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September/October/November 2012 Volume 3, Issue 9-11



Dear Friends,

There is an organizational chart that looks something like a balloon convention. You start with a circle with one person's name in the middle, then add conjoining circles with the names of all the people with whom he or she is in relationship. Do this with each member of the church, and you have a pretty good idea of which people have the greatest number of connections – and some say, the greatest amount of influence in the church.

And one thing becomes clear: human beings are connection-oriented people. It's inescapable. In the Collect for Guidance we pray, "O heavenly Father, in whom we live and move and have our being...." We exist within and through God's life and spirit--all of creation does--and so we cannot fail to be connected with each other, as we cannot fail to be

connected with God, nor God with us. We are bound together in the life and Spirit of God.

All the good that God does for us can be shared with everyone with whom we are in connection. And it's good to do that sharing. We can call it "pass it forward" or "share the Good News" or whatever we like. But what God does for one of us can build up the whole body. When we share the news of God in our life, we create pathways for the Spirit to do that work.

As our Stewardship Team moves us forward this year, let's remember the holy nature of our connectiveness. We remember that Jesus was the vine, connected both to God, the master gardener, and to us, the branches, who are meant to bear much fruit. We are connected to Jesus, to God, and to each other. How very blessed we are!

In peace,
ML+



Warden's Words

By Michael Taint, Junior Warden

Say goodbye to the oldies but goodies

Cause the good old days weren't always good and tomorrow ain't as bad as it seems.

-Keeping the Faith, Billy Joel

As you probably know, I haven't been a member at CECX all that long – about 7 years. You may not remember me for all that time because I was one of the elusive “8 o'clock people” who preferred a more meditative Sunday service. One thing I've learned – at CECX 7 years basically means you just fell off the bus last week. I mean, we have people who have been at this church for over half a century, with Jim Thomas closing in on a century. Unbelievable.

Having members with such a long memory is a great thing. They've seen the ups and downs over the years and how our church and the larger ECUSA have dealt with those changes. Many folks also speak (understandably) very wistfully about how great things were” back in the day”, when pews were bulging at capacity and the nursery was a loud and busy place. Full time rector! Oh, the good old days! If we could only get back to THOSE days!

Well, OK, church membership WAS higher then. But does more members = better church? Not necessarily; Jesus seemed pretty content with a permanent party of 12

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(augmented with up to several thousands from time to time). It's not the number of people in the pews – it's the size of the Spirit. I have no idea how big the Spirit was then (it's hard to quantify, like all the really important things)..... the important question is how big is it now?

We want to honor the past, not forget it. But we're on this earth now. We all need to do what we can do – now. Sure, we have a lot of challenges and problems now – they did then too, I assure you. So let's focus on what we can do now (and it's a lot) and not worry too much about how it used to be.

