



# THE TRUMPETER

JANUARY 2024

*St. Christopher's Episcopal Church*

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE

### SUNDAYS

**8 am - Holy Eucharist Service**  
**10:15 am - Holy Eucharist Service**

### THURSDAYS

**3 pm - Evening Prayer on Facebook Live**  
**3:30 pm - Bible Study on Facebook Live & Zoom**

# ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of St. Christopher's will take place Sunday, January 28, 2024 following the 9:30 a.m. (one service only) Holy Eucharist Service. If you oversee an area of St. Christopher's life, please plan to have a report regarding 2023 to Angela in the church office by Sunday, January 14th for inclusion in the Annual Meeting Booklet.

### Open Vestry Positions

We have a couple Vestry positions that will be open for the new year. If you are interested in running for a position on the Vestry, please contact Father Jerry no later than Sunday, January 21, 2024.

## SENIOR WARDEN REPORT...

The Senior Warden is on vacation! See you at the Annual Meeting.



## ST. CHRISTOPHER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

### STAFF

*Bishop Provisional*  
*The Dioceses of Eastern & Western Michigan*

The Reverend Jerry Lasley  
*Rector*  
[Rector@stchrisgrandblanc.org](mailto:Rector@stchrisgrandblanc.org)

The Reverend Dr. Michael Carr,  
*Priest in Residence*  
[FrMike@stchrisgrandblanc.org](mailto:FrMike@stchrisgrandblanc.org)

Nada Radakovich, *Director of Music*  
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Jeffrey Walker, *Organist*  
[Jeffrey@stchrisgrandblanc.org](mailto:Jeffrey@stchrisgrandblanc.org)

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[Angela@stchrisgrandblanc.org](mailto:Angela@stchrisgrandblanc.org)

Joel Stoeklin, *Sexton*  
[sexton@stchrisgrandblanc.org](mailto:sexton@stchrisgrandblanc.org)

### VESTRY 2023

Ellen Safley, *Senior Warden*  
[SeniorWarden@stchrisgrandblanc.org](mailto:SeniorWarden@stchrisgrandblanc.org)

Bill Hartley, *Junior Warden*  
[JuniorWarden@stchrisgrandblanc.org](mailto:JuniorWarden@stchrisgrandblanc.org)

Steve Huber, *Clerk*

Jane Brewer, *Co-Treasurer*  
Dale Rice, *Co-Treasurer*  
[Treasurer@stchrisgrandblanc.org](mailto:Treasurer@stchrisgrandblanc.org)

Myrtle Duck (2024) Flo Gjerstad (2024)  
Linda Rathburn (2026) Colleen Shrank (2025)  
Jane Brewer (2026) Rod Bytwerk (2025)

## UPCOMING LESSONS

### January 7

#### First Sunday after Epiphany

Genesis 1:1-5  
Acts 19:1-7  
Mark 1:4-11  
Psalm 29

### January 14

#### Second Sunday after Epiphany

1 Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20)  
1 Corinthians 6:12-20  
John 1:43-51  
Psalm 139:1-5, 12-17

### January 21

#### Third Sunday after Epiphany

Jonah 3:1-5, 10  
1 Corinthians 7:29-31  
Mark 1:14-20  
Psalm 62:6-14

### January 28

#### Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Deuteronomy 18:15-20  
1 Corinthians 8:1-13  
Mark 1:21-28  
Psalm 111

### February 4

#### Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 40:21-31  
1 Corinthians 9:16-23  
Mark 1:29-39  
Psalm 147:1-12, 21c

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



# THE PRIEST'S DESK

Happy New Year Everyone!

What a way to start 2024. We are completely debt free and so we are moving forward with a renewed sense of spirit and commitment. Like many of you, I am still amazed and very grateful with this news.

We have worked very hard on eliminating our debt. It came about through the dedication and faithfulness of each and every member of St. Christopher's. There seems to be a new spirit moving through our faith family.

