

Christ Episcopal Church Xenia
63 East Church Street
Xenia, OH 45385
(937) 372-1594
www.chrstepiscopalxenia.org
chrstepiscopalxenia@gmail.com



December 2011

Volume 2, Issue 12



Pastor's Page

Dear Friends,

We are in the Season of Advent, and such hope surrounds this season, as we remember the promises of God and the depth of the love our Creator has for us. The Incarnation continues to be a life-changing, world-changing, and even church-changing event. This is the time to open our hearts, to submit all that we are to preparing the way of the Lord. We would not welcome a guest into a home not lovingly prepared.... especially a guest who brings promises of redemption and peace.

In this holy season, my brothers and sisters, let's give to God all that stands in the way of the fullness of our welcome to Jesus Christ. Let's examine our hearts and spirits and give up all that is unforgiving, all that is fearful, all that is

bitter. Let's examine ourselves, ready ourselves, and offer this Christmas gift to the Infant — ...that we will trust in the Lord, step out from our comfort zones and into God's will; that we will forgive the unforgivable and love the unlovable; that we will go where God is calling, even when that is a little scary; that we will trust that God will give us whatever we need to accomplish all that God is calling us to do.

Christ Church, Xenia is like that Infant – hidden away, being made ready to be born into a world that needs us!

In the love and peace of Jesus Christ,
ML+



Warden's Words

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

As I reflect on this last month, I am overwhelmed with gratitude for the people and mission of this parish. We discovered at our Mission Sunday meeting that the parish's current mission is already on target with the desires of the parishioners to clothe (The Clothing Closet), feed (The Caring Place), shelter (Winter Homeless Shelter), and assist (The Benefit Bank) our fellow brothers and sisters in need in our community. This is most refreshing! I am so honored to be part of such a generous and loving parish. We are truly living our Baptismal Covenant here at Christ Church Xenia as we:

"continue in the apostle's teaching and fellowship..."
"proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ"

"seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbor as ourselves"

"strive for justice and peace among all people, and respecting the dignity of every human being"

---The Book of Common Prayer (p. 416-417)

The spirit of Mission Sunday continued throughout the rest of our stewardship campaign, which culminated in a wonderful meal together on Bountiful Blessings Sunday. Our stewardship team, Tommy Thomas and Maxine Thomas, with the assistance of our outstanding vestry planned and prepared such a lovely gathering for us. As we met that day, I looked around our busy little parish hall and truly felt The Holy Spirit moving amongst us. Maxine, Tommy, & Mother Lynn encouraged us to be bold in our faith as we pledged ourselves, not just our treasures, to the mission we believe God is calling us to do here in our community of Xenia, Ohio. The spirit that day was palpable and arousing!

That same spiritual aura was present later that week when Thanksgiving was celebrated in our parish hall with our guests on Thanksgiving evening. Steven Kidd and one of our guests, Debbie, prepared a fabulous meal that was generously donated by Tanya Ellenburg-Kimmet & her family. That afternoon before our meal, I arrived and set the tables as they had been set for our Bountiful Blessings Sunday (linen tablecloths, autumn colored fabric, silk leaves, candles, wrapped silverware with gold ribbons, and candy in champagne glasses). I

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

1	Pastor's Page
2	Warden's Words
3	Ministries and Financial Matters
4	Announcements, List of Birthdays & Anniversaries
5	Children's Corner
7	Shelter Schedule
8	Service Calendars for November and December
9	Missionary Reports

wish I could truly articulate the absolute amazement and appreciation that our guests expressed that evening when they saw the tables & the food that were prepared in their honor. I dare say some of our guests had probably never had such a culinary experience in all their lives. Some guests privately pulled me aside to say thank you for making the tables so beautiful for them and making their thanksgiving so special. Others joyfully shouted out their thanks across the room. Before partaking in the meal, they asked me to lead them in prayer. I chose & read three thanksgiving prayers from The Book of Common Prayer.

The whole experience was so inspiring! I was astounded as I witnessed their sincere joy and gratitude for such a simple act of kindness. Our guests were witnesses to me that evening....that glorious Thanksgiving evening! I believe that will be one of my most memorable Thanksgivings ever.

