

<u>christepiscopalxenia@gmail.com</u> 63 East Church Street, Xenia Ohio 45385 www.christepiscopalxenia.weebly.com August 2013 Volume 4, Issue 8



Dear Friends,

It's been quite a summer so far. Pete and I usually have company two or three times a year, and are pretty quiet the rest of the time. This year we've had almost non-stop houseguests since early June, including at one point all three adult children and assorted spouses and three grandchildren, ages 7, 4 and 1—not to mention 5 dogs and 2 cats! Last week we had our beloved Finn (German Shepherd, ours for 14 years) gently "put to sleep" – what a sad and terrifying euphemism! and have helped our oldest son move his household and family to a wonderful new home and life in North Carolina.

I have rarely been so aware of my need for quiet time with God.

In the midst of those we love best; in the midst of grieving a well-loved animal; in the midst of celebrating joyful new opportunities, and in the midst of all the usual busyness of a busy life – we need our quiet times to connect with God.

I know – I have just moved from the personal to the general—and quite deliberately. Just as we need time to ponder our own thoughts and time to re-create and time to rest – we need quiet time with God. Betsy recently preached about prayer on a Sunday morning, and I was reminded of a definition of prayer learned as a child: "...the lifting up of our minds and hearts to God."

As full as our time is, it is so necessary to set a time and space aside to lift our minds and hearts to God: to speak and weep, to rejoice and give thanks, and to listen, listen, listen....

Quiet time with God – every day – is water and air and sustenance for our souls, and fills our hungry hearts. God's peace be with you today and always –

Mtr. Lynn+



Warden's Words

I trust we have all weathered July's hot weather in good fashion--fortunately the church A/C has served us well so far this summer. Many of us enjoyed Larry and Maxine Thomas' fine hospitality at our parish picnic: they even arranged for a welcome break in the heat and got the fish to cooperate! Kudos to all who brought food and special thanks to Cheryl Eskridge and the Feinours for their help.

Many of us have noted that the organ has been sounding somewhat asthmatic and a bit cranky lately despite Roxanne's stellar efforts. We have been able to find funds for a major overhaul which ought to give it several years more of service and make Roxanne's life easier. So stay tuned for a more tuneful musical experience!

Christ Church has been included in the newly formed Xenia Downtown Historic District and as such can apply for matching capital improvement grants should any become available in the future. Nothing is firm at this point, but we have indicated a possible interest (no commitment) in participating in any grant program should one arise. Don't look for the money to roll in, but as John Milton once wrote, 'They also serve who only stand and wait.'

I hope by now we all have scheduled ourselves for photos on August 7th for the new parish directory. Also, we are housing and feeding a group of bikers Friday night and Saturday morning August 9th and 10th. We already have volunteers to set up beds and prepare dinner and breakfast as well as to serve lunch on the 17th to another biker group.

Yours in Christ.

Jack Kitch

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REMINDER: August 7, Church Photo for the Directory 2013 **2 PM** to 9 PM

Bible Quiz

Who were the craftsmen appointed by the Lord to design the Tent of Meeting and its furnishings while Israel was still in the wilderness before entering the Promised Land?

A. Moses and Joshua B. Bezalel and Oholiab C. Judah and Reuben D. David and Jonathan

Answer: B (See Exodus 31:1-11.)

"A powerful leader adorns his followers." African Proverb

Share One -to -One Closet

The Clothes Closet is still very active with clients and donations.

We had a very young man come to us and ask politely if we could help him find a pair of dress pants. One of the volunteers not only found him pants but also a white dress shirt and tie. He was thrilled. When asked by another volunteer why he wanted dress pants, shirt and tie he answered, "For church". This young man is one of six or seven children being raised by a single father.

That same day we had a lady seeking employment. She had a job interview the next day. She needed clothes for the interview. Hopefully, she will return for clothes to wear to work.

Those are only two examples of our clients at the clothes closet.

One of our parishioners brought us lovely children's clothes, toys and adult clothes. The toys were gone before she was out of the driveway, I think. We have been having more children than usual, especially very young children, visit us the past few weeks.

We are averaging 54 actual people per week. Those 54 also take clothing items for others totaling 1810 people from April 9, 2013 through July 16, 2013. That's 120 men, women and children per week on average receiving free clothing from the Clothes Closet. Many leave with large trash bags full of clothing.

