



THE

AUGUST 2021

TRUMPETER

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAYS

8 am - Holy Eucharist Service (in church building)

10:15 am - Holy Eucharist Service
(in church building & livestreamed on Facebook Live)
Coffee hour following 10:15 am service

WEDNESDAYS

5:30 pm - Evening Prayer Service on Facebook Live
6 pm - Bible Study on Zoom & Facebook Live



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ST. CHRISTOPHER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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Priest Associate

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The Reverend Elizabeth Morris Downie,

Associate Emeritus

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VESTRY

Jane Brewer, *Senior Warden*

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Kay Van Natta, *Clerk*

Bobbie Walton, *Treasurer*

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Frank Burger (2023) Ken Duck (2023)

Flo Gjerstad (2024) Dawn Rutherford (2022)

Rebecca Stermer (2022)

SENIOR WARDEN REPORT

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As August begins, we thank God for the wonderful weather and the chance to once again worship in our Building. We still are in masks and are asked to sign in but that is only to help us keep each other safe. Please bear with us and it should be over soon.

The garden is growing well and we have sent 2 deliveries of cucumbers, zucchini and small peppers to the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan. We could use more people to sign up to check the garden one week at a time every other day or so depending on the rain totals. The sign-up sheet is on the table in the gathering space.

Other activities in July included a trip by 15 of us to the Lugnuts game in Lansing. It was a perfect night for baseball and the Lugnuts won!! Thanks Bill Thewalt for arranging for this great activity. Stayed tuned for more activities to attend as things go forward.

Coming up at the end of August is our BIGGEST fundraiser of the year—the Ally Challenge and the parking we provide. We need your help during the day to make this happen. Please see the sign-up sheet on the table in the gathering space. Its time to sign up for this important event.

Reach out to those in our congregation who may not be ready to return to church face to face but let them know we are holding them in our hearts and prayers. Pray daily for each other and those we have lost over this past year.

Peace and Blessings to you all,

Jane Brewer
Senior Warden

Ally Challenge is Monday, August 23 - Sunday, August 29, 2021

Thank you to all who have volunteered for Ally Challenge parking. The weekdays have filled in well, however, there are MANY open spots during the weekend. Please find the time to help even if you can only do a couple of hours!



You can go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10CoC4DACAC28A4FFCF8-ally> or sign up on the clipboard located in the gathering space on the table in front of the altar flower kiosk.

Bring a lawn chair-there is a good bit of time to relax and visit with each other-comfortable sneakers, sunscreen, and a hat when you come for your “shift.” A Shade Canopy, beverages and snacks will be provided. If you are new to this venture and have any questions, please ask!!!

Oh, and pray for good weather!

Ellen Safley

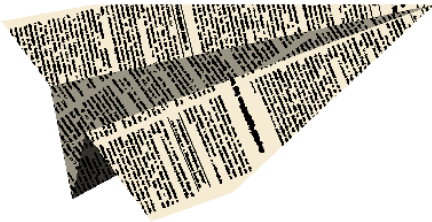
MATERNITY LEAVE

Elizabeth Sailus, our administrative assistant, will be working from home beginning Monday, August 9 in preparation for Sean and her baby boy's arrival. Once baby is born, she will be on maternity leave with a plan to return to work sometime at the end of October / beginning of November.



The office during this time will be staffed with volunteers.

Thank you to everyone - and there are many of you - who have offered to volunteer during this time to be an office angel or do a specific task every week so that Liz can focus on becoming a new mother.



FROM THE PRIEST'S DESK

Greetings Sisters and Brothers!

It is difficult to believe that it is already August!
The year is flying by very quickly.

I am so happy that we have been able to resume in-person worship. It has been wonderful to see everyone. I pray that the delta variant does not force us to move in the wrong direction. Please make sure that you use all necessary precautions. If you are not yet vaccinated, please consider doing so. It won't be long before our Fall programs begin. Most of them will not begin in September as I will be away on vacation. We will begin full steam in October.

There will be a variety of opportunities and a variety of times in which you will be able to participate. We will have a new coffee hour on Tuesday mornings, mid-week Eucharist on Wednesdays (along with soup suppers), Bible Study on Thursdays, a possible inquiry class on Tuesday evenings for those wanting to deepen their faith and or join the Episcopal Church, and so much more. We will also begin a series on justice. This will be a time to read books on various topics and discuss what they have to offer us as we work to become a more inclusive, diverse community. I hope you will begin to pray about the various opportunities. A deeper explanation will come forth in September.