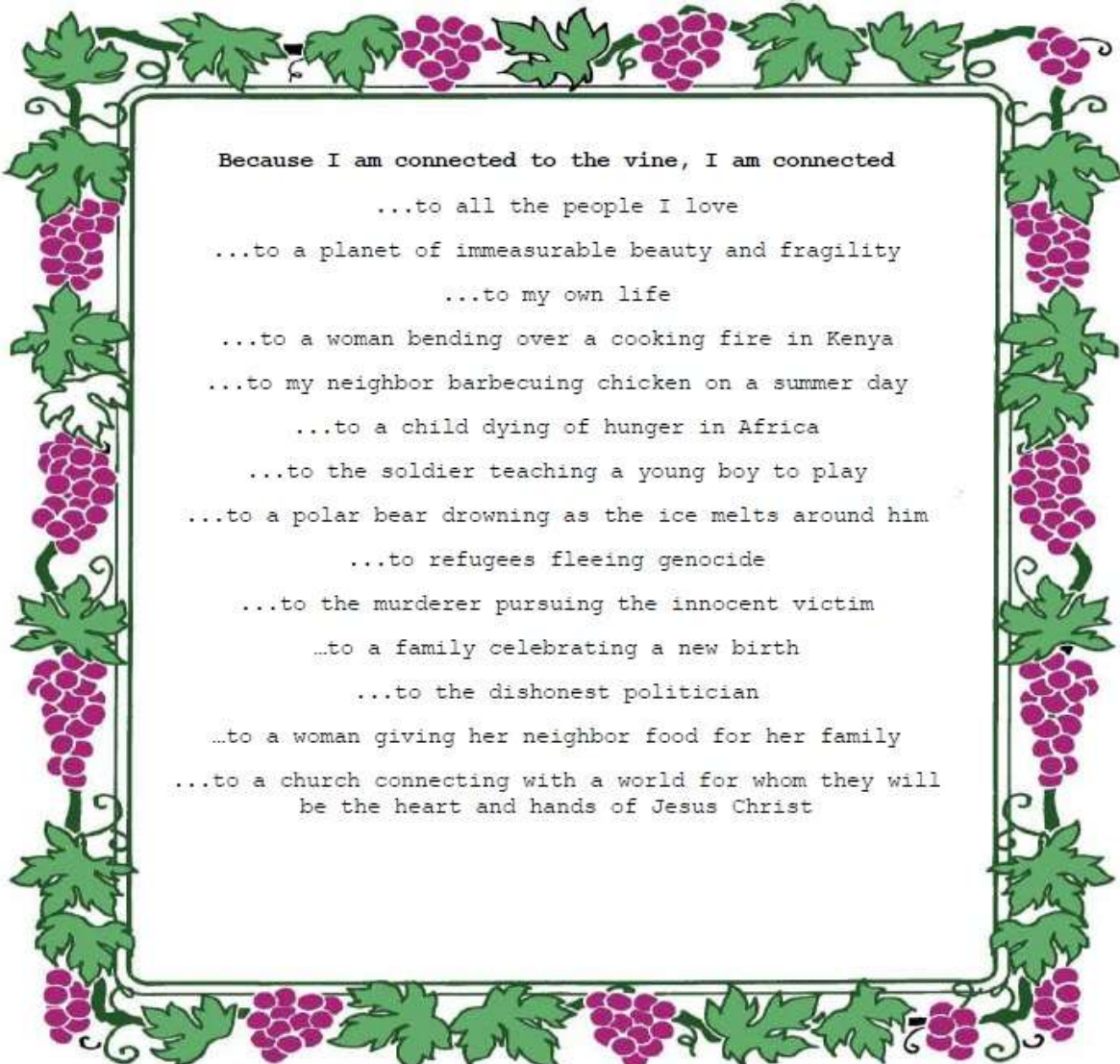
The good old days weren't always so good – and tomorrow ain't as bad as it seems.

Keep the faith baby,
MT

Leadership Lines

I read once that there was little difference between good leaders and good followers. Good leaders display the characteristics of loyalty, courage, compassion, wisdom, strength, willingness to give time and energy, etc. etc. Good followers display these very same characteristics. The quote I read so long ago asserted that the only real difference with the willingness to be in front: to take responsibility for oneself and others, and to be the public face of the organization.

I suspect many of us are called in – and out! – of leadership more often than we know.



Q What is “percentage giving”???

A. We decide the percentage of our income we will give this year as our financial stewardship, and pledge that percentage. E.G., Last year Stu and Ida gave \$45/month, or \$540/year. Their income is \$54,000./yr. They gave 1% of their income. This year they want to increase that percentage to 2%, so they will give \$1,080, or \$90/month.

Q What happens if I lose my income??

A. Any percentage of 0 is 0 – and that’s what we’re expected to give!

Q Is that a percentage of our gross income, or our net income?

A. Whatever you decide in prayer.

Q Does it all go to the Church?

A. Again – whatever, in prayer, we’re called to do each year. It certainly can and often does include our other “holy giving”.

Q What’s so important about making a pledge?

A. The same thing that’s important about any commitment we make. If something’s really important to us – close to our hearts – we make a commitment to it! Our pledge is our commitment to our Church.

Stewardship

We have a very loving and caring church family that has reached out to our community in many different ways. In 2012 we have been able to give \$8,000 to those in need, this \$8,000 is a percentage of our total pledge we get from our stewardship efforts.