Thanks to Bradley Alexander for all his help at the clothes closet and to Becky Gentry for receiving donations throughout the week. Thanks to IHN for donating their excess items they receive and don't have room to store.

Submitted by JoAnne Earley, Christ Church representative



Stewardship Should Begin with Prayer By Becky Gentry

We seem to have so many obligations in our lives: family, community, our everyday needs like food or clothing, loans to pay, mortgages or rent to struggle with, gasoline prices on a yoyo syndrome - Let's face it, it might be easy to forget our obligation to our church. Yet once each Fall, the Church Stewardship Program gets underway and we are reminded that

we have to stop and think about giving, tithing, or however we plan to contribute. We think about our pledges, send them in, wait for the Stewardship meeting and dinner, and it's all over for another year. But stewardship should be constantly in our thoughts, not just for a few weeks each Fall.

Stewardship is a spiritual issue, not a money issue. With our pledges from last year, think of all the good Christ Church has done for the community in Greene County, Xenia, and our surrounding neighborhoods. We have a shelter for the homeless during the winter months; we have a Clothes Closet giving away free clothing to those who are in need. The Discretionary Fund has often been used to buy groceries, and help with rent and utilities. The church gives to several local charities – the Food Bank, The Red Cross, United Way, and some for other countries like Heifer International – all for the purpose of helping those in need.

From Judith, Chapter 9: "Our God is the God of the lowly, helper of the oppressed, upholder of the weak, protector of the forsaken, savior of those without hope." Our stewardship helps us to help God's people.

The duty of all Christians is to follow Christ: To come together week by week for worship; and to Work, Pray, Give for the spread of the Kingdom of God. (BCP p. 856)

Jesus is forever knocking, inviting us into a deeper relationship. When considering your pledge to the church, whether it is monetary or talent, begin with Prayer!!!

Notice from the Green Team: Buy Local, Fresh Produce



The "Green Team" encourages you to purchase your fresh produce from "*Market*" local farmer's markets. There is the Xenia Towne Square Farmers' Market, Tuesday from 2 pm to 6 pm in the K-Mart parking lot from June to October, the Yellow Springs Market on Saturday mornings in Kings Yard in Yellow Springs from May to October, and the Fairborn Farmer's Market at Main Street and Grand from April to November. **Important Notice of Thanks**

Dear Christ Church -

The Evangelism team wanted to thank you for your support of the Summer Camp for kids. Though we didn't have many kids, you supported this effort by donating food, your time and talents. As a pilot program, we knew getting the kids there would be a challenge. We will review our efforts and make improvements/adjustments for next time.

But what is terrific is that the "heart" was willing. And the "heart" is you!



Thanks again for your support!

Dates	to	Remembe	r
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August 7 th 2-9PM	-	Photo-shoot for the directory	
August 9-10 th	-	ECF Bike Fest stops by CECX	
August 17 th	-	ECF Bike Fest picnic and shelter tour	
September 7 th 9:30-noon	-	Altar Guild Training	
September 22 nd (11:30am)	-	Eucharistic Minister training	
September 28 th	-	Tanya's Alzheimer's walk	
Each Tuesday this summer	-	Summer Church Camp	
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All Spring and Summer	-	Farmer's Market in various locations	

TAKE NOTE Of WHAT IS Happening!

Announcements

Altar Flowers: If you would like to donate flowers for the altar, either in memory of or in honor of a loved one, just sign up on the Flower Chart on the Parish Hall bulletin board. Send the check into the office with 'Altar Flowers' on the memo line - or see Pam Feinour or Doug Pultz. (Cost is \$20)

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

Recycling: Reminder to all, we are recycling. 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.

CECX Grounds Care: We're looking for a few more people to help with care of the grounds and gardens this Summer at Christ Church. You need only be able to help. Instruction provided. Please contact Nancy Nickell or Doug Pultz for details

Hospice of the Miami Valley needs reliable <u>volunteers</u> for general office filing. No computers. Free training/orientation. See flier on the Parish bulletin board or in the front pew.

Wish List: We are looking into the possibility of obtaining a 7-person van for Church use.