Now as we move forward in the season of Advent and prepare ourselves to celebrate the birth of a homeless child who became our King & our Savior, Jesus Christ, I challenge each of you to be bold in your faith, to support the mission of this parish with your time and energy, to allow yourselves to be a witness to those in need at our shelter, and to allow our shelter guests to be a witness to you.

May God's blessing be upon you this Advent and Christmas!
Summer Watts,
Senior Warden



Financial Matters

\$ Check request vouchers \$

Please remember to complete check request vouchers by printing all information accurately and legibly. Where signatures are required, please sign neatly. Vouchers cannot be processed if they contain missing or unreadable information.

Some of the more common expense account numbers are listed on the back of the voucher. If the expense account # pertaining to your request is shown, please indicate it on the front of the voucher where requested.

\$ 2011 Year-end Contributions and Reimbursement Requests \$

In accordance with IRS guidelines, all 2011 contributions must be received in the parish office or postmarked no later than December 31, 2011 to qualify for the year 2011 tax deduction. No post-dated checks will be received under any circumstances. The IRS directs churches to adhere strictly to this policy. Monies arriving after the deadline will be posted on your 2012 Giving Statement.

If you need to be reimbursed for any authorized church-related expenses that occurred in 2011, please complete a check request voucher with required information, attach your receipt, and turn it in to the office no later than December 31, 2011.

Your assistance is greatly appreciated. Thank you!

-Sue Starner, Financial Secretary

Share-One-to-One Clothes Closet

Every Tuesday in October we had 12-15 people waiting outside the doors of the Clothes Closet when we opened. We consistently have 25-45 people. Some new each week, others who are returning "clients". These people also get clothing for loved ones, friends or even residents of nursing homes who can't come in themselves. Our total number of people served often reaches nearly 60 counting these additional individuals.

At the clothes closet we try to give these individuals shoes, clothing, coats, bedding, hats, gloves, personal hygiene items, dishes, etc. We mostly rely on the community to donate these items to us. We also try to partner with other groups and direct the person in need to those groups.

You've heard about the couple who are living in a tent. He lost his job with a trucking company. They are homeless. We were able to give them two blankets, warm clothes, shoes, a small amount of food and contacts to help them with their other needs. Fortunately, it has not been extremely cold. They have found nighttime shelter in our emergency shelter.

We have been very blessed with donations, but we seem to always be in need of more women's extra-large, elementary and middle school age children's clothing is in short supply right now. With cold weather approaching we still need things like coats, hats, gloves and socks. Underwear - men's and women's - always fly out the door. Personal hygiene items rapidly disappear when we have any.

We really appreciate all those who have volunteered and those who donate items. We know God has good things planned for us (Jeremiah 29:11). Please pray for the clothes closet and the emergency shelter.

Remember: "For we are God's workmanship Created in Christ Jesus to do good works. Works which God prepared in advance for us to do. Eph 2:10

Cheryl Allen, Founder and director
JoAnne Earley, Christ Church volunteer



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Coffee Hour: We need volunteers for the coffee hour for the rest of the year. Sign up is in Parish Hall.

Altar Flowers: If you would like to purchase live flowers for the altar, please see Doug Pultz or Pam Feinour. The cost is \$20.

Church Supplies Greatly Needed: The church is in need of Kleenex tissue, paper towels, and toilet paper...if possible, please pick up a little extra when you go to the grocery!!! Please see Vicky for further details.

Office Supplies Needed: 11x17 white paper, mailing labels, and postcard stamps are needed for the Parish office. See Becky for further details.

Christ Episcopal Church Xenia online shop

<http://www.cafepress.com/CECX>

Find t-shirts, mugs, bags and other great gifts from the Christ Episcopal Church Xenia CafePress shop. High quality. 24 hour shipping available. Not comfortable with buying online, see Tanya Ellenburg-Kimmet. She can show you color choices and items available. She'll even order it for you and have it shipped to the location of your choosing. All proceeds go to CECX!

