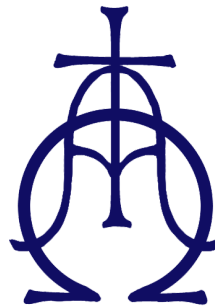


CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH XENIA

NewsNote Vol. 1, No. 14



A note from Reverend Jennifer

St Francis Day: The Blessing of the Animals

I'm feeling the weather turn and knowing that some of our COVID-19 strategies and pressure valves will disappear as the cold weather comes. That makes me look forward to the Blessing of the Animals all the more! On Sunday October 4 we will gather at noon on the lawn outside the church to bless the critters who give us such joy and comfort--and to thank God for all the creatures in this beautiful world who fit so intricately into this beautiful creation.

Some of my favorite prayers are ones that remind us that all creatures sing God's praise. The *New Zealand Prayerbook* reminds me that we can--and should--translate our prayers to match our own homes:

O give thanks to our God who is good:
whose love endures for ever...

All mountains and valleys, grassland and scree, glacier, avalanche, mist
and snow:
give to our God your thanks and praise...

Dolphins and kahawai, sea lion and crab, coral, anemone, pipi and shrimp:
give to our God your thanks and praise...

Let us lift up our own voices for the creatures that surround us--the black squirrel by David O's apartment, cows and sheep in the pastures, the bunnies on our morning walks, butterflies, bees, stinkbugs (?) and mosquitoes (??)...

May all give to our God our thanks and praise.

Peace--

--Rev Jennifer

October 4, 2020

October 4, 2020 is First Sunday

**Scripture Readings for September 20
St Francis Sunday**

Isaiah 5:1-7

Psalm 80:7-14

Philippians 3:4-14

Matthew 21:33-46

*you can find copies of the scripture on our weekly devotional
at the bottom of this note*

Worship October 4, 2020

9.30 am at Christ Episcopal Church

We will record the service for those who cannot come.

Please let Brad or Becky know if you are attending.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Oct 4: In the sanctuary, 9.30 am
Side yard, 12.00 noon: The Blessing of the Animals**

Oct 11: 9.30 am on line--but this may change--

Oct 14: 5.45 Vestry meeting

++We will record our church services for those who do not attend in person.++

Your Guide to Worship at Christ Episcopal and COVID-19

Remember: *When Greene County is at Level 3 on the Ohio Department of Health map, we will ONLY meet virtually.*

Click on the button below to check on Greene County's status

Ohio Dept of Health Map

Thank you

to those who have kept up with pledges! Our work has continued through the COVID lockdown...some parishioners are with us through the USPS (weekly devotionals are mailed out to them), some through our on-line worship each Sunday, some through phone calls (our sexton/vestry-at-large Brad is a superhero!), some through service in our bagged dinners on Sundays during the lockdown.

Click on the button below if you'd like to give your pledge via the Diocese of Southern Ohio (this is set up especially for churches like ours). Or mail or deliver your pledge to Becky at Nickell House.

Give pledge online

**Please help!!
CALLING ALL LECTORS AND INTERCESSORS**

We need YOU to help read lessons and Prayers of the People, whether in person, by Zoom, or both. Please contact Becky at 937-372-1594 to sign up. Zoom is easy to use by computer, tablet or phone--we will teach you how!

++Christian Formation++

Please keep Kim B's daughter Heather in your prayers--she has breast cancer.
Karen I. had surgery and is recovering.
Chris O-Ms father is very ill and in the hospital
Other parish prayer concerns: Cynda, Claris, Roxanne

Please send your concerns for this list, and for our Prayers of the People at Sunday worship, to Becky or Rev. Jen.

Weekly Devotional

Our readings this week include exploration of hunger--spiritual and physical hunger. Suzanne Guthrie's weekly devotional is found at the button below. At the top left hand corner you will find the readings of the week. Here is the link for the weeks readings as well as the devotional **Edge of the Enclosure**

Christ Episcopal Church
63 East Church Street
Xenia, OH 45385 937-372-1594
christepiscopalxenia@gmail.com
<https://www.facebook.com/christepiscopalchurchxenia/>
www.christ-episcopal-xenia.org



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