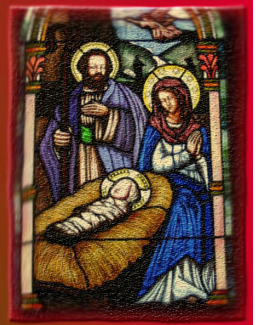


Christ Episcopal Church Xenia

THE TRUMPET



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63 East Church Street, Xenia Ohio 45385

December 2017 Volume 8, Issue 12

Upcoming Events:

- Dec 03 - Advent 1
- Dec 10 - Advent 2
- Dec 17 – Holy Eucharist, 3rd Sunday of Advent
- Dec 17 – Free Community Dinner, 4-5:30 pm
- Dec 24 – Morning Prayer, 4th Sunday in Advent, 9:30 a.m.
- Dec 24 – Christmas Eve service, 6 pm Carol singing; Holy Eucharist at 6:30 pm with Father Elaine
- Dec 31 – Lessons & Carols
- Jan 1 - New Years Day
- Jan 07 - Morning Prayer, 1st Sunday after the Epiphany
- Jan 14 - Holy Eucharist, 2nd Sunday after the Epiphany
- Jan 21 - Morning Prayer, 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany
- Jan 21 - Community Meal
- Jan 28 - Holy Eucharist, 4th Sunday after the Epiphany

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Dear Friends:

As you read this, we will be into another Holy Season, not just for ourselves, but for many other faiths and traditions. So blessed holidays to all.

I'm sure you may have heard from some that there is a War on Christmas. There is. Just not in the way usually presented. Before I explain that faux war, I would rather point all of us to the even more serious assault on our holy season. The loss of Advent.

We saw the "Christmas" decorations going up the day after Halloween this year. Wait a minute. What about Harvest celebrations, gratitude and our celebration of gratitude in the Macy's Day Thanksgiving Day Parade and the football and food?

The Sunday after Thanksgiving this year is the last Sunday of Pentecost, more popularly called Christ the King Sunday. And we enter into a new year on our liturgical calendar – the brief but spiritually important season of Advent. At one time, the colors for this season were blue, traditionally considered to be Mary's colors. This eventually gave way to lilac, a light purple color to signify a season of reflection – anticipatory reflection. Advent is the time to feel the anticipation and hope of a pregnancy nearing its term. There are stirrings of what is to come. As with any mother to be entering her final weeks, there is the sense of anxiety to get it over with as well as the anxiety of wondering if we will be up to the challenges about to be presented. It is a time to dream



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dreams and pray for miracles.

In some regards, Advent is the spiritually richest season of our lives as Christians. This is all the more so true, because on Christ the King Sunday, we know what awaits the babe about to join us in mere mortal form. But we delude ourselves on this. Our journeys to the heart of God don't end at the cross any more than they end in a manger.

Advent points us to knowing we are about to birth something new, yet ageless. That is why it isn't a full penitential season, as Lent is. It is a season of Anticipation.

We here, the community of faithful of Christ Episcopal Church in Xenia are called to hold fast to Advent – to all the hopes, dreams, anticipations of what is yet to be our common and unique journey together. We must claim our Advent; hugging the stirrings in our midst and the sense of something more to come. And let Christmas be Christmas, December 25 through January 6.

We can do this. We need to do this. We owe it to ourselves, our neighborhood and our world. This is our little light. A lantern in the darkening nights leading us to the manger and beyond.

Then, we can let Christmas be Christmas and possibly restore some level of balance as well as hope in our designated mission field.

Blessings for these Holy Days,

Fr. Elaine

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 cecxlst@googlegroups.com and cecxtanya@gmail.com.