Schedule for the rest of the year:

- Budget meeting - Dec 4 after church
- Vestry meeting - Dec 11 after church
- Eucharistic Visitor training, Dec 12, 3:30 - 6:30
- Ceremony to install Eucharistic Visitors (newly trained) - Dec 18, during church service
- Christmas Worship is Christmas Eve only - there will be 2 services, either of which can also be considered the Vigil for Sunday 12/25. There won't be any services on Sunday, 12/25

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

07 Lillian Hudson
09 Nancy Nickell
19 Jim Sheehan
20 Jim Thomas
24 Kim Holland-Holbert
27 Brock Eskeridge
28 Genny Loveless
29 Mary Kidd
Millicent Walker-Jones

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

15 Dana & Mike Rhyne
21 Mary & Jim Sheehan

Oops...if we ever miss your birthday or anniversary please give notify the Parish Office.

Keep the Church Directory "up to date"... if you are planning a move in the near future, or have a new phone number or e-mail address please be sure and let the church know. *Thanks!*

Check out our Church website:

www.christepiscopalxenia.org

New email address for parish office: christepiscopalxenia@gmail.com

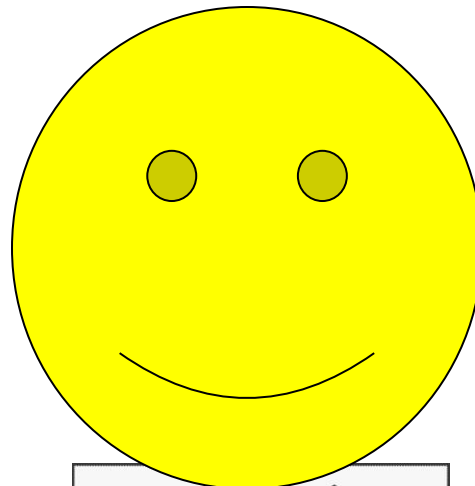
New Church Directory: If you would like a copy of the new directory, please let Becky know and she'll make a copy for you. You can call her at the Parish office during the week, or email her at church, christepiscopalxenia@gmail.com.




Children's Corner

For those who are young, those who think they are young, those who feel young at heart, and those who aren't any of the above (nobody's looking... Have some fun!)

From Newsletternewsletter.com




















A PROMISED RULER

Prophets told of Jesus' birth hundreds of years before it happened. Never had a baby's arrival come with such a promise.

Directions: To read what one prophet (Micah 5:4, NIV) said about Jesus, complete the math problems below. Then fill in the words, using the math solutions as your guide.

 $7+6$ strength	 $9+1$ shepherd	 $30-5$ the	 $7+5$ ends	 $50-26$ live
 $21-10$ will	 $27-24$ reach	 $10+7$ flock	 $40-20$ stand	 $15+4$ securely
 $35-31$ lord	 $17-3$ greatness	 $10-3$ earth	 $10+5$ will	 $5+1$ will

"He _____ and _____ his _____
 15 20 10 17
 in the _____ of the _____ And they _____
 13 4 11 24
 _____, for then _____
 19 16 14 6
 _____ to the _____ of _____."
 3 12 25 7

M I C A H 5 : 4 , N I V

Answers: "He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord And they will live securely, for then his greatness will reach to the ends of the earth." Micah 5:4, NIV

SAVIOR ORNAMENT

This Christmas, celebrate Jesus' birthday by making this keepsake ornament.

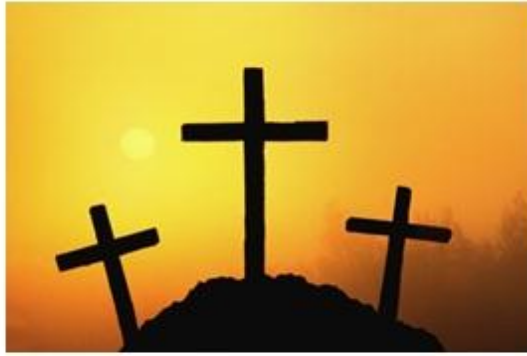
What you need:

- Wooden clothespin with round end
- Black permanent marker
- White cloth or felt
- Small wooden star (available at craft stores)
- Yellow paint
- Paintbrush
- Gold glitter (optional)
- Glue gun (and an adult)
- Straw-colored raffia
- Palm-size wicker wreath (available at craft stores)
- Ribbon

What you do:

1. On the clothespin's round knob, draw two dots for eyes.
2. Wrap the white cloth around the clothespin, like a swaddled baby.
3. Paint the star yellow; add glitter, if desired.
4. With the glue gun and adult supervision, glue the raffia to the bottom inside of the wreath. Then glue the swaddled clothespin atop the raffia and glue the gold star atop the wreath.
5. Tie a ribbon around the top, near the star.
6. Hang the ornament on your Christmas tree or tie it on a gift.





Conversation About the Cross

On Sunday, December 11, 2011, the congregation is invited to participate in an open dialogue about the Cross during Coffee Hour. The display has been in the parish hall for a few weeks. Mother Lynn has asked that the Church Family have an opportunity to openly voice their prayerful thoughts and opinions. While the Vestry has already voted, they will hear and prayerfully consider the congregation's thoughts.

Christ Church Christmas Poinsettias
To Honor Your Loved Ones

Christ Episcopal Church is seeking members to honor their loved ones in memory or thanksgiving by purchasing Christmas Poinsettias. The flowers, from Stockslager's Greenhouse & Garden Center in New Lebanon, will be in 6" green foil pots, and will have four to six large blooms. The poinsettias are \$9.50 each.

NAME: _____

In Memory: _____

In Thanksgiving: _____

Please indicate color choice and quantity below:

	<u>Quantity:</u>		
Red	_____	X \$9.50 =	\$ _____
White	_____	X \$9.50 =	\$ _____
TOTAL:	_____		\$ _____

Place the order sheet in the offering plate or mail to the office with your payment. **The due date for your order is Friday, December 9, 2011.**

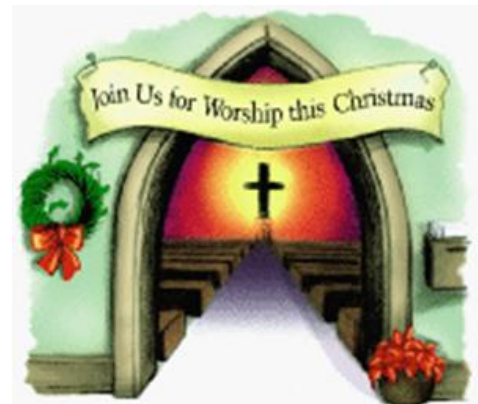
If you have questions, please contact Chandra Hightower at 937.376.3990 or via e-mail cclins793@gmail.com.

=====

Received: \$ _____ Cash / Check # _____ Date: _____/2011

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP IS CHRISTMAS EVE ONLY

There will be 2 services, either of which can also be considered the Vigil for Sunday 12/25. There won't be any services on Sunday, 12/25



ROTATION DATES

Xenia Emergency Homeless Shelter – Christ Episcopal Church

Nov - Dec

63 East Church Street, Xenia OH Phone: 372-1594

Dec 1 2011

Shelter Coordinator: Mike Taint 937 304 1115

	Church Coordinator	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN
CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH Dec 5 - 11	Michael Taint 304.1115	Pete Sinnott & Summer Watts	Don & Carol Nancarrow 426.5893	Sharon Mohler & Josh Long	Chuck Rolston	Steven Kidd & Lucia Livingston	Jeremiah Grissom	Mike Taint
CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH Dec 12- 18	Michael Taint 304.1115	Pete Sinnott & Summer Watts ?		Sharon Mohler & Josh Long	Chuck Rolston	Steven Kidd & Lucia Livingston	Jeremiah Grissom	Mike Taint
CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH Dec 19 - 25	Michael Taint 304.1115	Pete Sinnott & Summer Watts ?	Don & Carol Nancarrow 426.5893	Sharon Mohler & Josh Long	Chuck Rolston	Mike Taint	Jeremiah Grissom	Steven Kidd
CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH Dec 26 - Jan 1	Michael Taint 304.1115			Sharon Mohler & Josh Long	Chuck Rolston		Jeremiah Grissom	Steven Kidd
CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH Jan 2 - Jan 8	Michael Taint 304.1115			Sharon Mohler & Josh Long				Steven Kidd & Lucia Livingston
CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH Jan 9 - Jan 15	Michael Taint 304.1115			Sharon Mohler & Josh Long				Steven Kidd & Lucia Livingston
CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH Jan 16 - Jan 22	Michael Taint 304.1115			Sharon Mohler & Josh Long				Steven Kidd & Lucia Livingston
CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH Jan 23 - Jan 29	Michael Taint 304.1115			Sharon Mohler & Josh Long				Steven Kidd & Lucia Livingston
CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH Jan 30 - Feb 5	Michael Taint 304.1115							



