



Upcoming Events:

- Holy Eucharist
December 6
- Holy Eucharist
December 13
- Vestry Meeting
December 13
- Heart & Hands -
Dec 19, 1-3
- Holy Eucharist
December 20
- Carols, Decem-
ber 24, 6:30 pm
(before service)
- Holy Eucharist
Christmas Eve
- Lessons & Carols
December 27
- New Years Eve
December 31
- Heart & Hands,
Jan 2, 1-3 pm
- Worship Team
meeting,
Jan 9, 1-3 pm
- Stewardship meet-
ing, Jan 16, 10-12 pm
- Heart & Hands,
Jan 16, 1-3 pm
- Morning Prayer
services, Jan 24

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PRIEST'S PAGE

Dear Friends,

In December we move from our Advent preparation for the coming of Christ to our celebration of his arrival. In the readings of the Eucharist, in the Nativity scenes we will see all around us, and most importantly, in our hearts, we celebrate once again his birth, his presence among us. But the most significant way we can know the presence of Jesus is within our own spirits. This Christmas the invitation we might extend to Jesus is the invitation to be born anew in our hearts and lives. We might offer the utter and complete hospitality of our lives to God. We might extend an open-door welcome to the power and significance of God's transforming presence in our lives and in our world.

Mary and Joseph wandered homeless into Bethlehem, and were turned away at every door, until someone offered them the most humble of all imaginable dwellings – a stable. Whatever space we offer God will accept. But we should understand this: God has a way of stretching the places we offer, and establishing a foothold in our lives that we could not have imagined.

In her poem "In Search of our

Kneeling Places", Ann Weems writes this:

In each heart lies a Bethlehem,
an inn where we must ultimately answer
whether there is room or not.

This is a time of year we expect to be joyful. If the Bethlehem inn in each of our hearts makes room for the Christ, we will know a joy that eclipses anything we have known before. Somehow, I pray, we will find the space and the time each day to sit at the doorway of the inn and wait to welcome the Christ of Christmas who loves us beyond imagining.

Blessings on you all, and peace!

ML+





Next Vestry Meeting is January 10th

- Maxine made a motion to use the design for the t-shirt. Dana seconded; Motion passed with 7 for, 1 against, and no abstentions.
- We discussed the meeting with Bishop Breidenthal.
- Vestry Elections 2016 discussion: Retiring from Vestry: Dana Rhyne, Bradley Alexander, and Carol Conway (Barbara, whose Vestry term ends this year, stepped into Lee Silverstrim's position when he retired. She has another year to go to fulfill Lee's position. Bradley stepped up to fill the remaining year of Barbara's position.)
- Parking lot discussion: discussion tabled until December; submit a application to the Diocese for foundation grant for parking lot funding
- Bylaws: Barbara and Dana will review and prepare for vote at Annual Meeting in February
- Discernment regarding Shelter future: Received \$2000 in donation for the shelter. Biggest concern is recruitment of volunteers. 36 beds were donated. Xenia area churches are going to pay the bills for the inspection repairs for the Shelter.



"The Vestry"

What is it?

A ministry of serving the church

A call to leadership, even if you've never served in that capacity before

An opportunity to learn how the church "works"

Relationships with others who love CECX

An overnight retreat each year

Prayer and consultation; cooperation and decision-making and.....

Something everyone should do - at least once in a lifetime!

Talk with a Vestry person and get the perspective of a parishioner who really knows

WARDEN'S WORDS by Dana Rhyne, Senior Warden

Here we are in Advent again. It's a season of preparation – the long awaited Messiah is coming! In the non-church world everyone is excitedly preparing for Christmas – buying gifts, preparing menus, making travel plans. But we in the church need to take a step back and withdraw from all of the excitement, so that we can prepare our hearts for the birth of God's son. Christians like to talk about the Reason for the Season. I challenge you this season to take at least a little time each week to prepare your heart. God is sending us a gift – are we ready?