Women's Recovery Center is hosting a dinner, August 10, for all support/sponsers and recovery community. Adults: \$6, Kids: \$2.50. See flier on the Parish bulletin board or in the front pew.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 02 Larry Thomas
- 06 Jackson Davis
- 09 Beverly Krouskop
- 10 Elaina Walker
- 12 Kathleen Taylor
- 14 Nerak Patterson
- 16 Mark Cummings
- 23 Violetta Thomas

AUGUST Anniversaries

- 04 Angie & Ed Lowe
- 08 Maxine & Larry Thomas

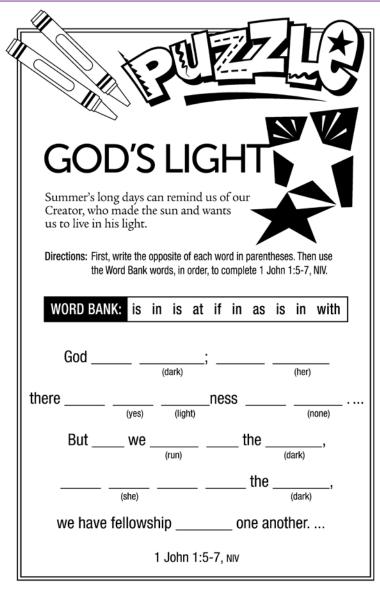
If we have missed your birthday, please let us know.

Check out our Church website: www.christepiscopalxenia.weebly.co

m Parish Office email address: christepiscopalxenia@gmail.com



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!)





Sometimes we resist the light of Christ. But when his light touches us, we can then share it with others. Play this fun game on a summer night to remember how Christ's light shines in the world.

What you need:

- Friends
- Safe open space outdoors
- A flashlight for each player

How to play:

- Choose one person to be the Tagger, known as the Light. Only that person can have his or her flashlight on.
- The Light tries to shine his or her flashlight on other players, who run around and try to hide in the darkness.
- 3. Once players have been touched by the Light, they turn on their flashlights and join in, trying to shine on others.
- Play until everyone has been tagged by the Light. Repeat, giving everyone a turn to be the Light.

Answer: God is light, in him there is no darkness at all But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another.

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Christ Episcopal Church, Xenia Service Calendar, August 2013								
Ministry	8/4	8/11	8/18	8/25				
Worship Leader	ML	ML	ML	MP-Pam				
Altar Guild Dana, Tanya		Pam, Becky	Ruth, Becky	JoAnne, Tanya				
		Ruth	Mark	Barbara				
Ushers	JoAnne, Doug	Elizabeth, Tommy	Donovans	Rick, JoAnne				
Intercessor Dana Chalice Ruth		Rick	Barbara	Ruth				
		Barbara	Pam					
Vestry Member of the Week	Kim	JoAnne	Barbara	Tanya				

Service Calendar, September 2013

Ministry 9/1		9/8	9/15	9/22	9/29
Worship Leader	МР	ML	ML	ML	МР
Altar Guild Dana, Becky		Pam, Tanya	Ruth, Becky	JoAnne, Becky	Dana, Tanya
Lector	Chandra	Nancy	Dana	Pete	Debbie
Ushers	JoAnne, Doug	Elizabeth, Tommy	Donovans	Rick, JoAnne	Tommy, Rick
Intercessor	Rick	Mark	Doug	Dana	Barb
Chalice		Pam	Barb	Debbie	
Vestry Member of the Week	Dana	Mark	Larry	Kim	Chandra

If you can't be there for your assigned position, please find a replacement and let Becky know of the change.

[This is] an American Indian story told to me by a friend as he handed me a stone polished by cold icy waters and fast moving powers. I held it tightly cupped in my palm as he told me where it came from and why it was "my stone."

"Some of us Native Americans believe that God loves stones. After all, our Mother the earth is one round stone. Even our small continent, Turtle Island, is hard and grooved like stones weathered and beaten and used to traffic. We sit on Turtle's back and dwell here solidly. Our ancestors tell the story that God started creation out with one large block of stone and he worked on it night and day, chipping and chiseling away—and buried in one of the many stones he worked on was hidden the form of a human, a two-legged. He honed and struck at the block of stone, and chips went flying all over the face of the earth. He was so intent on creating and setting loose the figure of this man/woman that he worked furiously, with small stones and even rocks scattered all over earth.