Aside from the fantastic financial picture, there are things that have come about that speak highly of our parish family. So many good and wonderful things are taking place. Here are just a few:

1. The Chosen series on Thursday mornings has drawn people from both the 8:00 and 10:15 services as well as other visitors. The idea for this came from parishioners. It has been and continues to be a powerful way for our community to discuss matters of faith. People are growing in their relationship with each other and with God.
2. The Chrismon group. Again, this group involved ladies from both services. They dedicated themselves to Tuesday mornings and the most beautiful Chrismons were made. They decorated the two trees on our Altar and really added to the beauty of our worship space. These ladies also had a great time getting to know one another.
3. The Coat Closet continues to grow. Every Saturday morning parishioners donate their time so that those in need can be assured of a warm coat or hat or gloves or all of the above.
4. Caring for one another. So many rides to doctor appointments, taking a meal to someone in need, calling in to check on someone. "See how they love one another."

We have an average attendance of 68 on Sunday mornings (both services combined). Yes, we are an older congregation. But neither the size or the age of our parish has slowed us down in the ministry of the church. We are loving proof that God is still working in our world.

Now it is time for us to imagine. It is time for us to build on what we have accomplished. What other outreach ministries might we try? What other inreach activities?

Remember. With God, NOTHING is impossible!

I pray that the New Year brings you all good health, peace, joy and love.

*Blessings,  
Jerry+*

# FROM THE MUSIC ROOM...



Happy New Year!

I just opened an e-card from a singer friend here in Flint, and it contained a neat little animation to the tune of Auld Lang Syne, ('Old Long Since'). This started me thinking about the words, the many many times of singing this song with friends and family, and well, you know, heading down that rabbit-hole-- about the tune used for the song, the lyrics and well, I thought it might be interesting to share some of what I know, and some of what I have gathered from the Encyclopedia Britannica with you! The text of this song is attributed to the national poet of Scotland, Robert Burns. (He was called, "Rabbie Burns"). His star as a poet rose when he was just 27 years old--he was known as a high spirited, (kirk-defying) hard-drinking, song-writing (300 or so) great flirt of a national treasure! (He was most assuredly one of the greatest literary rock stars of the late 1700's).

The text of this piece is something that has always tugged at my heart. "Should old acquaintances be forgotten, and never brought to mind?" As a little girl, when I would watch my mom and dad sing these words, I would watch their lips move, and I could see the deep meaning these words had for them, in their eyes; and today, of course, I now understand why.

Interestingly, Rabbie Burns created a term to describe this language of the people of Lowland Scotland; their language is closely related to English, but Burns invented the term "Lallans" to describe it. This version of Scottish, which was used by writers of the mid-20th century movement, was known as the Scottish Renaissance. The lyrics of "Auld Lang Syne" are in the Scots Language. Burns first wrote it down in 1788, but it did not appear until shortly after his death in 1796. Burns did spend most of his career collecting the folk songs and poetry of his country; Auld Lang Syne was first published in volume five of James John's Scots "Musical Museum", the same year of Burns' passing. The tune we know today has gone through several permutations. Not until 1799 did the current version of the song we now sing and know, appear.

Here is the complete text of Auld Lang Syne in Lallans: **First Verse:** "Should auld acquaintance be forgot, and never brought to mind? Should auld acquaintance be forgot, and auld lang syne? **Chorus:** For auld lang syne, my jo, for auld lang syne, we'll tak' a cup o' kindness yet, for auld lang syne. **Second verse:** And surely ye'll be your pint-stoup! and surely I'll be mine! And we'll tak' a cup o' kindness yet, for auld lang syne. **Chorus. Third verse:** We twa hae run about the braes, and pou'd the gowans fine; But we've wander'd mony a weary fit, sin' auld lang syne. **Chorus. Fourth verse:** We twa hae paidld in the burn, frae morning sun till dine; But seas between us braid hae roar'd sin' auld lang syne. **Chorus. Fifth verse:** And there's a hand, my trusty fiere! and gie's a hand o' thine! And we'll tak' a right gude-willie waught, for auld lang syne! **Chorus.**

Now, jump the Pond, to North America, and it was through the help of Canadian born band leader, Guy Lombardo who helped make "Auld Lang Syne" a New Year's Eve tradition here. The Royal Canadians, his band, played this song at the change of the year 1929 to 1930, and continued this tradition on radio and television up until 1977 or so. Did you know that the introduction to Guy Lombardo's 1947 version of the song is played in Times Square every New Year following the dropping of the ball? Neat, hunh?