Christ Episcopal Church, Xenia
Service Calendar, December 2011

****Please let Becky know if you can't make the second service at 10 pm**

Ministry	12/4	12/11	12/18	12/24**
Worship Leader	Rev Dr Lynn Sinnott	Rev Dr Lynn Sinnott	Rev Dr Lynn Sinnott	Rev Dr Lynn Sinnott
Altar Guild	JoAnne Earley Becky Gentry	Ruth Hazel Betsy Kitch	Jonathan Feinour Pam Feinour	JoAnne Earley, Becky Gentry (1) Becky Gentry (2)
Lector	Michael Taint	Dana Rhyne	Chandra Hightower	Barbara Bonham(1) Pam Feinour (2)**
Ushers	Doug Pultz JoAnne Earley	JoAnne Earley Summer Watts	Donovans	Elizabeth Clark, Tommy Thomas JoAnne Earley, Summer Watts**
Intercessor	Summer Watts	Barbara Bonham	Dana Rhyne	Mark Cummings (1) Rick Feinour (2)**
Chalice	Pam Feinour	Jack Kitch	Barbara Bonham	Ruth Hazel (1) Debbie Gillespie (2)**
Vestry Member of the Week	Michael Taint	Kim Holbert	Vikki Carter	JoAnne Earley**

Service Calendar, January 2012

Ministry	1/1	1/8	1/15	1/22	1/29
Worship Leader	Mother Lynn	Mother Lynn	Mother Lynn	Jack Kitch	Barbara Bonham
Altar Guild	JoAnne Earley Ruth Hazel	Pam Feinour Becky Gentry	Joanne Earley Becky Gentry	Ruth Hazel Betsy Kitch	Pam Feinour Becky Gentry
Lector	Mike Taint	Mark Cummings	Ruth Hazel	Jack Kitch	Debbie Gillespie
Ushers	Doug Pultz JoAnne Earley	Elizabeth Clark Tommy Thomas	Donovans	Joanne Earley Summer Watts	Elizabeth Clark Tommy Thomas
Intercessor	Rick Feinour	Debbie Gillespie	Summer Watts	Ruth Hazel	Jack Kitch
Chalice	Debbie Gillespie	Ruth Hazel	Jack Kitch		
Vestry Member of the Week	Jack Kitch	Chandra Hightower	Summer Watts	Mike Taint	Kim Holbert

Missionary Reports

Anita and Michael Dohn, Missionaries in Health Ministries

November 2011 Mission E-mail [No. 88]

Web-site: <http://dohnfamily.org>

E-mail: DohnFamily@sams-usa.org

Anita and Michael Dohn are physicians serving as SAMS missionaries with La Iglesia Episcopal Dominicana at the diocesan Clínica Esperanza y Caridad. They live along the southern coast in San Pedro de Macorís in the Dominican Republic.

* * * * *

Takin' out the trash

News cast in mid-September, 2011

"You are listening to the BBC World Service. Amidst the continuing fighting in Tripoli, regular garbage collection has resumed this morning. Garbage trucks with attendants in uniform are following their regular routes."

The worldview of the BBC may be a little bit different. As far as we could determine, no other international news service lead with that story (or even mentioned it). However, what better indication, perhaps, of a returning to normalcy in Tripoli, Libya, than the resumption of regular trash collection service?