More than anything, we are a people of faith. We come together each Sunday to worship the God who creates, redeems, and sanctifies us on our journey. As a people of faith, we are persistently invited into a deeper relationship with God and with one another. How we respond to this invitation is up to us, individually and communally. It is important for us to make a personal commitment, but we are reminded that we are part of the church, the Body of Christ. As such, we must explore ways to build our relationships within our worshipping community and outside of our worshipping com-

munity. Sometimes, we come to church thinking about our own worries and prayer requests. Hopefully, as we walk into our sacred space, we realize that it is

not just about us as individuals. It goes beyond ourselves, and we are transcended into a collective body of people that are trying to become better themselves in order to change the world and make the Kingdom of God known. Worship is about God. It is about giving God thanks and praise. It is about how we treat one another, how we love one another, how we walk with one another.

How can we accomplish such a daunting task? By the grace of God and the power of the Holy Spirit. Philippians 4:13 tells us that "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." If we try to align our lives with Christ, following his teachings, allowing them to permeate our very being, then indeed, we can do all things. We mustn't think that we have to do it alone. Yes, there is a personal commitment that is necessary. There also must be a communal commitment in order for us to be the people God created us to be.

Certainly, there are many problems in the world. Collectively, we might not change the world. But if we change the world for one person, is it not worth it?

Let us pray for the grace to allow Christ to transform us into a faithful, justice seeking, loving, welcoming, affirming, and accepting people of God.

"Almighty God, who created us in your own image; Grant us grace fearlessly to contend against evil and to make no peace with oppression; and, that we may reverently use our freedom, help us to employ it in the maintenance of justice in our communities and among the nations, to the glory of your holy Name, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen." BCP 260

Be blessed and be a blessing,

Jerry+



Greetings from the Music Room!

What a joy that we have had a few moments of music making during this pandemic! Thank you, everyone, who has participated in bringing song, cello, organ, piano and saxophone to our starved ears! Aaron, Tristram, Cynthia, Ellen, Bobbie, Audrey, Victor & Pat, Cindy Risch ---thank you for song leading and solo singing as well. You are such pros! Greg, thank you for all of the beautiful music you have provided both from your home when we were in lockdown, and too, when we came back into the building. You are greatly appreciated! Thank you, Jeff Walker, for joining us when you were able. And finally, thank you to our wonderful congregation---you lifted our spirits so, while singing robustly on the hymns and on service music. It makes my heart so happy to hear us making beautiful music and honoring our Heavenly Father.

Thank you to Bob and Mary VanDuyne both for caring so much about music in our church. Your kindness and support of our choir, especially during this difficult time, means everything. Thank you! Victor Galea led three bell rehearsals back in the Spring. Thank you, Victor, it was great fun! And thank you, all of our ringers who came and spent time disturbing our resident bat! ---at least we keep him on his toes!

(I promise, Bill Hartley, one day, we will find a way to incorporate some Moe Bandy into a musical offering---somehow, some way!)

Please mark your calendars, as we will start back with rehearsals right after Labor Day. So, this means, bells will have our first rehearsal on September 8th at 4:00-5:00, and then the Adult Choir will be meeting that same day, Wednesday, September 8 at 7:00 p.m. All rehearsals will be held IN THE NAVE until further notice.

Please stay healthy everyone!

In Christ, I am yours,

Nada Radakovich

Director of Music

UPCOMING LESSONS

August 8 - Proper 14

1 Kings 19:4-8
Psalm 34:1-8
Ephesians 4:25-5:2
John 6:35, 41-51

August 15 - Proper 15

Proverbs 9:1-6
Psalm 34:9-14
Ephesians 5:15-20
John 6:51-58

August 22 - Proper 16

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18
Psalm 34:15-22
Ephesians 6:10-20
John 6:56-69

August 29 - Proper 17

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9
Psalm 15
James 1:17-27
Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

September 5 - Proper 18

Isaiah 35:4-7a
Psalm 146
James 2:1-10, [11-13], 14-17
Mark 7:24-37

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