To give a gift is to receive a gift, this statement is really true. During the 1974 Xenia tornado my world caved in on me and my family and I can tell you from experience that it is very humbling to have to be in need.

This is the fourth and final year that the Thomas (Maxine and Tommy) Stewardship Team will operate. It is our desire to go out as winners and the church needs your help and cooperation to help us to be just that.

We are passing our team torch to two wonderful and capable people, Barbara Bonham and Carol Conway, they will need your prayers and guidance to fulfill their mission.

Peace and Grace,

Maxine and Tommy

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: Look at the weather recently. In a short month, 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.

SEPT/OCT/NOV BIRTHDAYS

08	Claris Donovan Erika Patterson
18	Linc Thomas
19	Jennifer Hudson
21	Ruth Hazel Angie Lowe
23	Jeremiah Gillespie
26	Jamie Feinour
27	Lee Anne Stookey
01	Jeff Wells
05	Tyson Davis
19	Rick Feinour
23	Kathy Geyer
26	Mary Sheehan
28	Emilie Walker
29	Evening Hudson
02	Suzanne Ellis
08	Tanya Ellenburg-Kimmet Dick Loveless
09	Barbara Blackburn Eric Patterson
10	Otto Anderson
12	Karen Patterson
13	Chris Hudson Michael Rhyne
16	Carol Conway
22	Isabelle Ellis

SEPT/OCT/NOV ANNIVERSARIES

09	Suzanne & Brett Ellis (September)
16	Cheryl & James Eskridge (October)

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:

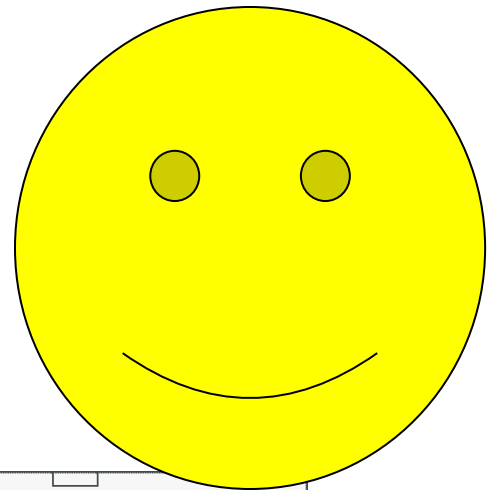
www.christepiscopalxenia.org

Parish Office email address:

christepiscopalxenia@gmail.com



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!)

Be thankful for everything

When we're faithful, we see that God provides all we need.

Use the list of vowels below to complete the words of Ephesians 5:19-20, NIV.

i a a e u i i o u e a o e o a a i i a o o e
a e o e e i i e a e o o u o e u i E e i a I

"S _ ng _ nd m _ k _ m _ s _ c _ n
y _ _ r h _ _ rt t _ th _ L _ rd,
_ lw _ ys g _ v _ ng th _ nks t _ G _ d
th _ F _ th _ r f _ r _ v _ ryth _ ng,
_ n th _ n _ m _ _ f _ _ r
L _ rd J _ s _ s Chr _ st."

_ ph _ s _ _ ns 5:19-20, N _ V

Answer:
Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. (Ephesians 5:19-20, NIV)

Wall of THANKS

During this season of gratefulness, create a special wall of thanks in your home.

I'm thankful for my Family
-Joey

What you need:

- Sticky notes
- Pens or markers
- Poster board (optional)

What you do:

1. Every day in November, have each family member write or draw on a sticky note someone or something they're thankful for. (Try not to repeat ideas.)
2. Display your notes on a wall or on poster board.
3. Read your list every day to remind you about God's many blessings.