Submission deadline is December 20th. Submit articles by hand to Tanya or email to cecxtanya@gmail.com

WARDEN'S WORDS

To:
*The Christ Episcopal
Church Family and
Friends*

From: *Debbie Gillespie*

*God grant you peace at Christmas
And fill your heart with cheer,
God grant you health and happiness
Throughout the coming year,
God guide you with His wisdom
And keep you in His care –
This is my special wish for you,
This is my Christmas prayer.*

Merry Christmas



- Dec 17 – 3rd Sunday of Advent (HE), Father Sammons
- Dec 17 – Free Community Dinner, 4-5:30 pm
- Dec 24 – 4th Sunday in Advent, 9:30 a.m. (MP)
- Dec 24 – Christmas Eve service, 6 pm Carol singing
- Dec 24 – Christmas Eve service, (HE) 6:30 pm, Father Elaine
- Dec 31 – Lessons & Carols
- Jan 07 - Morning Prayer, 1st Sunday after the Epiphany
- Jan 14 - HE (Father Greg), 2nd Sunday after the Epiphany
- Jan 21 - Morning Prayer, 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany
- Jan 21 - Community Meal
- Jan 28 - HE (Father Greg), 4th Sunday after the Epiphany



**RSVPS for 4:30 PM Christmas Eve Dinner Must be in to Me by the 17th of December
937-313-4397 or contact Becky**

November Vestry Minutes

Next Vestry Meeting is January 14th



- Debbie reported there was an interest in a Christmas basket give away (via raffle). The shelter items have not been picked up. Joyce mentioned making it was a gift basket or gifts for the people at the community dinner (discussion on hats/scarves/gloves vs socks/underwear vs throws). Maxine made a motion that we purchase \$300 throws, mittens, hats, scarves to give out at the community dinner. Barbara seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Church members are welcome to donate in addition.
- Maxine reported on the parking lot status and survey – there is a consensus to wait until December for the decision on the parking lot; Debbie thanked Maxine for her work on the parking lot survey;
- Debbie welcomed our guest Ellie to the meeting.
- Debbie suggested thank you for memorial funds for Mr. Nichol. Doug suggested automated carillon bells in the tower, small sign in vestibule, new sign (repair and enhance current sign “Earnest L. Nichol Parish House”) for the Nickel house, or drop the pull for the bell to the first floor. Discussion tabled so as to bring suggestions to meeting in December (1. How much can we spend? 2. What should we purchase in memorial?)
- Announcement of Tyler ‘s confirmation on 11/26. Cheryl suggested a monogrammed prayer book for Tyler’s confirmation.
- Discussion on tree service
- Joyce and Barbara have another estimate for the repairs for the bell tower from one person and waiting on a third. This matter will be tabled until December.
- Barbara reported on the garden and wanted to thank Joyce. Joyce reported that the library is going smoke free. Bradley reported that the apartments are as well. Joyce made a motion that we go to a smoke free campus and put signs up by March 1st, 2018. Maxine seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- Treasurer’s Report – Doug reported on finances. We need to send a letter to the Chamberlain estate to get reimbursed for the amount of money spent on church upkeep, since we have not received a distribution from them this year. Accepted as submitted.
- Investment Team: Meeting on Monday and then again in March, 2018
- Stewardship: Doug reported on outstanding pledges; Vestry want to ask that the Church administration send out an email reminder generally for 2018 on pledging and letters sent out quarterly for 2017. Maxine made a motion, Cheryl seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- Choir Director Search Team – discussion/report postponed until December.
- Creation Care Committee – We are recycling. There is a call for members.
- Contract with Fr. Sammons: Debbie presented the contract for schedule; Debbie recommends we continue with Fr. Sammons through April. Maxine made a motion that we move forward a conversation with Fr. Sammons to find out if he is interested in being part time Priest in Charge before the meeting with the St. Christopher Vestry Meeting and sign the contract through April; Joyce seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- Bradley reported Mark Cummings asked if we could donate money to the Bridges of Hope Shelter, which was Simon Kenton Shelter. Barbara suggested with give them all of the supplies and then see before donating money, and this was general consensus.



