



christepiscopalexenia@gmail.com

63 East Church Street, Xenia Ohio 45385

www.christepiscopalexenia.org

July/August 2012 Volume 3, Issue 7-8



Dear Friends,

“Communication in a church is a challenge.” No—wait! “Communications are a challenge *anywhere!*” is a more accurate statement.

I once had a parishioner who lamented loud and long that communications at church were terrible. I asked her if she’d like to take on the role of “Communications Guru”, and she was eager to do that. Before many months passed, however, she had become aware of a basic communication truth; that it is a two-part activity. Someone must do the communicating, and someone else must receive the communication. If either of these is missing, we have, in words from a classic Paul Newman movie, “a failure to communicate”.

We have a terrific secretary who carefully puts together an Announcements insert for

our weekly bulletin. And we have a Sr. Warden who invites you to check out those announcements with her at the beginning of our Sunday worship. We have a wonderful newsletter, and a publisher/editor – Tanya Ellenburg-Kimmet – who works very hard to produce it. It has important information about the people, worship, work, and events of our church community.

We know we live in the “information age”, and it sometimes seems that all that information will swamp us. If we want a message to stand out and be heard, we have to say it many times, and in many different ways. And we also have to listen and find ways to remember the things that are important.

Access the online newsletter! Listen to the announcements – and read along while Summer makes them; the more senses we engage, the greater the chances that we’ll remember what we’ve heard.

If we all know what’s happening here, we can all be part of it!

Peace & blessings!
ML+

Warden's Words

By Michael Taint, Junior Warden

While driving up here to western Massachusetts for my annual sojourn to the Berkshire Choral Festival I got to thinking about Lynn's great Anglican Communion presentation (lecture? seminar?) and how it relates to the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion today.

Oh, how little things have changed.

Since almost the beginning Christians have argued about dogma, rules and policies (don't believe me? - read Paul's Epistles again, the whole text). We love to argue about almost everything, and despite multiple attempts in history to get us all on the exact same page (starting with the Council of Nicea in the 4th century, mandated by a Roman emperor) we keep on arguing, and we always will. For some strange reason every human being on this planet thinks everyone else should have the exact same beliefs, and we feel compelled to try to cram them down each other's throats you who live in Ohio and are bombarded by presidential campaign advertisements right now should not need to be reminded of this.

People tried to trip Jesus up in dogma questions (if a widow remarries who will her husband be in heaven, can you feed someone on the Sabbath, etc.) and he didn't take the bait - we shouldn't either. He said

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there are only two rules we really need to follow

Rule #1 – Love God above all else and with everything you have

Rule #2 – Love your neighbor as yourself

So when someone asks why we ordain openly gay bishops, bless gay unions or whatever other issue they have with the Episcopal Church, it's because we believe we're following these two rules. If they want to argue dogma, scripture or anything else, that's fine, because nothing trumps these rules.

Keep the faith baby,

MT

News from the Ministries

Leadership Lines

“...upon this rock I will build my church.” Mt. 16:18

What does it mean to be “right”? We may believe that it means that we don’t make mistakes; that we always do what is appropriate and correct in any and all circumstances.

If we really do believe that, we’re in trouble! We’ll never be able to do what is appropriate and correct in *any and all circumstances*. Sometimes we don’t even understand the circumstances!

But a church has a specific way it tries to figure out the “right” things. We look at Scripture and our Tradition, and, with God’s input, try to discern those right things.

... “with God’s input”. We can’t guide a church, pray for the renewal of its people, discover its vocation—if we aren’t in touch with God.

Many organizations that lay no claim to God or religion do wonderful things. They feed the hungry, protect the environment, shelter the homeless, represent the poor – and on and on. A church is different.

Why? In part, it’s the ongoing prayer of its people. It’s the fact that we gather to worship every week, and carry what God has given us into the rest of our lives. It’s our effort to really hear what God is saying, and our decision to do what God is asking, even it means some sacrifice. God is our reason for existence, our source of strength, our joy, our ultimate goal, our deepest love. It’s all about God, and the rightness of that.

Outreach

More from Outreach next time.

Share-One-to-One Clothes Closet

The following is an example of how our Share - One - to - One ministry is helping some in our community.