There are some challenges living here (electric outages, general strikes, water shortages, crime, food and water borne disease, tropical diseases, mosquitos, corruption, etc.). However, our garbage collection has been excellent. We are in a middle-class neighborhood and Tuesday is our garbage day, with pickup almost always between 7:45 and 8:30 AM.

We were absolutely flabbergasted considering the general state of affairs.

This is all to say that it is generally recognized how important it is to take out the trash.

We met a Southern Baptist evangelist during our missionary preparation. He maintained that missionary service was more often adversely affected or devastated by hanging on to bad feelings, resentments, transgressions, frustrations, hurts and wounds than by anything else. Periodically you have to get rid of all that. Or as he said it, "You gotta stay 'fessed up!"

Whether formal or informal, reflection with a realistic appraisal and confession is a good idea. I suppose that we all got trash to take out.

Keep praying, Michael

"If You Have Faith the Size of a Mustard Seed..."

...we need your help!! Last year we had 14 parishioners that were regularly able to volunteer to stay overnight at our homeless shelter; however, this year due to illnesses, changes in work schedules, and family circumstances we only have three of those remaining volunteers available (Mike, Carol, and I). Pete Sinnott has also joined our volunteer team, giving us four parishioners that can regularly stay overnight. We do have some volunteers from other churches and the Odd Fellows helping us meet some of the scheduling demands; however, since this is a Christ Episcopal Church Xenia ministry, we need Christ Episcopal Church Xenia parishioners involved in carrying the ministry. Please consider giving yourself a gift this season that will feed you spiritually, strengthen your faith in ways you cannot even imagine, and linger in your heart forever. Mike, Carol, Pete & I will be more than happy to answer any questions you may have about becoming a volunteer. All that is required of us is "faith the size of a mustard seed." God takes care of the rest.

Peace & blessings,

Summer Watts

Senior Warden & Shelter Volunteer



Sunday Scriptures for December

Dec 4th

Isaiah 40:1-11

Psalms 85:1-2,8-13

2 Peter 3:15a

Mark 1:1-8

Dec 25th I

Isaiah 9:2-7

Psalms 96

Titus 2:11-14

Luke 2:1-14, (15-20)

Dec 11th

Isaiah 61:1-4,8-11

Psalms 126

1Thessalonians 5:16-24

John 1:6-8, 19-28

Dec 25th II

Isaiah 62:6-12

Psalms 97

Titus 3:4-7

Luke 2: (1-7),8-20

Dec 18th

2 Samuel 7:1-11,16

Canticle 3

Romans 16:35-27

Luke 1:26-38

Dec 25th III

Isaiah 52:7-10

Psalms 98

Hebrews 1:1-4, (5-12)

John 1:1-14

Sunday Scriptures for January

Jan 1st

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

Psalms 147

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

John 1:1-18

Jan 22nd

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Psalms 62:6-14

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Mark 1:14-20

Jan 8th

Genesis 1:1-5

Psalms 29

Acts 19:1-7

Mark 1:4-11

Jan 29th

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Psalms 111

1Corinthians 8:1-13

Mark 1:21-28

Jan 15th

1 Samuel 3:1-10, (11-20)

Psalms 139:1-5, 12-17

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

John 1:43-51

(Lectors need to verify the readings for their Sunday.)



Saturday, December 24

Choral Holy Eucharist



4:30 PM & 10:30 PM

Christmas Carols



10: 00



If you are not on the email mailing list or not receiving emails and you thought you were on the mailing list for the church, email Tanya at cecxtanya@gmail.com Make sure any spam filters allow email from cecxlist@googlegroups.com and cecxtanya@gmail.com

Submissions:

Anyone who wishes to submit information or creativity (links of information, upcoming events, shout-outs of recognition) for the Trumpet should do so ASAP. Deadline for submissions is tentatively December 27th. Submit information by hand to Tanya or by emailing it to cecxtanya@gmail.com.

NOEL HALLELUJAH MERRY CHRISTMAS HAPPY NEW YEAR