When he was finished, he was very pleased and leaned close to the stone, breathing on it and breathing his own Spirit into it. And so humans were created by the power and intimacy of God.

"We are people of stones. We live on Mother the Earth and pieces of us are scattered all over the earth, small slivers, round, hard, weathered stones; in mountain streams, river beds, on the sides of mountains. Pieces of our spirit hewn away while God was making us are hidden here. It is our duty to find them—these cast off pieces of our spirits—and to gather and collect them and to make out of them something whole, something beautiful. As we walk the blessing ways we are to be attentive, to look and to find these leftovers that are scattered about. And when we find them all, then it is time for us to be buried in the mountains, to return to the stone of Mother the Earth."

With the story's ending, he handed me a green stone the color of the depths of the sea, cast up from the ocean on an Oregon coast. "Take it, keep it, treasure it as a piece of your spirit that has been missing, that teaches you your connection to all the earth. And from now on, be awake, be careful of everything, even stones, for they are living stones. Our lives are inter-connected and bound together and we must live with tender regard for each piece and small thing for in it is someone's spirit."

—Megan McKenna at spiritualitytoday.org.

Anita and Michael Dohn E-mail: DohnFamily@SAMS-USA.org Tel: <u>+1 809 246-1718</u> or <u>809 357-5155</u> San Pedro de Macorís, Rep. Dom.

Missionary Report

Horizontal and Vertical Integration

Vertical and horizontal integration of services here is not always perfect. For example, the HIV Unit at the public health hospital used to refer AIDS patients with suspected tuberculosis to us at the Clinic to make the referral to the Tuberculosis Control Unit at the same hospital. For whatever reasons, the integration of services within the hospital was not working.

The integration of services is can be particularly important in domestic violence ministry. The "victims' unit" here has counselors & case workers. Those personnel coordinate with the police, health services, legal services, social services, and the courts. They all work together as a team. There is a system. Well, at least that is the idea.

An experience in one rural community runs something like this: A woman had a baby about nine months after her husband was sent to prison. Sometime after he was released from jail and moved back home, he found out that the baby was probably not his. He began abusing his wife and threatening to kill the baby as well as the other man. The baby was secreted at a neighbor's home until a move to a relative's house was arranged. The husband moved out, but returned frequently to beat-up his wife and make threats. He was a dangerous guy by all accounts and the neighbors faced similar threats when they tried to get involved.

Neighbors called the police. When the policemen came, the mother hid and would not meet with them. The neighborhood had expected that the police would call the victim's unit to send more appropriate personnel: women, not in uniform, sensitive counselors, and skilled at finding alternatives in these situations. As of this point, no one from the victim's unit has appeared.

As we accompany communities in developing their local plans to respond to violence in their midst, our hope was that a single call from the community would activate the whole victims' system. That hope has yet to be realized.

Meanwhile, the community is deciding who should call the victims' unit. They are also praying for God's presence in the situation – the ultimate vertical integration.

Keep praying, Anita & Michael

Dearest Friends: (From David and Sarah Kitch)

Whoosh! Don't look now – it's another of our VERY irregular news updates! Here we are – already moving into on the back half of 2013. Egads!

As we more deeply into this stage in our lives, we are constantly encouraged and enlightened by our connection with all of you. It is a present reminder of God's goodness throughout our own story – told in linked lives and intertwined memories. Thank you.

And thank you all for your continuing involvement and support of us and our vocations.

It has been a summer rich in family and friends and hospitality! The deck has been getting a good work out. We have had Schy Gleason (a former Covenant Player and friend of 30+ years) living with us since March. Schy is a video editor who lives in Seattle, but has had work down here. It has been a blessing to have him with us. He has had to move to the couch regularly, as various other friends have come through. Covenant Players is celebrating its 50th anniversary and many people have been in the area for that. We had some 45 folks over for an open house a couple of weeks ago, which was true grace. We were blessed to catch up with people from Europe, South Africa and Australia. In fact, Schy is on the couch as I write since Carl & Chris, a couple from Norway who we worked with in the 80's, are with us for a few days. Early next month our youngest goddaughter will be here for a week to celebrate her 21st.