Becky had a message from a lady who was in need of lots of things due to a fire in her house. Everything had smoke damage or worse. We made arrangements for her to come to the Clothes Closet on one evening to get clothing, underwear, socks and shoes for two adults and three children ages 5, 8 and 9. She was very appreciative and gave all three of us a big hug. We were also able to give her the name of one of our senior center members who is helping her with a child’s bed, microwave and couch. God is good.

We are in need of all sizes children’s clothing - newborn through teens. Remember we can use anything except large furniture and large appliances. Our clients like trinkets, personal hygiene items, dishes, bedding, towels, toys, books, games, etc. Any question? Just ask. We provide pick up of items also.

JoAnne Earley, CECX coordinator

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Food Banks: Please bring in food for the local food banks, they are in dire need.

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

Shelter Time Approaches: It's a heatwave outside currently. In a few short months though, to borrow from the current popular series **King of Thrones**, "Winter is coming!" We may not be struggling with adversaries over the fate of our lordly domains... or maybe we are... but it sure would mean a whole lot to a bunch of people if we consider what we might be able to do for those without walls this winter.

RECYCLING:

Reminder to all, we are recycling. Pete Sinnott takes our paper plates from Coffee Hour for composting. There is a recycling bin in the Parish Office for paper, glass bottles, plastic bottles, and the like. Help us out by sorting. Help us out by reading the newsletter online. Help us out by suggesting ideas to your local vestry member.

JULY/AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

01	Margie Ridgeway
04	Vivian Rose Smith
05	Jarrett Davis
08	Evelyn Jane Schotts
16	Jack Harrison
20	Karen Ingraham
23	Barbara Bradfute Michael Taint
29	Clay Thomas Madysun Huff
31	Roxanne Harrison
02	Larry Thomas
06	Jackson Davis
09	Joanne Brooks Beverly Krouskop
10	Elaina Walker
12	Kathleen Taylor
14	Nerak Patterson
16	Mark Cummings
23	Violetta Thomas

JULY/AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

01	Marilyn & Clarence Thomas
07	Claris & Glenn Donovan
04	Angie & Ed Lowe
08	Maxine & Larry Thomas

Oops...if we ever miss your birthday or anniversary please 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

Parish Office email address:

christepiscopalxenia@gmail.com






Diocese of Southern Ohio

The Rt. Rev. Thomas E. Breidenthal, D. Phil., Bishop

To: The Presiding Bishop
The Recorder of Ordinations
The Secretary of the House of Bishops
The Secretary of the House of Deputies
The Church Pension Fund
The Church Deployment Office
The Bishops of the Episcopal Church (or Ecclesiastical Authority of each Diocese of
The Episcopal Church in which there is no Diocesan Bishop)
The Secretary of Convention of the Diocese of Southern Ohio
The Standing Committee of the Diocese of Southern Ohio
The Clergy of the Diocese of Southern Ohio
The Vestries of the Diocese of Southern Ohio

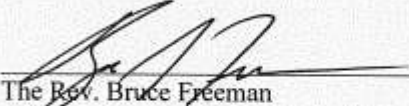
Declaration of Renunciation of Ordained Ministry Title III, Canon 7, Section 10

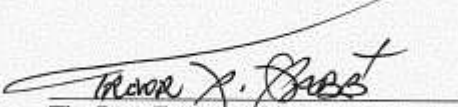
In compliance with the Provisions of Title III, Canon 7, Section 10, I do hereby certify that **The Reverend Timothy Borah**, who is not subject to the provision of Canon IV.8, acting voluntarily, and for causes which do not affect his moral character, has declared on June 1, 2012, that he has renounced the ordained ministry of this Church and has a desire to be removed therefrom. This Renunciation was referred to the clerical members of the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Southern Ohio and, according to the requirements of Section 10 of said Canon, on June 20, 2012 the clergy members of the Standing committee officially gave their consent to this Removal. Therefore, I accept Timothy Borah's resignation as deacon in accordance with the Canons of this Church (III.7.10), "for causes that do not affect the person's moral character."