The wonder of Christmas

At Christmas, shivers in the spine have nothing to do with climate. Songs are sung not with the lips but with the heart. And light comes not from utilities but from the heavens.

—Author unknown



TESTING OUR LEADERSHIP

Are you in leadership? Are you a central figure in a ministry? One way to be certain that we're doing what we do for God, and not for ourselves, is to ask ourselves this question: If I woke up tomorrow on a desert island, without my phone, my computer or any other way to communicate, would my ministry continue with little or no interruption?or would it fall apart because I'm not there? If it would simply go on as usual, then I really have been working for God and for the ministry. If it falls apart, then it's really been about me all along.

Good leaders follow Jesus' example. They delegate, share authority, nurture, support, teach and develop new leaders, to the glory of God.



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

04

Heidi Huddleson

07

Nigel Gunn

Lillian Hudson

08

Bradley Alexander

19

Nancy Nickell

20

Patricia Renick

24

Jim Thomas

27

Kim Bayless

Brock Eskridge



115

Dana & Mike Rhyne

19

Pete & Lynn Sinnott

WHO IS "THE SHELTER"?

We have had a great deal of help from our local community to get our building in order, safe, and up to code.

But you truly bear the weight of this ministry. It's your building - your church home - that you are opening to brothers and sisters who would be sleeping under bridges, in laundromats and in abandoned buildings if you were unwilling to do this.

You have given shelter to military veterans so damaged and wounded they cannot accept any other help; to abused mothers and children; to people living under addictions to alcohol and drugs. As well, many, many of our guests are economic casualties. They are people with jobs, who still, while in the shelter, manage to get to work every day. They just don't make enough to afford four walls and a roof. They are people who had homes and jobs and families, and lost it all when the jobs disappeared. It's frightening to think about how many people out there are a paycheck or two away from homelessness. The greatest long-term need is for education and jobs, but the immediate need is safety, food and help.

We insist that our guests register with all the local social agencies, and that they begin to work on the things that will help them to get

housing and whatever else they need to get their lives in order. We get them birth certificates and other ID, without which they cannot enter any of the systems available. I wish we could offer jobs and tutoring, but so far have been unable to do that. There are now Episcopal and other agencies funding small businesses and other job opportunities. We need more of that kind of thing. You are the foundation for everything we do. You are the only chance these people have. Christ Church houses the only shelter in Greene County for single people - and because the need is so overwhelming, the family shelters often send us families for whom they have no space.

You are the room in the inn, a joy to our God - and I pray God's blessings on each and every one of you!
With thanks, ML+



NEWS FROM THE MINISTRIES

Stewardship
Giving Thanks - Taking Care



STEWARDSHIP by Debbie Gillespie

Christ has come to set us free! His redemptive plan is about to unfold! During this Advent season we are reminded with gratitude of the early anticipation of our Lord's humanity, humility, and obedience to his father's redemptive plan for mankind—a redemptive plan designed for you and me. We are reminded of our individual and collective blessings of grace as we share in God's redemptive plan provided through the gift of baby Jesus. In this season, we are compelled to set times and priorities in order, so that we may renew our adoration and search for His ever bountiful goodness.

Each of us must bring our own resources, gifts, and talents to Jesus and offer them with the simple trust of a child. Simple trust and obedience are foundational to our relationship and walk. The childhood song that says, "Trust and obey for there is no other way—to be happy in Jesus, is to trust and obey" captures the essence of the hope in the redemptive plan as it unfolds in day-to-day life.

During this season, as we ponder his love and develop in faith and relationship, it is hopeful that our sense of purpose will inevitably grow as we become anchors and safe harbor for those in need. Through these relationships of support, love, and yes, trial; it is hopeful that we each continue to develop into his image or as scripture says until Christ is formed in you (Gal 4:19b). In discovering our own individual imperfections and needs, we come to realize our ultimate reliance on Him. Yes, with great expectation we see God's small gift grow and develop in us as it is written—Christ in you the hope of glory (Col 1:27b).

