



The

JANUARY 2020

# TRUMPETER

*St. Christopher's Episcopal Church*

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

## SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

8 am - Holy Eucharist Service  
9 am - Adult Formation  
10 am - Children Formation  
10:15 am - Holy Eucharist Service  
11:30 am - Youth Sermon Discussion  
*Coffee Hour following 10:15 am Eucharist*

## WEDNESDAY EVENING SCHEDULE

4:30 pm - Bells Rehearsal  
5:30 pm - Holy Eucharist in Columbarium Chapel  
6 pm - Soup Supper  
6 pm - Wednesdays with Jesus Discussions  
7 pm - Choir Rehearsal



## IN THIS ISSUE:

A Thank You	Senior Warden's Report
Notes from the Music Room	Vestry Candidates
Formation Update	<i>and so much more!</i>

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S EPISCOPAL  
CHURCH

9020 S. Saginaw Rd., Grand Blanc, MI 48439  
(810) 694-3600  
*Office@stchrisgrandblanc.org*

**Office Hours:**

Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 9 am - 4 pm  
Thursday 9 am - 12 pm  
Thursday Afternoons & Saturdays  
by Appointment

**STAFF**

The Right Reverend Wayne Hougland Jr,  
*Bishop Provisional Designee  
of the Episcopal Diocese of Eastern MI*

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

The Reverend Dr. Michael Carr,  
*Priest in Residence*  
*FrMike@stchrisgrandblanc.org*

The Reverend Elizabeth Morris Downie,  
*Associate Emeritus*

The Reverend Canon Michael Spencer,  
*Assistant to the Rector*  
*Michael@stchrisgrandblanc.org*

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

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

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

Matt Mackinder  
*Director of Christian Education*  
*Matt@stchrisgrandblanc.org*

Ashley Sweers, *Nursery Coordinator*  
*Ashley@stchrisgrandblanc.org*

Joel Stoeklin, *Sexton*  
*sexton@stchrisgrandblanc.org*



## SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

**Happy New Year! We've made it to a new decade and hope all is well with you and yours.**

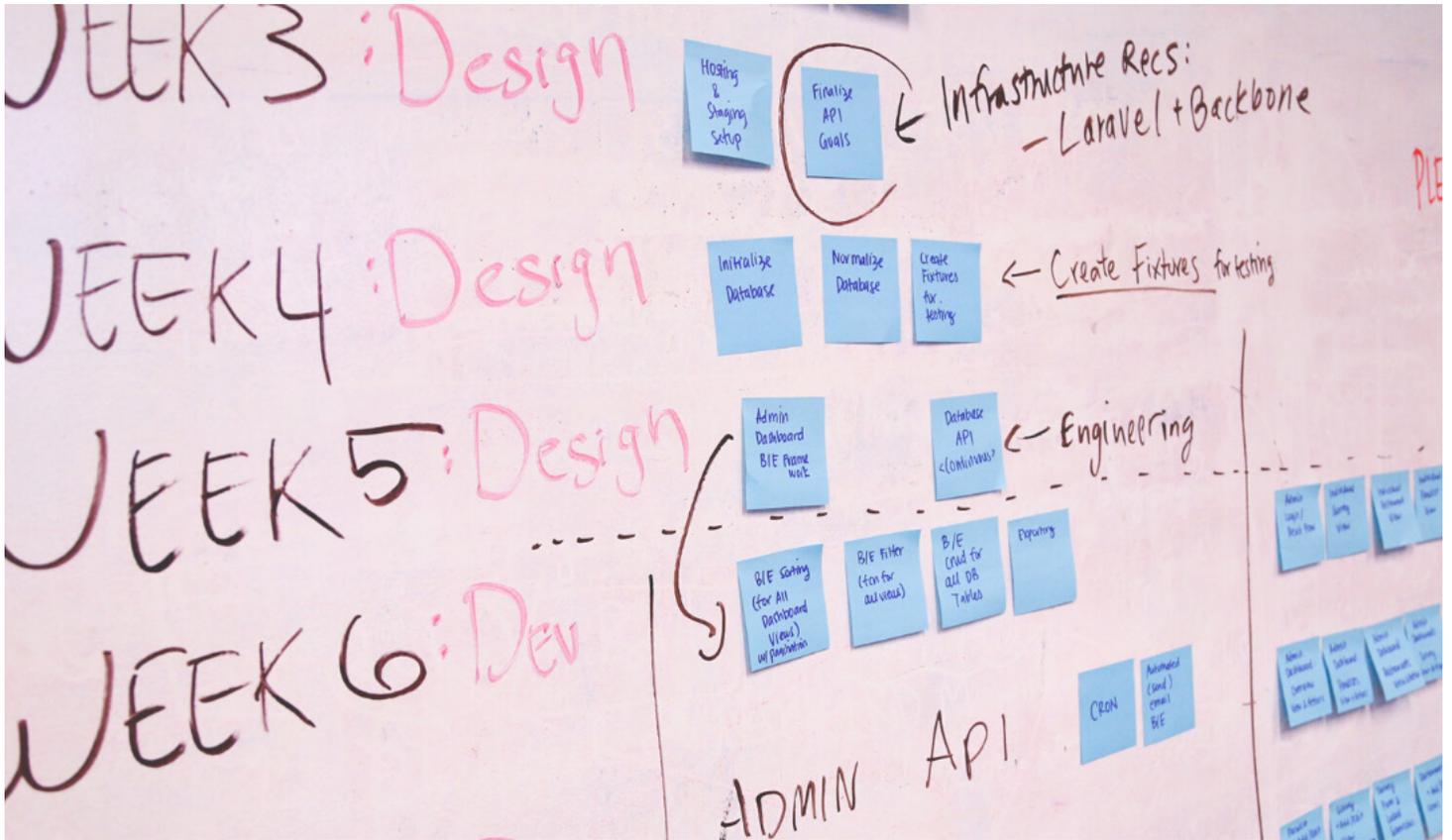
Here is my list of New Year's wishes for us all:

1. A tearful but happy goodbye and Best Wishes to Fr. Don and Marcie as they leave us.
2. Good Luck to our Search Committee as they build our church profile and make us look good to any candidate for Rector. Keep up with your prayers during this transition period.
3. Enjoy our supply priests starting in February as we await our new Rector. Fr. Michael Spencer will lead us 2 Sundays each month and we are grateful to him!
4. Continue to support and grow our Youth and Children's Formation classes. They are our future.
5. Continue to uplift St. Christopher's at every opportunity. Our GB community at large needs us and we need them.
6. Strengthen and increase participation in our In-reach/Outreach programs, Worship team, Wednesday's With Jesus, Alter Guild, Hospitality Ministry, Music Department and all who serve God in this church.

The Prayer for Transition should be an ongoing event in our church lives. With all our events going on at St. Christopher's we need to support each other.....Always.

Blessing to All,

*Jane Brewer*  
Senior Warden



St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

# ANNUAL MEETING & EUCHARIST SERVICE

Sunday, January 26, 2020 at 9:30 am

No 8 am service

Farewell Potluck Coffee Hour  
for Fr. Don & Marcie following



# NOTES FROM THE MUSIC ROOM

Greetings!

Here we are, facing the new decade and, along with it, a big shift in our normal way of operating at St. Christopher's. Of course, by this, I am saying that it is going to be a tremendous adjustment, living with the fact that our Father Don will be leaving. These past four years we have enjoyed his leadership and guidance which have been inspiring and joyous. Father Don is so wonderfully supportive of our music ministry at St. Christo-

pher's. I am honored that I have been able to help bring many of his musical suggestions to life and, as a result, we have all grown musically as a congregation. Father Don's diligence in seeing to it that our pipe organ was working properly is simply tremendous! His support of our starting a bell choir---unending! Father Don encouraged our performing a Good Friday musical work, which included our teens and younger ones "The Living Last Supper". Too, he was only too encouraging when we asked about perhaps bringing "Amahl and the Night Visitors" to St Christopher's during Epiphany. Father Don helped with all of the lighting and worked our sound system that was not yet 'quite in place', but he somehow made it work! He has made it a priority for many musical organizations to use our space (it is acoustically rather fabulous for all vocal events), and has been in attendance for most all performances. Having had the pleasure of working with Father Don has been a great blessing in my life, and I will always be grateful for my time with him. Thank you, Father Don---Thank you from the Choir and from the Ringers for making our shared time at St. Christopher's so wonderful! We all love you so much!