(The Rt. Rev.) Thomas E. Breidenthal, D. Phil.
Bishop of Southern Ohio

Pronounced and declared in the presence of two or more presbyters:

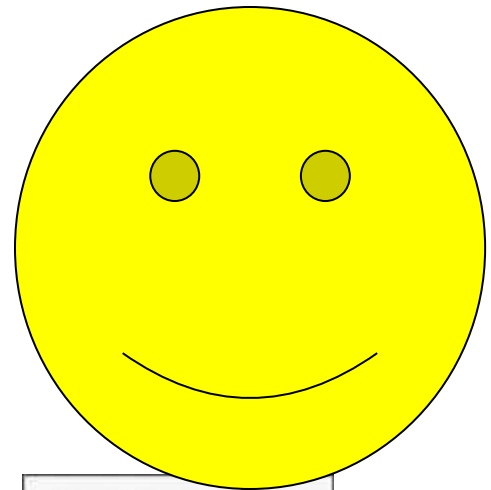

The Rev. Jacqueline Matisse


The Rev. Bruce Freeman


The Rev. Trevor Babb

412 Sycamore Street, Cincinnati, OH 45202
Telephone (513) 421-0311 • Toll-free 800-582-1712 • Fax (513) 421-0307
www.episcopal-dso.org

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!)

PUZZLE

TRUE TREASURE

The Bible speaks often of "treasure" — where we can find it, who gives it and who can have it.

Directions: Match the puzzle pieces to the correct shape. Then write the letters to learn what Matthew 6:21 (NIV) says about treasure. (Younger children can cut out the shapes and glue them onto the correct spaces.)

Matthew 6:21, NIV

Answer: "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." (Matthew 6:21, NIV)

BIBLE Treasure Hunt

Let the search — and the fun — begin! Try one or both of the variations below, adjusting for age-appropriateness as needed.

What you need:

- Bibles
- Self-stick notes or pieces of paper
- Pencil
- Treats
- Boxes (treasure chests)

What you do:

Locations Treasure Hunt

1. Find Bible verses that mention a place inside or outside your house. The location for Matthew 7:8, for example, is a door.
2. Write each verse on a self-stick note and hide all but the first clue. Give the first clue to the player(s).
3. Leave the treats at the final clue destination.

Object Treasure Hunt

1. Find Bible verses that mention objects that can be found nearby. The object for Matthew 16:19, for example, is a key.
2. Give each player an empty box, a Bible and a list of verses as clues.
3. Have players return their collected items for a final prize.

Christ Episcopal Church, Xenia
Service Calendar, August 2012

Ministry	8/5	8/12	8/19	8/26
Worship Leader	Barbara Bonham (MP)	ML	ML	ML
Altar Guild	Ruth Hazel, Becky Gentry	JoAnne Earley Becky Gentry Dana Rhyne	Pam Feinour Becky Gentry Tanya E-Kimmet	JoAnne Earley Becky Gentry Dana Rhyne
Lector	Ruth Hazel	Michael Taint	Mark Cummings	Chandra Hightower
Ushers	JoAnne Earley Summer Watts	Donovans	Elizabeth Clark Tommy Thomas	Rick Feinour Kim Holbert
Intercessor	Doug Pultz	Barbara Bonham	Debbie Gillespie	Summer Watts
Chalice		Debbie Gillespie	Ruth Hazel	Jack Kitch
Vestry Member of the Week	Vikki Carter	Tanya Ellenburg- Kimmet	JoAnne Earley	Jack Kitch

Service Calendar, September 2012

Ministry	9/2	9/9	9/16	9/23	9/30
Worship Leader	ML	ML	ML	MP - Rick	MP - Pam
Altar Guild	Ruth Hazel Becky Gentry Tanya E-Kimmet	JoAnne Earley Becky Gentry Dana Rhyne	Pam Feinour Becky Gentry Tanya E-Kimmet	JoAnne Earley Dana Rhyne	Ruth Hazel Tanya E-Kimmet
Lector	Nancy Nickell	Tommy Thomas	Dana Rhyne	Jack Kitch	Ruth Hazel
Ushers	Donovans	JoAnne Earley Summer Watts	Tommy Thomas Elizabeth Clark	JoAnne Earley Doug Pultz	Donovans
Intercessor	Ruth Hazel	Rick Feinour	Mark Cummings	Dana Rhyne	Doug Pultz
Chalice	Summer Watts	Barbara Bonham	Pam Feinour	-----	-----
Vestry Member of the Week	Summer Watts	Chandra Hightower	Mike Taint	Kim Holbert	Vikki Carter

If your name is down and your schedule conflicts, contact Becky as soon as possible.