04	Heidi Huddleson
	Nigel Gunn
07	Sayre Hudson
	Bradley Alexander
08	Nancy Nickell
19	Patricia Renick
20	Jim Thomas
24	Kim Bayless
27	Brock Eskridge

Readings for the Exodus Program:

Dec 3 Exodus 17:8-20:21
Dec 10 Goldingay 71-82 / Fretheim 191-238 / Meyers 141-160
Dec 17 Exodus 20:22-23:19
Dec 24 Christmas Rest I Catchup
Dec 31 Christmas Rest/ Catchup
Jan 7 Goldingay 82-89 / Fretheim 239-251/Meyers 161-180
Jan 14 Exodus 23:20-27:21
Jan 21 Goldingay 89-102 / Fretheim 252-271/Meyers 181-200
Jan 28 Exodus 28:1-31:18
Feb 4 Goldingay 102-112 / Fretheim 272-278 / Meyers 201-220
Feb 11 Exodus 32, 33, & 34
Feb 18 Goldingay 112-126 / Fretheim 279-310 / Meyers 221-240
Feb 25 Exodus 35, 36, & 37
March 4 Goldingay 126-129/ Fretheim 313-316 / Meyers 241-60
March 11 Exodus 38, 39, & 40 (end)
March 18 REFRESH for Easter: Goldingay 53-67 / Fretheim 133-136, 161-170 / Meyers 261-end
March 25 Holy Week Rest; Reflect on Exodus as paradigm for events of Easter, re-read Ex 12-15
April 1 Easter Week Rest; Reflect on Exodus as paradigm for events of Easter, re-read Ex 12-15
April 8 Concluding Colloquium is Sat April 7



Readings from **Exodus**



The suggested December grocery supplies are dish washing soap and laundry detergent. Each month will be a new suggested item.

Children's Corner



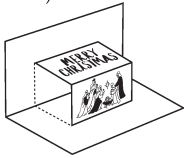
For those who are young, those who think they are young, those who feel young at heart, and those who aren't any of the above (nobody's looking... Have some fun!)

POP-UP CARD

Share the good news of Jesus' birth with this creative Christmas card.

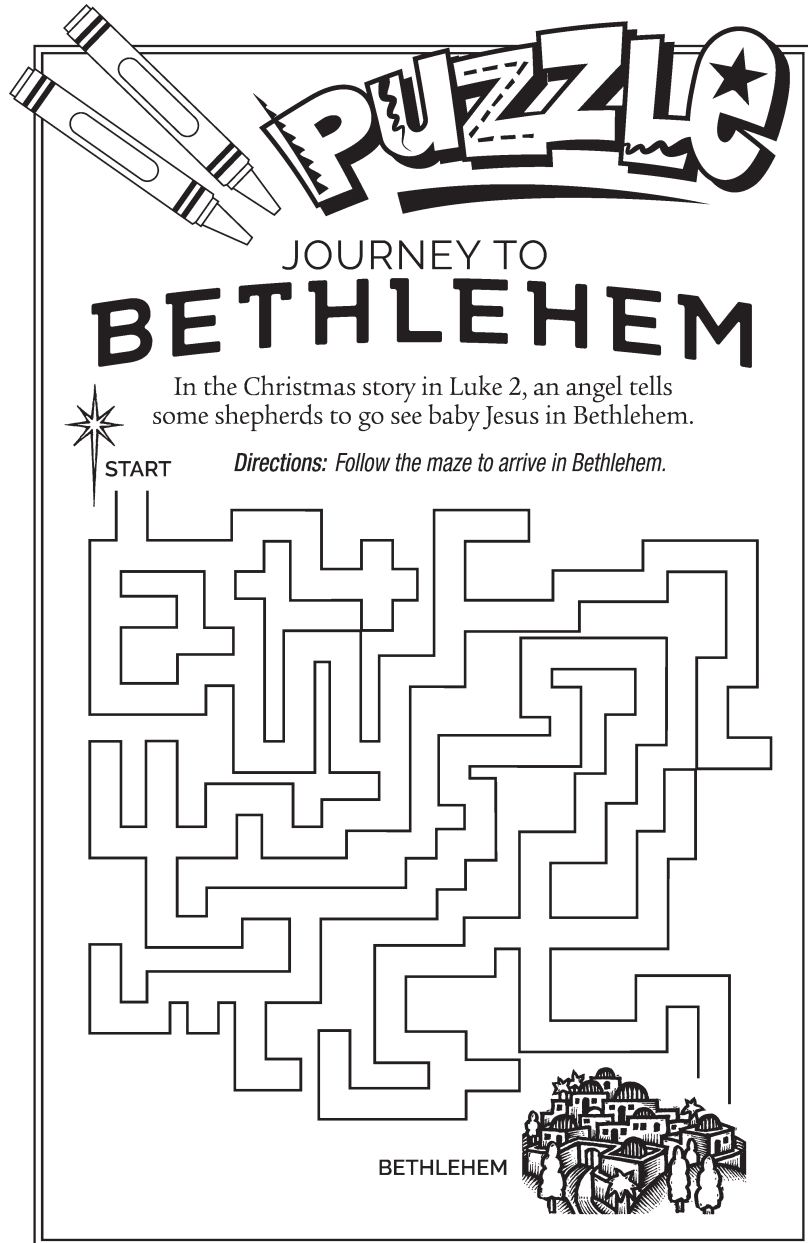
What you need:

- Construction paper (two pieces, including one white)
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Pens
- Glue stick



What you do:

1. Neatly fold the white paper in half, short side to short side.
2. Draw two parallel lines (at least 2 inches apart) from the fold to about halfway to the edge. Cut along the lines.
3. Fold the cut section back and forth so it pops up.
4. Push the section up so it pops up inside the folded paper. Draw a nativity scene on the pop-up box.
5. Fold the colored paper in half, short side to short side. Place the white paper inside it and glue the white paper down, being careful not to glue the pop-up box.
6. Write a Christmas message and give or send the card to someone.



"At least they saved themselves a co-pay."

After Mary learned she was pregnant with God's Son, what relative — also miraculously pregnant — did she go visit?

- A. Esther
- B. Elizabeth
- C. Anne
- D. Anna

BIBLE QUIZ



Answer: B (See Luke 1:39-40.)



Volunteer Service SCHEDULE

Ministry	12/3	12/10	12/17	12/24AM	12/24PM	12/31
Worship Leader	Father Sammons	Father Elaine	Father Sammons	MP -Pam or Rick	Father Elaine	Lessons& Carols
Altar Guild	Ruth/Tanya	JoAnne/Pam	Doug/Becky	JoAnne/Becky	JoAnne/Becky	Ruth/Tanya
Lector	Tommy/Ruth	Barb/Debbie	Mark/Pam	Becky,Rick, Ruth	Becky/Tommy	All
Ushers	JoAnne, Elizabeth	Brad, Doug	Elizabeth, Doug	Clariss, Brad	JoAnne, Brad	Clariss, Brad
Intercessor	Barb	Ruth	Becky	Doug	Mark	-
Chalice	Mark	Pam	Barb	-	Debbie	-
Vestry Member of the week	Tanya	Doug	Barb	Pam		Debbie
Healing Prayer Ministers	Ruth, Doug	JoAnne, Jennie	Ruth, Debbie	-		-

Ministry	1/7	1/14	1/21	1/28
Worship Leader	MP - Barb	Father Sammons	MP - Rick	Father Sammons
Altar Guild	JoAnne/Pam	Ruth/Tanya	JoAnne/Becky	Doug/Pam
Lector	Ruth/Debbie/Becky	Barb/Mark	Pam/Becky	Tommy/Ruth
Ushers	Clariss, Brad	Doug, Rick	Clariss, Brad	JoAnne, Rick
Intercessor	Ruth	Jennie	Barb	Doug
Chalice	-	Barb	-	Pam
Vestry Person of the Week	Tanya	Pam	Maxine	Cheryl
Healing Prayer Ministers	-	JoAnne, Jennie	-	Ruth, Debbie

MP in the normal time slot of 9:30am

HE - Service on 12/24 will start at 6pm with Carols; service will start at 6:30pm.