Sharing toys with my friends
-SARA

Christ Episcopal Church, Xenia

Service Calendar, November 2012

****Since JoAnne Earley will be out of commission for awhile, we will be doubling up for Altar Guild and ushers till she gets back.**

Ministry	11/4	11/11	11/19	11/25
Worship Leader	ML** Bishop's visit	ML	MP-Pam	ML
Altar Guild**	Pam, Becky	Pam, Becky, Tanya	Ruth, Becky	Ruth, Becky, Tanya
Lector	Debbie	Chandra	Mark	Nancy
Ushers**	Tommy, Doug	Tommy, Elizabeth	Summer, Doug	Donovans
Intercessor	Mark	Rick	Summer	Ruth
Eucharistic Minister	Barb	Pam	---	Jack
Vestry Member of the Week	Chandra	Michael	Kim	Vikki

Service Calendar, December 2012

Ministry	12/2	12/9	12/16	12/23	12/30
Worship Leader	ML	ML	ML	ML	MP
Altar Guild	Becky, Dana	JoAnne, Becky, Tanya	Ruth, Becky,	Dana, Becky	JoAnne, Becky, Tanya
Lector	Ruth	Tommy	Barb	Michael	Mark
Ushers	JoAnne, Summer	Donovans	JoAnne, Doug	Elizabeth, Tommy	Summer, Doug
Intercessor	Dana	Mark	Rick	Barb	Ruth
Chalice	Summer	Barb	Pam	Ruth	---
Vestry Member of the Week	Tanya	JoAnne	Jack	Summer	Chandra

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

Holiday Shopping Tips by Reducing and Recycling **Part One**

The holiday season with its accompanying buying, wrapping and celebrating substantially increases the amount of solid waste we generate. However, there are many opportunities for you to reduce, reuse, and recycle the remnants of holiday cheer. Listed below are some tips for reducing waste during the holiday season.

Shopping Bags

When shopping, bring your own reusable tote bag rather than accepting a separate bag for each purchase and keep your sales slip so you can verify your purchases later. Ask for the box the product came in or get a clothing box for the item instead of collecting both a box and a bag. Choose products that are minimally packaged.



Earth Friendly Gift Ideas

Give experiences, not stuff. Try gift certificates for massages, movies, dining, classes, concerts, sport events, mass transit, etc. Give of yourself. Donate blood to the Red Cross. Become a bone marrow donor. Sign an organ donor card. Donate long hair to "Locks of Love" to make wigs for children that lose their hair to cancer or disease. Give a personal service like snow shoveling, lawn mowing, babysitting, cleaning, running errands, etc. Give a gift that keeps giving. Make a donation in the name of a friend or family member to an organization that they support. Give eco-gifts like reusable tote bags, rechargeable batteries, a bike, energy or water saving devices, bird feeders, a compost bin, etc. Antique shops are great places to do holiday shopping.

Holiday Shopping Tips by Reducing and Recycling **Part Two**

Reduce, Reuse and Recycle Gift Wrap

Just add bows to holiday shopping bags or gift boxes instead of wrapping paper. Only use the amount of wrap that you need. Loop string around gift boxes, then lay it out on paper to determine how much to cut. Wrap gifts in brown paper bags or newspaper. Use the cartoon section for brighter colors. Wrap gifts in festive holiday fabric, dish towels or bandannas, which can simply be washed and reused. Give gifts in baskets, tins or jars. Shred used wrapping paper to use as filler or instead of tissue. If you buy gift wrap, look for recycled paper with the highest post-consumer content you can find.



Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Buy Recycled Greeting Cards

Buy holiday greeting cards made from recycled paper or make your own. Use postcards to eliminate envelopes and excess paper. You can also try sending electronic greeting cards to reduce paper waste. Clip holiday cards to make gift tags for next year and jot down your favorite recipe on the back to include with the gift.

Recycle Cardboard and Boxes

The holiday season creates a tremendous amount of cardboard waste. Be sure to separate corrugated cardboard, bundle it and recycle it.

By the Green Church Team

*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" gold 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:

Quantity:

Red	_____	X \$9.50 =	\$	_____
White	_____	X \$9.50 =	\$	_____
Pink	_____	X \$9.50 =	\$	_____
Marble	_____	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 7, 2012.** If you have questions, please contact Chandra Hightower at 937.376.3990 or via e-mail cclns793@gmail.com.

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Received: \$_____ Cash / Check #_____ Date: _____/2012



Thanks to a
Great Team!

Our Spaghetti Fundraiser
was a
huge success, and it
couldn't
have happened without
every one of you!