Sermon Pentecost Proper 11 for 22 July 2012
Submitted by Betsy Kitch

The gospel says it's all about compassion, but what do we know about compassion? So here we are again with an image so familiar to us. Just look at the stained glass window over our altar. Only the head of the Good shepherd survived the tornado. Yet, there he is for us today. But what do we know about Shepherds or sheep? The Gospel says: He had compassion for them because they were like sheep without a shepherd.

Let's start with the Old Testament lesson. What is going on here? We've been following the story of David becoming God's chosen King. Now, in response to his desire to build a house for God, Nathan the prophet receives word that it will be David's son who will build. God's words in verse 14 are "I will be his father, and he will be my son." That is also one of Jesus' titles: Son of God. How many times have we heard that? But what does that mean? It means that God sent his Son into the world so that He might be present with us at all times, and for all time. So if God is with us, who can stand against us? Isn't that what the 23rd psalm is all about?

Now when was the last time you really saw a sheep? It's an image ingrained in us, yet beyond our experience. I remember a little about sheep from my rural upbringing. They were hard to herd, hard to manage. But then maybe we do have something in common with sheep.

But in the psalm, all we are asked to do is to listen to the voice of the shepherd. Do we lack the imagination to do that? In every situation, could we just ask ourselves: What's the compassionate thing to do here?

Remember what Paul said: "In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God." (Eph 2:21-22). God dwells in you, and me. I find that both awe inspiring and frightening. What am I doing to honor and feed that indwelling God?

One of our problems, I believe, is that we are not compassionate with ourselves. We need to be more gentle with ourselves, remembering god lives in us and we in God. Until we learn to be kind to ourselves, we cannot show care for another. We need to own our God centeredness and live into that. To the extent we do that, we will be able to show compassion to others.

Our gospel lesson leaves out two events along this journey, the feeding of the 5,000 and Jesus walking on water which we hear on other Sundays. Then why are these stories left out of today's Gospel reading? Could it be because the compilers of the lectionary intended to

emphasize the importance of Jesus’ having compassion? In both instances our translation of the scripture says Jesus had compassion.

Now there’s an over used word in our vocabulary. It has to do with both feeling and the thought of action. The Greek translation of compassion involves an inward affection--that is to be moved inwardly. We might say to have a gut feeling. The word comes to us from Middle English out of Latin: com - to be with. passion - translated to patient, also pathos.

We truly do not want to own the literal meaning of the word compassion: with suffering, that is in solidarity with the one for whom you feel it--to suffer with. The term suggests suffering as in the “Passion of Christ” and the ability to suffer with another in his or her difficulties. To be passionate about something is to really care about it enough to do something helpful. But do we really want to suffer in a literal sense? Can we really share in another’s trouble or grief? Likely not, but we can be concerned enough to be part of the healing process as Christ calls us.

Healing takes place when in our faith community we reach out to one another in mutual need. I think we are pretty good at this. I certainly have felt your support. We need also to live as Jesus commanded as the body of Christ in the world to help repair the brownness caused by the misdeeds and missed opportunities we see around us.

Finally from St. Thomas Aquinas in the 13th Century:

Ask Anything

“Ask anything,”
My Lord said to me.
And my mind and heart thought deeply
for a second,
then replied with just one word,
“When?”
God’s arms then opened up and I entered myself,
I entered Myself when I entered
Christ.
and having learned compassion I
allowed my soul
to stay.

(Translated by Daniel Ladinsky in *Love Poems From God*, Penguin Compass 2002).

Seasons

Walking out the door I hunch my shoulders against the anticipated frigid air and wind, wishing I had another layer with me. Once I am actually outside though, I am, again, surprised to find the night air warmer than that of the building I was just in. It's June though this event happens almost daily. There is some latent anticipation of the cold, a relic from a winter past. Why do I think this though? Why, when the outside air is a balmy 70 degrees Fahrenheit, do I still mentally linger in the mid 20's? I began to think about the seasons – spring, summer, fall, winter - and also about the shorter seasons of my day-to-day life.

