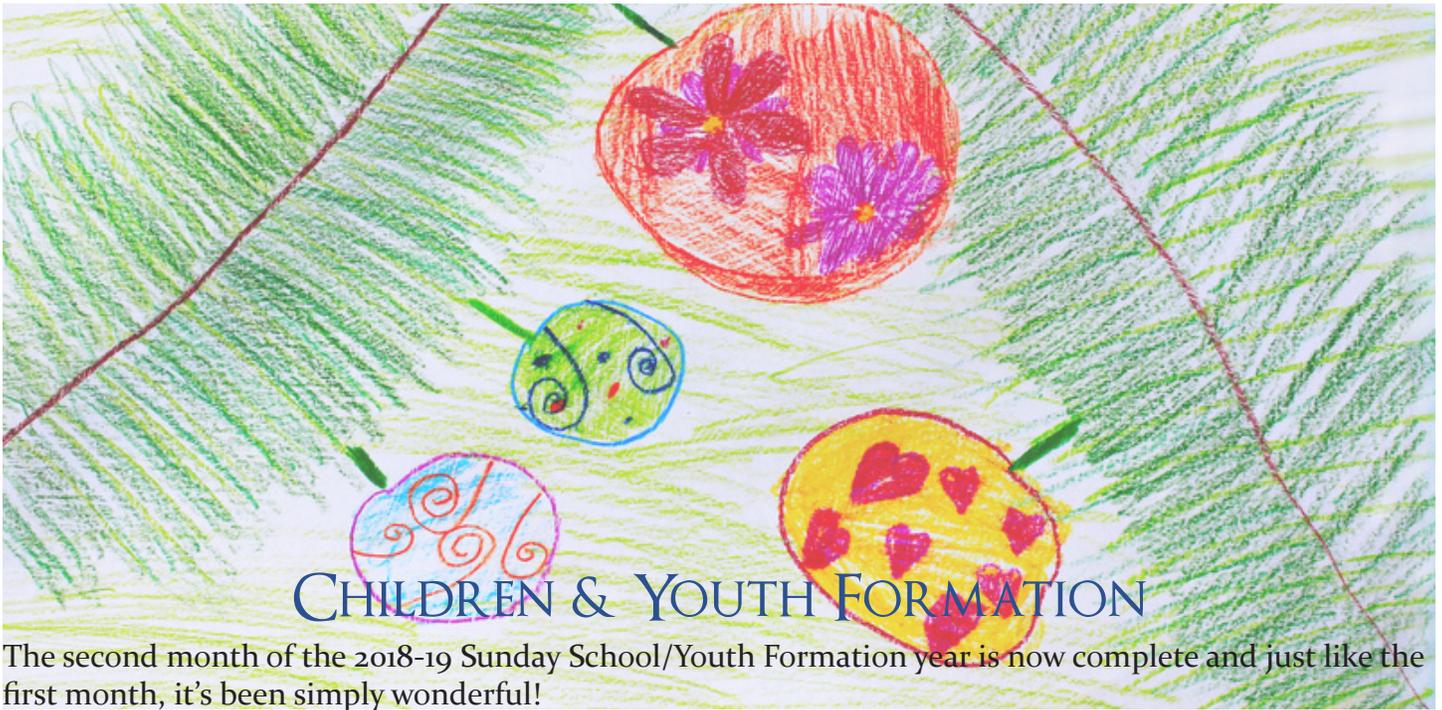
For those who have volunteered to bring in items, remember: Gifts should be delivered to the church unwrapped, but please do supply wrapping paper or gift bags for your gift to be wrapped later.

If you would still like to participate, you may give a monetary donation to the church marked "Giving Tree". Your monetary donation will be used to "fill-in" any perishables (i.e.- milk, bread, etc). Please join in during this holy season to bring cheer and blessing to a local family!

Deadline to bring in gifts is Wednesday, December 12!!