In Christ, I am yours,

*Nada*

Director of Music

P.S. - Lookat the fun photos of NancyLee Fawcett and Bobbie Goergen singing with Flint Master Singer's at Abby Park! Aren't they a hoot?

## VESTRY CANDIDATES

THREE TO BE ELECTED FOR THREE-YEAR TERMS



**Ken Duck** and wife of 55 years, Myrtle, moved to Grand Blanc from Gainesville, VA in March of 2019 and became part of the St. Christopher's congregation in April. Ken has worked as a NASA engineer and manager (21 years) and in private industry as senior program manager (28 years). He is retired from the General Dynamics Corporation where he worked on defense and intelligence programs. Ken and Myrtle were both born and raised in Lynchburg, VA and have lived all, but 3 years of their married life in the Washington, DC suburbs. The other 3 years were spent in Connecticut. The Ducks have two married adult sons and 5 grandchildren, three of which reside in Ann Arbor and the remaining two in Kitty Hawk, NC.

Ken has spent his entire life active in church activities that include: serving on administrative boards and committees; serving as a church musician, both as a choir member and instrumental (clarinet and saxophone) soloist; and as a Lay Eucharistic Minister. Ken will start serving as a lay reader/Eucharistic Minister at St. Christopher's in 2020.

**Caroline James** was in South Haven Michigan in a family of nine. Her Father James Paul (Buster Diebold was a police officer. Her mother was a housewife but very active in her community and church. Both of her parents' ashes are interred in the garden outside of the Church of the Epiphany, South Haven, MI.

Caroline was baptized, confirmed, married and has served on Altar Guild at this church. Later at the Church of the Good Shepherd in St. Louis, Missouri, she also served as an Altar Guild member.

She earned my AAS in Marketing in 1983 from Southwestern Michigan College in Dowagiac MI. She also received a B.S in Business Administration in the same year 1983 from Ferris State University as the first female graduate from their new extension program in Business Administration.

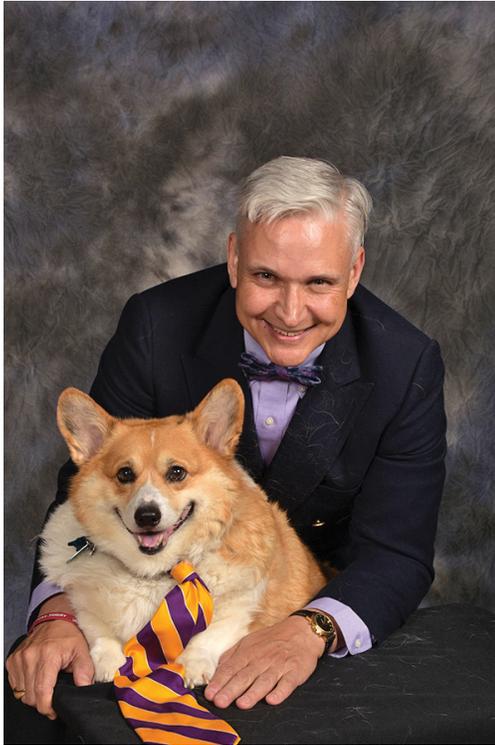
Caroline is retired from her cost analyst position at Graybar Electric, Saint Louis MO. She also retired from the City of Niles Utilities, Niles MI, where she worked in the Billing and Service Department.



...continued on page 6...

..."Vestry Candidates" continued from page 5...