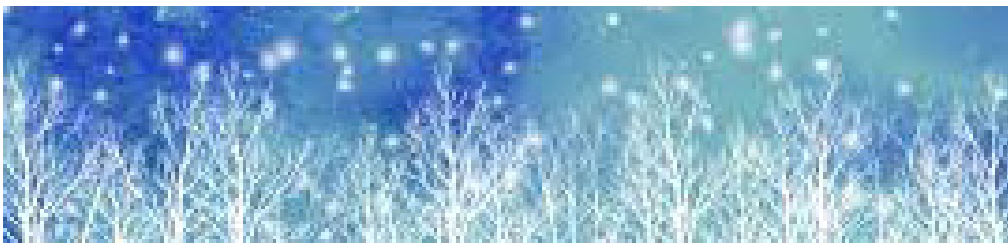
When Hogmanay comes in Scotland (the Scottish word for the last day of the old year), it is normal for everyone to join hands with the person next to them---they form a great circle around the room; arms crossing their chests, so that they can hold hands with the person next to them, and as the song ends, they all rush to the middle, still holding hands!

Let us all join hands, in our hearts dear members of St. Christopher's, and let us celebrate this New Year in our lives with friendship, kindness and love! Happy 2024!

In Christ, I am Yours,  
Nada







## HEALING AND EUCHARIST SERVICE

The next Healing and Eucharist Service will be held Friday, February 2, 2024 at Noon. Please join us.



Thank you to everyone who hosted coffee hour in December: Jan Taylor, Flo Gjerstad, Bill Hartley, Rene Carpenter, Jane Yorks and Bill Anderson.

There is a sign up sheet in Fellowship Hall. Please consider signing up to host! You only have to make coffee/tea and perhaps provide a small snack or treat item if desired.



**Family Coat Closet**

FREE FREE FREE FREE FREE

**Every Saturday!**  
October through March  
10am - Noon

 **St. Christopher's**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
GRAND BLANC, MICHIGAN

Join us for Sunday Services!  
8:00am and 10:15am  
9020 S. Saginaw, Grand Blanc, MI (810) 694-3600



## Coat Closet Continues...

The St. Christopher's Coat Closet will remain open January through March 2024 under the leadership of Myrtle & Ken Duck. This is the time of year that many people need coats. We will be seeking volunteers to help staff this important ministry. Please contact Myrtle Duck at (571) 284-8929 or [myrtle.duck@comcast.net](mailto:myrtle.duck@comcast.net) to volunteer.



## MEN'S GROUP

The next Men's Breakfast will be held on Saturday, January 13, 2024 at 9 a.m. @ Sophia's Kitchen, 11395 S. Saginaw St., Grand Blanc. Please sign up on the Kiosk.



## Ladies LUNCHEON

The next Ladies' Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, January 10th at 11:45 a.m. at Antonio's Coney Island, 5485 Fenton Road, Flint. If you plan on attending, please sign up on the kiosk or contact Louise McAra at (810) 287-4334.



Worship Leaders for January 2024						
	LECTOR / LEM	GREETERS	TECH	ALTAR GUILD	COFFEE HOUR	ALTAR FLOWERS
<b><u>January 7</u></b>						
<b>8 am</b>	Nancy Wells (LEM)/Jane Brewer	Neuman & Jan Convis	-----	-----	-----	-----
<b>10:15 am</b>	Linda Rathburn	Bill Anderson/ Flo Gjerstad		Louise McAra		
<b><u>January 14</u></b>						
<b>8 am</b>	Dave Butler (LEM)/Dave & Melissa Butler	Dale & Sharon Rice		-----	-----	-----
<b>10:15 am</b>	Flo Gjerstad	Mary Van Duyne/Becky Stermer		Mary Van Duyne		
<b><u>January 21</u></b>						
<b>8 am</b>	Nancy Wells (LEM)/Jane Brewer	Dave & Melissa Butler	-----	-----	-----	-----
<b>10:15 am</b>	Rod Bytwerk	Jan Taylor/Lou- ise Degranges		Sharon Rice		
<b><u>January 28</u></b>						
		Annual Meeting		-----	-----	-----
<b>10:15 am</b>	Ken Duck	Becky Stermer/ Flo Gjerstad		Cindy Donner		