Though it is written in the Bible that “there is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens” (Ecclesiastes 3:1) I often feel pressed for time. I need to get this field disked, or that tractor tuned up. Seedlings need to be started, sprouts planted, rows weeded, veggies harvested. I am always trying to stay ahead and anticipate instead of heeding the wise admonition that there is indeed a season for every activity. What do I really gain by pushing ahead, by anticipating the future? Perhaps it's the temporary feeling of success but then the next hurdle looms and again I rush ahead, looking at neither the greening leaves nor the fluttering butterflies. Wouldn't it be better though, as the quote states, to let everything have its season? To work each day with integrity, thought, and deliberation, knowing that you fulfilled your duty for that season?

A common misconception is that farmers lead a slower more simple life. It may be true in the sense that often we don't have to drive in traffic and are able to spend most of our days outside in nature and close to the soil, but when we try to push tasks and ourselves out of their appropriate seasons we can become just as harried and stressed as that poor commuter during rush hour. It is important to me to lift my head and see the barn sparrows swooping low over the grass after an insect, or to have a meaningful conversation with a visitor to the farm. It is important, but so hard. It is hard to trust that everything has its season and hard not to force situations and myself out of that subtle rhythm.

Just like how thinking the outside temperature was cold enough to belong to a January's eve limits my ability to fully enjoy a pleasant June evening, so too does my forcing of seasons hamper the level of satisfaction and accomplishment I am able to obtain from my daily work. There was a saying often used at my college which was “be here now” which is excellent shorthand for remembering to live within your season. So, be here now and enjoy all this day has to offer you.

Rebekah Zimmerer ~ Farm Manager
Procter Farm
procterfarm@diosohio.org

From: **David & Sarah Kitch** <sdkitch80@sbcglobal.net>

Date: Tue, Jul 31, 2012 at 12:15 AM

Subject: Into the Field

Missionary Report

Dear Friends:

Deep Grace!

Well, David leaves this weekend for Athens and Madrid. He arrives in Athens on Sunday, the 5th, transfers to Madrid on Sunday the 12th, and will be back in California on Monday the 20th. Partnering with Chuck Neighbors of Master's Image Productions and working with videographer Wes Whatley, they will be doing training of staff members of GEM (Greater Europe Mission) in interpersonal communication skills, narrative and storytelling. There is also a possibility they will do some interactive narrative work with new converts to Christianity.

It looks like it will be an intense time in each city.

As always we covert your prayers. The people we are serving work with immigrant populations, and as you all know this is a volatile time in these two cities.

We'll let you know how it goes!

THANK YOU !!!

Pax Christus,

- David & Sarah

Future Coffee Hour Workshops:

- September 16 - The Prayer Book
- October 7 - History of the Anglican & Episcopal Church
- October 28 - Christ Church Xenia: who are we, who is our neighbor, and what are we here for?

FYI – The Trumpet is taking a break for the summer and will only be published in June for the May/June edition and July for the July/August edition. We will return to the monthly publishing schedule come September.

Thank you!

Sunday Scriptures for July

July 1st

2Samuel 1:1,7-27

Psalms 130 or

Solomon 1:13-15,2:23-24

2 Corinthians 8:7-15

Mark 5:21-43

July 8th

2Samuel 5:1-5,9-10

Psalms 48

2 Corinthians 12:2-10

Mark 6:1-13

July 15th

2Samuel 6:1-5,12b-19

Psalms 24

Ephesians 1:3-14

Mark 6:14-29

July 22nd

2Samuel 7:1-14a

Psalms 89:20-37

Ephesians 2:11-22

Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

July 29th

2Samuel 7:1-15a

Psalms 89:20-37

Ephesians 2:11-22

Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

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

Sunday Scriptures for August

August 5th

2nd Samuel 11:26-12:13a

Psalms 51:1-13

Ephesians 4:1-16

John 6:24-35

August 12th

2nd Samuel 18:5-9, 15,31-33

Psalms 130

Ephesians 4:25-5:2

John 6:35,41-51

August 19th

1st Kings 2:10-12;3:3-14

Psalms 111

Ephesians 5:15-20

John 6:51-58

August 27th

1st Kings 8:(1,6,10-11),22-

30,41-43

Psalms 84

Ephesians 6:10-20

John 6:56-69



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 August 25th. Submit information by hand to Tanya or by emailing it to cecxtanya@gmail.com.