Please

remember to sign up for providing a meal or helping staff the Homeless Shelter. See Mark Cummings for questions or visit our website: www.christ-episcopal-xenia.org and see the ad on that page about how you can help or email cecxtanya@gmail.com

We currently need meals for the following dates through January: 12/11, 12/12, 12/18, 12/19, 12/25, 1/1, 1/2, 1/8, 1/9, 1/15, 1/16, 1/22, 1/23, 1/29, and 1/30

If you don't want to aim for a particular date, drop a meal off in the freezer and let Mark Cummings or Tanya Kimmet know.



ONE TO ONE CLOTHES CLOSET

is especially in need of hangers, toiletries, sanitary products, and undergarments.



Clothing Closet

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!)

STAR OF BETHLEHEM

Make a mobile to remind you of Jesus' birth.

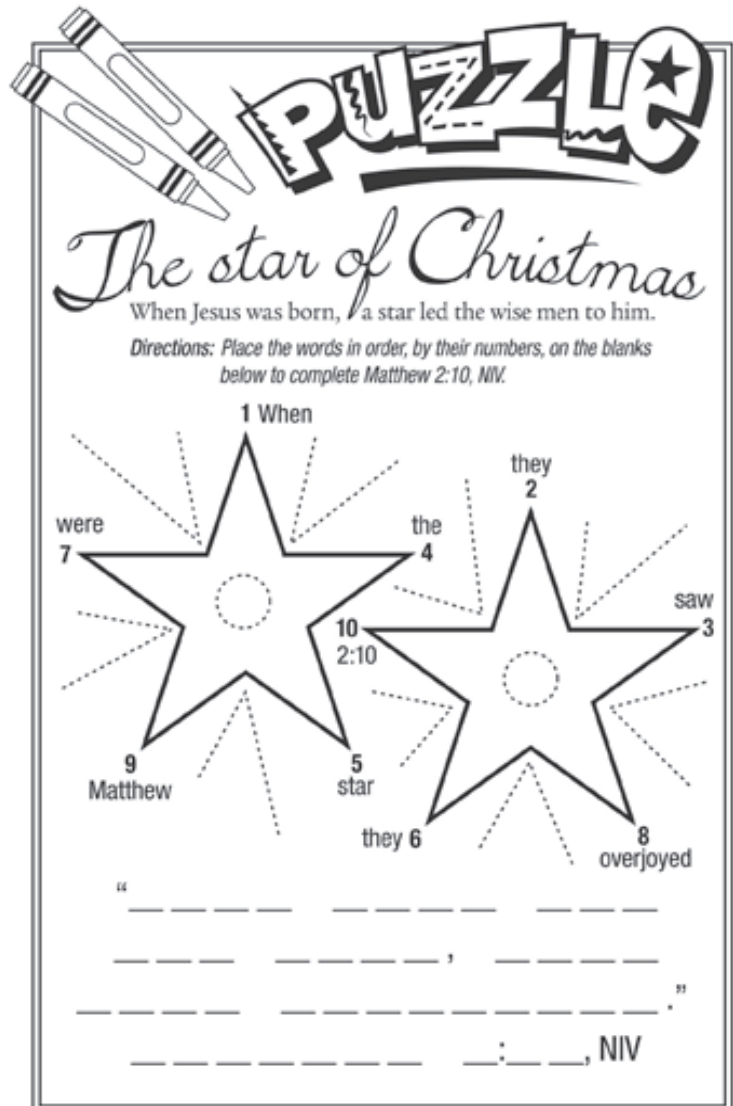
What you need:

- Paper plate
- Hole punch
- Thin blue ribbon
- Scissors
- Pencil
- Yellow craft foam
- Marker



What you do:

1. With the paper plate upside down, punch evenly spaced holes along the rim. Gently fold the plate and punch a hole in the center.
2. Cut pieces of ribbon, thread them through the holes as desired and tie the ribbons securely.
3. Trace several small stars and one larger star on the foam and cut them out. Punch a hole atop a point of each star.
4. Tie one small star to each outer-rim ribbon.
5. Thread a longer ribbon through the center hole and tie the large star to the other end.
6. Write a verse on the plate or large star. Hang the mobile from the ceiling with another piece of blue ribbon.