As you all know, we have always believed that the house is meant to be used. In addition to St.Brigid's Cross on the door, we still have the plaque made for us by Nels Marshall when we first moved in and blessed the space 27 years ago, which reads: "SHALOM – Welcome to this Place – Please, this is a home and you are <u>family</u> – may you enjoy it as such. It is the Lord's place and as caretakers, we ask only that you honor the Owner in your use of it. May God's Peace go with you when you depart."

Many of you who are receiving this have taught us hospitality by your own actions. Thank you. We also made a trip back to Ohio to spend time with David's parents as we walk the journey of aging together.

OK – the summary...

Sarah continues her four jobs (smile). She is working as Chaplain and values teacher at St. Patrick's Day School. This past year she added an after-school program to her repertoire – one term it was puppets and the next a musical version of Jungle Book. She has been requested to do it again this coming year. She also serves as family support and chaplain for a local hospice organization, which she continues to grow into. Sarah often says that the combination of ministering with children and the dying makes for a particular dynamic of grace. She also very much enjoys her work as a spiritual director, and she remains as non-salaried staff at St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church, where she is involved in worship and pastoral care. After many hurdles (smile), the church has started a monthly alternative service on the patio which she has been very involved in – and it is off to a very fine start.

After spending much time and effort discerning God's voice in the matter, Sarah has also begun the process of exploring becoming an Episcopal priest. This is the culmination of quite a journey, which we won't detail here. The process is going to be quite challenging, as the official system here is opposed to a vocational deacon (which is what Sarah currently is) becoming a priest. While there is good support and encouragement from many quarters, this does not include officialdom. There are quite a few obstacles. Another stage on the adventure with God (smile).

And David is still a graduate student at Claremont School of Theology and the Episcopal Theological School Claremont. He serves as A#1 Houseboy in support of Sarah and does informal handyman work on the side.

School kicks up for David significantly this Fall. As we mentioned in an earlier note, David is the final student in the particular MDiv program he is in, and so there is a lot of juggling going on as things sort out. For the previous two years all his actual classes have been on the weekends. This Fall he will still have the weekend classes, and he will also need to travel out to Claremont every week for two weekday classes. At the moment, he will have a total of 5 classes this Fall – as well as starting his field education assignment. He is a bit daunted by this. He did manage 4 classes last Fall and felt it was packed with no field ed

assignment. So we shall see, as they say. Hopefully this will be the only semester he needs to do this.

In addition to increased tuition costs, this brings up the need for a "new" car for David. The Jeep we have been blessed with for local transport is not going to be up to the commute. We have been blessed with some money and are actively praying and looking for an economical and reliable option. We would covet your prayers over all of that!

This new schedule will mean some significant changes in our life patterns, which we are doing our best to plan for. Part of that is rearranging things here at the house. For those of you who know the house, we are changing around the guest room and the study. Both Sarah and David need "home office" space, and we need to keep a truly functional guest room, and this will provide both.

Top of the list for this school year for David is that he will be doing his field education at St. Martin's School, a small K-8 school located in the West San Fernando Valley (blessedly close to our house). He will serving there for the 2013-2014 school year (Sep-June), supporting the chapel and religious education program, including their character/values curriculum. The school serves a lower-income multi-cultural community and they lack the funds to provide staffing and programming in these areas, and have long been seeking a way to address this need. His supervisor will be the director of Education for the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles and he will be hands-on in the school 8-10 hours a week.

We had been very much praying that God would provide a place where David could truly serve as he learned in this program. As you all know, we see this stage in our lives to be fully about our vocation to mission. While an assignment at a "marginal" school like this is not a typical assignment for an MDiv field ed, we feel very strongly this is God's placement.

Generally in a field ed assignment the organization provides a stipend of \$100 a week. However, St. Martin's is not in a position to do this. Since we feel strongly this was where David is meant to be, and see it as a mission like any other we have done, we are looking to raise the support to help cover David's expenses and provide some support for materials.

If you feel to contribute to this, you may make a single or continuing donation to St. Martin's in support of the chapel intern program. The school will receipt the donation and the funds will go for David's expenses. You can make checks out to the school and mail them direct, or mail then to us here and we'll take them in. You will find the information at the end of this email. If the receipt is not necessary and/or you would prefer, you can make the checks out to us and send them here, which we will acknowledge and commit to our mission fund.