Another way to help:

We are having a **prep and wrapping party Thursday, December 13 at 10 am** in Fellowship Hall. All helpers are welcome!



The second month of the 2018-19 Sunday School/Youth Formation year is now complete and just like the first month, it's been simply wonderful!

The children that have participated continue to digest His knowledge as they continue their journey with God.

With having the younger kids (up through fifth grade) learn in the classroom setting and the older kids (middle school on up) stay in church and pay attention to the Gospel and Homily and then meeting up during coffee hour to discuss, this continues to be a win-win situation for everyone involved.

The younger kids meet in the classroom from 10 a.m. until the Peace and the older kids meet with the teachers in the library after the 10:15 a.m. service.

A very special thanks to Noralynn Hassold and Joyce Thewalt for teaching during the month of November!

Stephanie and I will take the lead for December – we cannot wait!

We will also continue to add the music element to the curriculum as the school year moves forward, and I'd like to thank our music director Nada Radakovich for nurturing our kids through music.

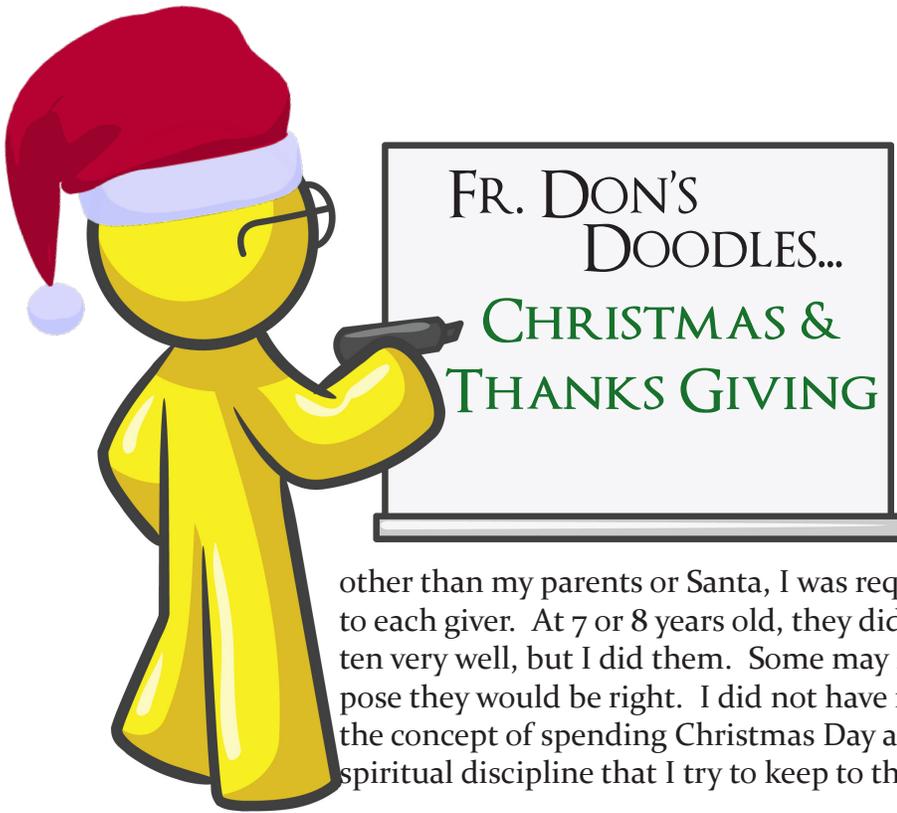
Progress is definitely being made and I am excited to see if we can pull off an Epiphany Pageant in January. More details to come in the Pew Pulse and via email and social media.

As always, any questions, concerns or suggestions, do not hesitate to see me in church or contact me via email or phone/text.

We are always looking for new teachers as well, so if this is an area that interests you, please contact me at your convenience.