**Christopher Scott McDonald** was born on Monday November 28, 1966 in Charlotte, NC. He was adopted at birth by Betty and Jack McDonald. After living in Jacksonville, FL for 5 years, he primarily grew up in Richmond County, North Carolina. He is a 1985 graduate of Richmond (Co.) Senior High School. After a couple uninspired years in college, he entered the U.S. Coast Guard in 1987. The Coast Guard brought him to Michigan where he stayed for five years (87-92) before ending his Coast Guard career in 1994 in San Diego, CA. After the Coast Guard, he entered the Golf Industry where he spent over 17 years (both full-time and part-time) in various capacities as an assistant Golf Professional. He began his teaching career in 2002 at his former school (Rockingham Junior High School) and currently teaches Middle School at Charyl Stockwell Preparatory Academy in Brighton where he is also the High School Golf Coach.



He is a graduate of Richmond Community College (1998, A.A.); St. Andrews Presbyterian College (2000, B.F.A. [Creative Writing]); and East Carolina University (2007, M.A. [English]).

He is single and currently lives in Grand Blanc with his "allegedly overweight" Pembroke Welsh Corgi named Orson "Eggroll" McDonald.

### MORE ON THE VESTRY...

The Parish Vestry has three major responsibilities:

- The Building and grounds of the parish including maintenance. The Vestry delegates this authority to the Building and Grounds Committee which is chaired by the Junior Warden.
- The Finances of the church including all savings and investments. The Vestry delegates this authority to the Finance Committee which is chaired by the Treasurer
- The selection and election of the Rector. The Vestry delegates the selection process to a Search Committee which then nominates candidates to the Vestry for final election with the consent of the Diocesan Bishop.

The Vestry is composed of 9 elected members with three being elected at each Annual Meeting. The Treasurer is elected by the Vestry and has the right of voice and membership without vote. The Rector presides at all Vestry meetings and votes only in the case of a tie. Vestry members are required to meet the qualifications as set forth by the parish by-laws.

The Vestry meets monthly. Vestry meetings are open to anyone who wishes to attend and special meetings must be announced to the congregation and published in our on-line calendar.

At St. Christopher's the Vestry affirms the Rector's appointment of Committees which function under and report to the Vestry. Teams are appointed by the Rector and generally are not required but may make periodic reports to the Vestry.

# YOUTH FORMATION UPDATE

**Happy New Year to everyone!**

Our youth Sunday School program continues to move right along for the 2019-20 school year.

While it's no secret that St. Christopher's doesn't have many children, I believe that those families that choose to partake in our Youth Formation on Sunday mornings take something away each Sunday. In essence, it's quality over quantity, folks!

The six volunteers that we have this year – Bill Anderson, Noralynn Hassold, Nadine Portela, Joyce Thewalt, Stephanie Mackinder and Matt Mackinder – truly enjoy their time with the kids, whether we have one child or six.

As a reminder, all kids up through fifth grade go to the classroom during church and until the Peace, while all the older kids stay in church and take notes on the Gospel and Sermon, meeting with the teachers after church during Coffee Hour.

This is truly a very rewarding experience for all involved. If any members of the congregation wish to sit in on a Sunday class or Coffee Hour discussion, by all means, please do!

From experience, with the older kids, hearing them discuss the Gospel with the teachers during Coffee Hour is a treat. Seeing God's teachings interpreted through young minds gives me much hope for the future.

And with the younger kids, hearing one just this past Sunday get upset when describing who King Herod was, well, I think these kids are definitely "getting it."

Our lessons are all online at [www.sermons4kids.com](http://www.sermons4kids.com).

On a sad note, having Fr. Don and Marcie leaving us soon is, in all honesty, heartbreaking. Thinking back to the summer of 2017 when Fr. Don appointed me to this role and having his never-ending support is something I will always cherish and remember forever. And having Marcie enjoy her time with the acolytes and always be there for them is something more that I will miss unconditionally.

We'll miss you, Fr. Don and Marcie! And we all always love you!

I believe in this congregation and I believe in the future of this congregation. Together, we can continue to grow the Youth Formation/Sunday School program into the next phase of this parish's journey!

Once again, Happy New Year! Let's make this our best year yet!