If you have any questions – as always – please ask. If you feel led to contribute to another need or in some other way, just drop a note and we'll sort it.

Of course, we are looking toward how God is going to knit this all together so that we are both serving together again. That is the future we are living into – while staying fully present to the NOW (which is how one lives into the future – smile).

Whoosh! OK then! That is waaaay more than enough I expect.

Please keep in touch as you are able and let us know if there are specific ways we can hold you in prayer. And, as always, if you want to stop getting these missives, just let us know. No one needs more stuff they don't have time for in their inbox (smile).

Much love and grace to you all! Do a little happy dance in honor of us all!!!

- Sarah & David

Info:

St. Martin's Episcopal School 7136 Winnetka Ave. Winnetka, CA 91306 <u>818-340-5144</u>

Bike to boost your neighbors out of poverty! ECSF's BikeFest offers four glorious rides in August - a perfect way for you to love your neighbor by raising funds for grants to ministries like IHNs in Xenia, Springfield and Cincinnati, Partners in Hope in Troy, the Dayton Episcopal Pantry and CityHeart in Dayton, St. James' Pantry in Piqua, and other vital ministries throughout Southern Ohio. Did you know that ECSF has provided \$1.127 million in community ministry grants since 2005, all of this from freewill donations? \$258,030 of that has gone to ministries in the Miami

Valley. You can ride or sponsor a rider - encourage your priest or deacon to sign up! Here are the options, **including ECSF's first-ever rides in Dayton!**

Aug. 9-10: Terrace Park to Xenia round trip on Little Miami Trail, with free overnight lodging at Christ Church, Xenia and visit to IHN Xenia Aug. 10: Little Miami Bike Trail morning ride, your choice of distance, with picnic lunch on Terrace Park Green

Aug. 17: Dayton Five Rivers Adventure, 7 miles on beautiful forest trails with picnic at Wegerzyn Botanical garden and space movie at Boonshoft Museum of Discovery



Aug. 17; Dayton-Xenia round trip on Creekside trail, with picnic and shelter tours in Xenia All rides are \$25 for adults, \$10 for children under 18, \$50 max per family. Please sign up at www.ECSFsouthernohio before Aug. 1 to make sure we have a t-shirt in your size. There's a colorful pdf describing each ride which you can download and email to family and friends. Once on ECSF's website, visit the Awarding Grants link to see if your church has a grant this year. Read about grantee impact at our Successes link.



Tanya Ellenburg-Kimmet will be walking in the Walk to End Alzheimer's on the morning of Saturday, September 28, this time in memory of her mother. If anyone is interested in donating to the cause, walking with her, or sponsoring her on this walk, please contact her through email at cecxtanya@gmail.com, call her at 937-902-1366, or donate online to the organization at www.alz.org or to the walk at http://tinyurl.com/n78mco8

Where does the Money go?

The Alzheimer's Association is the largest nonprofit voluntary health organization dedicated to accelerating the progress in prevention, cure and living with Alzheimer's disease.

A donor-supported organization, the Alzheimer's Association allocates its funds in an



ethical and responsible manner that exceeds the rigorous standards of America's most experienced charity evaluator, the Better Business Bureau Wise Giving Alliance. Learn more about our mission-related activities or contact your local chapter for information about programs and services in your community. Click here to learn more about our fundraising standards.



The Chancel Choir is looking for singers! Even if you feel you do not sing "well", but enjoy making a joyful noise to the Lord, we will welcome you with open arms. Rehearsals are from 7:00 to 8:00 pm on Wednesdays at the church and we sing about once a month during Sunday Service. Come join this fun group of people as we sing God's Praises!



From Newsletternewsletter.com





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 <u>cecxtanya@gmail.com</u> Make sure any spam filters allow email from <u>cecxlist@googlegroups.com</u> and <u>cecxtanya@gmail.com</u>

Submissions:

Anyone who wishes to submit information or creativity (links of information, upcoming events, shoutouts of recognition) for the Trumpet should do so ASAP. **Deadline for submissions is August 25th.** Submit information by hand to Tanya or by emailing it to <u>cecxtanya@gmail.com</u>.