Matt Mackinder

Director of Christian Education



Lost in the sea of secular Christmas is the art of saying “thank you” and the almost forgotten beauty of a written thank-you note. I had the idea of writing thank you notes drummed into my head in a forceful yet appropriate manner. On Christmas Day before I was permitted to play with any toy or wear any item of clothing given to me by anyone

other than my parents or Santa, I was required to sit and write thank you notes to each giver. At 7 or 8 years old, they did not say much, and they were not written very well, but I did them. Some may say that I did them under duress, I suppose they would be right. I did not have much choice about the matter. Later, the concept of spending Christmas Day afternoon saying thank you became a spiritual discipline that I try to keep to this day.

Years later when my parents and I had the grim duty of clearing out my great-aunt’s home I found a bunch of cards tied together with a rubber band. There in that little bundle were every one of my thank you notes from youth through adult. They were carefully preserved.

In a world of instant communication, texting and email, I think there is a real need for every person no matter of station or position on the ladder to take the time to say thank you. On Sunday morning we celebrate the Great Thanksgiving as we remind ourselves and receive into ourselves the great wonder of Christ’s gift to all of us through his incarnation to his resurrection.

No gift should be given with the hope of receiving thanks for then it is not truly a gift. Yet, if someone takes the time to make your Christmas brighter, I would humbly suggest that you take the time to write a note and express your thanks for the gift, but even more for their warmth and friendship.

Now a personal note. This will be the fourth Christmas that Marcie and I have spent with all of you. You have grown to be such a part of our hearts and our family. Thank you for the honor of serving God in this place and for being your priest. May this Christmastide bring you joy, love and peace.

In sincere thanks,

Don+ & Marcie





Buy Scrip Gift Cards

**THEY MAKE GREAT
CHRISTMAS GIFTS!**

**ST CHRISTOPHER GETS
A REBATE FOR EVERY
GIFT CARD YOU BUY!**

**PURCHASE BY SUNDAY,
DECEMBER 16 TO GET IN
TIME FOR CHRISTMAS!**

**SEE THE KIOSK IN THE
GATHERING SPACE.**



St. Christopher's Church Holiday Service Schedule

Advent Evensong Service

Sunday, December 9, 5:00 pm

Christmas Eve

Monday, December 24

5:00 pm - Holy Eucharist Service

10:00 pm Carol Sing

10:30 pm - Holy Eucharist Service

Christmas Day

Tuesday, December 25

9:30 am Christmas Morning Service

First Sunday of Christmas

Sunday, December 30

9:30 am - Holy Eucharist Service

New Year's Eve

Monday, December 31

5:30 pm - Holy Eucharist with Marriage Vow Reaffirmation

Epiphany

Sunday, January 6

8:00 am - Holy Eucharist

10:15 am - Holy Eucharist



ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of St. Christopher's Episcopal Church will be held beginning at 10:15 AM on January 27, 2019.

By-law amendments must be submitted by December 27, 2018. All reports must be received by January 15, 2019. Reports will be published on-line as they are received. A link to the on-line location will be available at www.stchrisgrandblanc.org. Many of the reports published on-line will not be printed for the Annual Meeting. If you wish a printed copy of all reports, please make that request following the Annual Meeting.

The Annual Meeting will include the election of three persons to serve three-year terms on the Vestry. The candidates being nominated by the Vestry nominating committee will be released as soon as they are finalized. If you have any questions please contact the Priest-in-Charge or a current vestry officer.

Angela Campbell, Senior Warden (seniorwarden@stcgb.org)

William White, Junior Warden (juniorwarden@stcgb.org)

The Rev. Don Davidson, Priest-in-Charge (frdon@stcgb.org)

UPCOMING LESSONS

RCL YEAR B

December 2 - Advent 1

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Psalms 25:1-9

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Luke 21:25-36

December 9 - Advent 2

Malachi 3:1-4

Canticle 4

Philippians 1:3-11

Luke 3:1-6

December 16 - Advent 3

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Canticle 9

Philippians 4:4-7

Luke 3:7-18

December 23 - Advent 4

Micah 5:2-5a

Canticle 15

Philippians 1:3-11

Luke 3:1-6

Dec. 30 - Christmas 1

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

Psalms 147 or 147:13-21

Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7

John 1:1-18

**Find the readings every
week on the church
website or at
lectionarypage.net**



NOTES FROM THE MUSIC ROOM

We have had such a busy season already, musically speaking, at St. Christopher's and we have more to go!