“I will praise the name
of God with a song;
I will magnify him
with thanksgiving.”

Psalm 69:30, NRSV

Anita and Michael Dohn, Missionaries in Health Ministries

October 2012 Mission E-mail [No. 98] (345 Words)

Missionary Report

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.

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Weight loss

She said that she felt fine during her routine follow-up visit. However, she had lost 20 pounds since last seen two months ago.

Carmen is an AIDS patient on treatment for several years and had been doing very well. But her rapid weight loss concerned me. Did she now have a resistant form of HIV? Had she abandoned her treatment?

And of course there are the non-HIV things here: parasites, intestinal infections, tropical sprue, or some other tropical disease. Not to mention new onset diabetes or cancer...

Part of what I enjoy in medicine is thinking through all the possibilities, prioritizing them on likelihood and severity, and then planning an evaluation that yields a correct diagnosis at a minimal cost and in a timely way.

Here in the Dominican Republic, it is frequently only a mental exercise, though. Some tests or studies are simply not available. If available, our patients mostly can't afford them. There are delays. Finally, it is uncertain whether I can treat what I diagnose – the patient may not be able to afford therapy.

I asked Carmen why she thought she had lost weight. She looked down at the floor and mumbled that no one was employed in her household, there was no food, and there was no money for transportation. She was walking everywhere looking for a job (had walked several miles for this appointment). Fewer calories and more exercise – I had the cause of the weight loss. The solution – eat more – was simple, but not possible for Carmen.

An important topic internationally is the social determinants of health – food, transportation, education, environment, etc. Although sometimes I feel like I have to practice “simplified” medicine using just my stethoscope and my brain, at other times I feel as though the complexity of the patients’ “social determinants” have put me in way over my head.

Health promotion includes attention to social conditions, social relationships, and spirituality. May the Lord grant the global society wisdom to advance in ways that will promote physical, mental, spiritual, and economic well-being.

Keep praying, Anita



Something to Think About



Hmmm.....

Here I am, actually thinking about “percentage giving”. How do I figure this out?

Well, let’s see. I make \$36,000 a year, or \$3,000/month.

If I go out to dinner with my family three times a month, that costs \$60 each time - \$180/month to eat out.

That’s 6% of my income to eat out three times a month.

I give \$25/month to my church. That’s about 8/10 of 1% of my income.

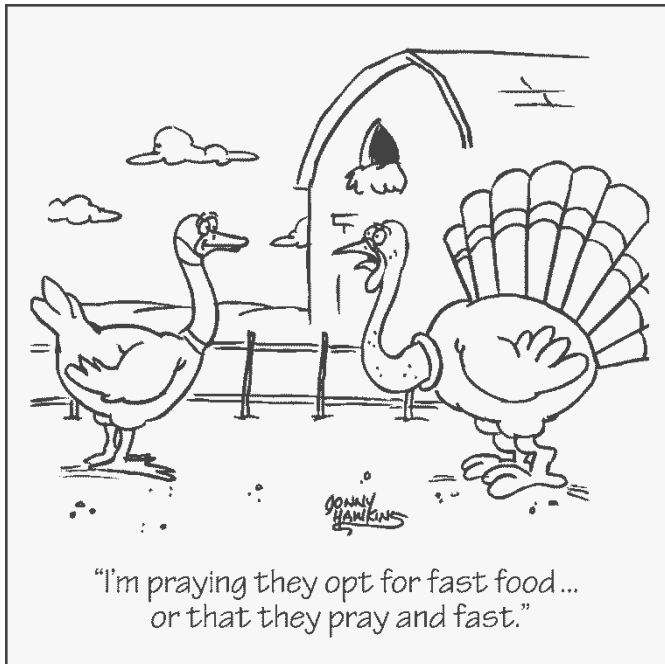
What percentage is God calling me to give joyfully to the work of Christ Church? Does that mean I never eat out? Does that mean maybe I do less of one thing and more of another?

What does God mean for me to do???

Maybe I should ask God...



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



From Newsletternewsletter.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 November 25th.** Submit information by hand to Tanya or by emailing it to cecxtanya@gmail.com.