*Matt Mackinder*

Director of Christian Education

## UPCOMING LESSONS

RCL YEAR A

### **Jan. 12 - Baptism**

Isaiah 42:1-9

Psalms 29

Acts 10:34-43

Matthew 3:13-17

### **Jan. 19 - Epiphany 2**

Isaiah 49:1-7

Psalms 40:1-12

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

John 1:29-42

### **Jan. 26 - Epiphany 3**

Isaiah 9:1-4

Psalms 27:1, 5-13

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Matthew 4:12-23

### **Feb. 2 - Presentation**

Malachi 3:1-4

Psalms 24:7-10

Hebrews 2:14-18

Luke 2:22-40

### **Feb. 9 - Epiphany 5**

Isaiah 58:1-9a

Psalms 112:1-9

1 Corinthians 2:1-12

Matthew 5:13-20

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



FR. DON'S  
DOODLES...  
THANK YOU!

Originally, I was asked to come to St. Christopher's for a term of 1.5-3 years. Later my term was extended by the Bishop and the Vestry. For an Interim, my time here as been a long period. I am pleased at what this parish has accomplished. This article is my attempt to say thank you as personally as possible with pen and ink. At the annual meeting I hope to talk about ways in which you may welcome, love and nourish your new priest.

I have worked with incredible people on 5 different vestries. Every member of every Vestry served with the best of their intention. Each of them loved this church and wanted the best for this church and I am so very thankful for their service and commitment. Along the way, vestry meetings became enjoyable and short.

My thanks to the best group of acolytes anywhere. They really make my Sunday morning. My thanks to our Altar Guild and for their patience in working with me. Thank you to all our musicians including the best darn choir anywhere, and to all our liturgical leaders including ushers, LEMs, lectors and greeters. Thank you to our committee members, office angels, kitchen coordinator and workers.

Thank you to the best staff of any church anywhere. You honor me with your support, and I will miss you more than I have words to express.

In this list, thank you to every person that calls St. Christopher's their faith community. This family of Christian people have accepted me when it was not easy and allowed me to love them through some dark days. I have been truly honored to serve as your priest these last few years.

Marcie and I will keep praying for each of you and for this parish family, and we look forward to seeing you in church especially on the 26th.

**Thank you all very much,**

*Don & Marcie*

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## CANON SPENCER AWAY

Friday, January 10 - Monday, January 13

## FAMILY PROMISE WEEK

Sunday, January 12 - Saturday, January 18  
See Bobbie Walton to help with dinners

## WORSHIP TEAM MEETING

Wednesday, January 15 @ 1:30 pm

## FOOD DISTRIBUTION WITH FISH

Tuesday, January 21 @ 2:45 pm  
Need help with set-up at 11 am

## CANON SPENCER AWAY

Monday, January 20 - Friday, January 24

## DEFENSIVE DRIVING CLASS

Saturday, January 25 @ Noon

## ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, January 26 @ 9:30 am  
Annual Meeting & Eucharist Service  
NO 8 am service

## FAREWELL POTLUCK FOR FR. DON & MARCIE

Sunday, January 26 following Annual Meeting

## VESTRY MEETING

Sunday, January 26 @ 12:30 pm

## FR. DON'S LAST OFFICE DAY

Friday, January 31

## GRAND BLANC CHORAL COMMUNITY SING

Sunday, February 2 @ 3:30 pm

## ASH WEDNESDAY

Wednesday, February 26

### PLEASE NOTE:

There are SEVERAL Outside Groups using our building. Please refer to our online calendar that can be found on our website for more information on these dates & times.

## A PRAYER FOR TRANSITION

Your Vestry asks that you pray daily for the search process. We ask that you use the following prayer:

Almighty God, look graciously on the people of St. Christopher's Church. Be with us and lead us as we seek a priest for our church.

We ask your direction and guidance for all those who choose our new spiritual leader that we may receive a faithful pastor who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries. Grant us perception, faithfulness, and joy, so that we may hear your voice in all our deliberations.

Grant us also the desire and the ability to truly hear each other and those who have entrusted us with this process. Give us courage to respond and act as you lead us. We pray this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