How beautiful our Nave looked on November 18th, filled with chairs to support the 40 singers and chamber orchestra for the annual Grand Blanc Community Messiah Sing! Thank you, St. Christopher's Episcopal Church, for hosting this, the Messiah Sing's 31st year! I have it on good authority that our very own Joyce Thewalt was one of the very first people to support and help establish this meaningful community event! Thank you, Joyce for having the strength of purpose and the love of music to have helped bring this event to fruition!

Darlene Hartley, Audrey D'itri, Judith Conyers, Miranda Armfield, Aaron McCoy-Jacobs, Bob Van Duyne, Tristram Shayna and Michael Spencer ALL SANG in this exciting Haendelian masterpiece! Victor Galea, was our steadfast cellist in the continuo duo with harpsichord, all under the direction of our (at times) guest organist, Jeffrey Walker. Thank you, all of you from St. Christopher who participated. What a terrific afternoon of music making!

November 22 provided our Thanksgiving Ecumenical service, which was hosted by the First Baptist Church of Grand Blanc. Thank you to all of our choir members who sang for this service. It was a lovely moment of reflection and gratitude; thank you, Father Don for providing this wonderful opportunity every year for us to worship with (and to get to know) our community of the christian faith in Grand Blanc.

Please, mark your calendars everyone who is a lover of the uproarious team of Gilbert and Sullivan--- as more members of our choir are very busy zipping off to our neighboring community in Ann Arbor, performing the UMGASS production of "The Grand Duke". Our very own parish organist, Dr. Greg Hassold, will be performing in this work, as will his lovely wife, soprano Noralynn Hassold; also performing from our choir, soprano Cynthia Butcher, alto Patricia Lewis and tenor/cellist Victor Galea. I just love it that we have such dedicated singers in our midst. I love our choir!!!

...continued on page 10



SENIOR WARDEN REPORT

Waiting. This a word that keeps popping into my head... Waiting. I always seem to be “waiting.” It made me think of this past year here at St. Christopher’s. In the beginning of the year we were waiting for our new accounting system to be implemented. We were waiting to see what course of action we should take regarding our financial future. We were waiting to decide our course of action, waiting for the diocese response, waiting for the bank response, waiting too for that cycle to repeat itself, waiting to start the SOC fund, waiting... And look what glorious result that waiting has produced!

Makes me think of the saying, “it was worth the wait”.

We are in another time of waiting as we begin our Advent season. But what are we waiting for? Are we waiting for the Black Friday sales? Waiting until after Thanksgiving to decorate our houses for Christmas? Waiting for the excitement of holiday baking, parties, traditions? Waiting for Santa to come and for presents to be opened? While I wait for all of these things too, I am reminded what the true wait is for..

So, I am challenging myself this Advent season to slow down. Sounds weird when it is the biggest time of rush in the calendar year, right? But I think we all need to slow down and really enjoy the wait. Take the time to bask in the preparations and anticipation of Christmas. In the joy and excitement of the birth of Jesus. But I invite you to also slow down and bask in the excitement and preparation time here at St. Christopher’s. Take the time to enjoy the feeling of excitement and reenergizing that is in the air. Enjoy the time to feel the lift of the financial burden we will feel once we are out from under the wait of the mortgage. Enjoy the pay off of hard decisions made and hard work done. Enjoy the time of thankfulness and togetherness that this has brought us. Then...

Wait...

Wait and see where God is calling St. Christopher’s to go, to do, and to become..... I have no doubt it WILL be worth the wait.

Blessings,

Angela Campbell
Senior Warden



“Notes from the Music Room”, continued from page 8...