Answer: "When they saw the star, they were overjoyed." Matthew 2:10, NIV

BIBLE QUIZ

What's the name of the angel who told Mary she would give birth to God's Son?

- Gabriel
- Raphael
- Michael
- Jonathan

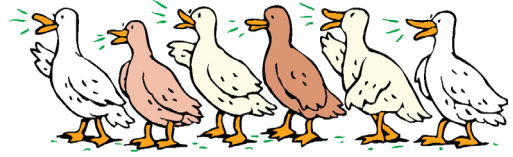
Answer: A (See Luke 1:26ff)



From Newsletternewsletter.com

MEETINGS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Heart & Hands - Dec 19, 1-3
Carols, December 24, 6 pm (before service)
Christmas Eve service, December 24, 6:30 pm
Lessons & Carols, December 27, 9:30
Heart & Hands, Jan 2, 1-3 pm
Worship Team meeting, January 9, 1-3 pm
Stewardship meeting, January 16, 10-12 pm
Heart & Hands, Jan 16, 1-3 pm
Morning Prayer services, Jan 24
Morning Prayer services, Jan 31



Consider making it for our Shelter guests sometime.

1 large can of new potatoes (sliced works best)
1 large can Shelley beans (green beans and kidney beans mixed)
1 lb. package of ham chunks
Put all of it in a crockpot and cook on high for a couple of hours.

Bring to the shelter around 6:30PM (let us know you're coming!)

Recipe shared by Nikki Lange



Christmas Eve Holy Eucharist
Candlelight Service

6:00 PM
Carols & Special Music
6:30 PM
Festive Holy Eucharist



If you are not on the email mailing list or not receiving emails, 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 anything for the Trumpet should do so ASAP. Deadline for submissions is December 20. Submit information by hand to Tanya or by emailing it to cecxtanya@gmail.com.

December Service Calendar 2015

Ministry	12/6	12/13	12/20	12/24	12/27
Worship Leader	ML	ML	ML	ML	Lessons & Carols
Altar Guild	Dana, Pam	Ruth, Tanya	JoAnne, Becky	JoAnne, Becky	Ruth, Tanya
Lector	Becky, Tommy	Ruth, Nancy	Pete, Debbie	Barbara, Pam	All Lectors
Ushers	JoAnne, Elizabeth	Brad, Claris	Rick, Doug	JoAnne, Elizabeth	Rick, Brad
Intercessor	Doug	Dana	Barbara	Debbie	—
Chalice	Ruth	Kim	Pam	Mark	—
Eucharistic Visitors		Dana (Bill)			
Healing Prayer Ministers	Debbie, Doug	JoAnne, Jennie	Ruth Pam	-	
Vestry Member of the Week	Barbara	Maxine	Brad	-	Tanya

January Service Calendar 2016

Ministry	1/3	1/10	1/17	1/24	1/31
Worship Leader	ML	ML	ML	MP	MP
Altar Guild	Dana, Tanya	JoAnne, Becky	Dana, Pam	Ruth, Tanya	JoAnne, Becky
Lector	Tommy, Ruth	Pete, Nancy	Debbie, Barb	Mark, Pam	Becky, Tommy
Ushers	JoAnne, Doug	Elizabeth, JoAnne	Brad, Claris	Elizabeth, Tommy	Rick, Brad
Intercessor	Debbie	Rick	Doug	Barb	Ruth
Chalice	Mark	Pam	Rick	-	—
Eucharistic Visitors	Dana (Bill)	-	-	-	-
Healing Prayer Ministers	Jenny & Ruth	Debbie, Doug	Mark, JoAnne	-	
Vestry Member of the Week	Pam	Maxine	Mark	Carol	Brad