Performance times/dates are: December 6,7,8 at 8 p.m. or December 8 & 9 at 2 p.m. at the Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre (across from the Power Center in AA). Online ticket are availalbe at umgass.brownpapertickets.com or by calling 1.800-838-3006.

This past Sunday, December 2nd, Bobbie Goergen performed at First Presbyterian Church in Flint in the annual Carolyn Mawby Chorale’s “Festival of Christmas” program.

....Bear with me, just one more performance to mention, and that is the Nutcracker Ballet which hap-pened this past weekend at the Whiting Auditorium. We had a group from our parish who attended on Saturday--and we had several singers from our choir who sang in The Snowflake Ensemble. Thank you to Audrey D’itri and Miranda Armfield for lending your talents for this holiday favorite!

Bells, bells, bells!!! December 16th, our bell choir will be providing our anthem music at the 10:15 service, so please be certain to be in attendance that day to hear our newest ringer, Billy-Bob-Bell-Ringer Hartley play!

December 9th at 5 p.m., we will be holding an Evensong at St. Christopher’s; what a perfect way to share in a moving service of reflection and celebration of our Lord.

Please stay healthy during these chilly winter days; rest, cuddle down when you are able, and know that our church is always a beacon of light during these short days!

In Christ, I am yours,

Nada

Director of Music



UPCOMING EVENTS

ADVENT EVENSONG SERVICE

Sunday, December 9, 5 pm

WORSHIP TEAM MEETING

Wednesday, December 12, 2 pm

GRAND BLANC HIGH SCHOOL CHORAL CONCERT

Wednesday, December 12, 7 pm

FISH FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Monday, December 17, 2 - 5 pm

VESTRY

Tuesday, December 18, 6:30 pm

***WORSHIP LEADERS* for December 2018**

	LEM (s)	LECTOR	USHER (s)	GREETER (s)	ACOLYTES	ALTAR GUILD
<u>December 9</u>						
8 am	Tom Dyke	-----	Judy Miller Lou Alarie	-----	-----	-----
10:15 am	1 –Marsha Kump 2 –Bob Luckey	Bill Thewalt	Mike Latesky Frank Burger	Joe LePard Bill White	C – Ethan K. T – Daniel K. T – Abby K. B – Nikki	Mary Van Duyne Anne Naber
<u>December 16</u>						
8 am	Ron Shrank	Kay Van Natta	Jim & Jackie Beal	-----	-----	-----
10:15 am	1 –Joyce Thewalt 2 – Frank Burger	Flo Gjerstad	Fred Kump Paul Bassett	Flo Gjerstad Bob Carter	C – Ethan M. T – Wyatt M. T – Maddie M. B – Cassidy C.	Kay Van Natta Anne Naber
<u>December 23</u>						
8 am	Tim Weston	-----	Jane Brewer & Avis Christie	-----	-----	-----
10:15 am	1 –Kathy Curtis 2 – Bob Luckey	Kathy Curtis	Caroline James Joe LePard	Steve Huber Jane Yorks	C – Ethan M. T – Tyler M. T – Madison M.	Sharon Rice Anne Naber
<u>December 24</u>						
5 pm	1 –Linda R. 2 –Marcie D.	Linda Rathburn	Flo Gjerstad Helen Lackey	The Wise Family	T – Finley W. B – Eleanor W.	-----
10:30 pm	1 –Marcie D. 2 –Linda R.	Greg Hassold	Bill White Bill Hartley	Bill & Joyce Thewalt	C – Jack K. T – Abby K. T – Daniel K. S – Gabby I.	-----
<u>December 30</u>						
9:30 am	Chris McDonald Joyce Thewalt Linda R.	Steve Huber	Dale & Sharon R. Bill Carter Bobbie Walton	Frank Burger Mike Latesky	C – Gabby I. T – Mercy Aluko B – Cassidy C.	Louise McAra Anne Naber