
Christ Church News Note

2 messages

Christ Episcopal Church

Wed, Dec 2, 2020 at 1:35 PM

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH XENIA**NewsNote Vol. 1, No. 22**
Advent 2**A Stewardship Reflection**

Stewardship is an ethic that embodies the responsible planning and management of resources. This definition applies to our church buildings, our financial needs, our community outreach, and most importantly our congregation.

During this time of COVID 19, we have been able to provide ongoing maintenance and the cleaning of our church buildings. We are so thankful that parishioners kept their pledges up to date during this time. We have continued our community dinners, and the clothes closet is still providing assistance on a limited basis. Vestry members and Brad Alexander continue to make weekly phone calls to parishioners.

Jim Goins
Junior Warden

Stewardship Prayer

Oh Lord, Giver of life and Source of Freedom:

We know that all we have is received from your hand. Gracious and loving God, you call us to be stewards of your abundance, the caretaker of all you have entrusted to

us. Help us always to use your gifts wisely and teach us to share them generously. Send the Holy Spirit to work through us, bringing Your message to those we serve. May our faithful stewardship be a witness to the love of Jesus Christ in our lives. We pray with grateful hearts in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Barbara Bonham, Senior Warden
Stewardship 2020

You should have received a stewardship pledge card in the mail from our Senior Warden, Barbara Bonham, on behalf of the Vestry. Please consider how you may serve, support and sustain our church and its mission this year--perhaps in new and innovative ways for this very unusual time.

A note from Reverend Jennifer
CHRISTMAS OUTREACH FOR OUR NEIGHBORS

Our Christmas Outreach: Small offerings for our neighbors, Embodying Love

Some of my very favorite readings of scripture are designated for Advent Two, especially Isaiah 40:1-11..."Comfort, comfort ye my people." One of the commentaries I read suggests that we look for "startling comfort" that appears in our "short and frail lives. In this time set apart where we are all struggling with truncated celebrations, cancellations, a lingering fear, and lives that are shrinking to our homes, I've been surprised at "startling comfort" in the small. Perhaps because the large and lavish are denied, I'm more aware of the solace of the humble: a walk with a friend, an unexpected phone call, the luxury of reading a mystery novel in a few days because of a quiet life, stumbling across a beautiful prayer. Usually these comforts will be connected to gifts from others, in their creative offerings, their tender care, the shared concerns and challenges of the time that we are in.

I am reminded in this that the great gift that God gives is the gift of community--incarnation, Emmanuel, God-with-us--and that the Great Commandments demand that we be in communion with God--and with each other. I pray that in this time of preparation that we note the startling comfort in these frail lives that comes from the love and consideration that in communion with the small.

For our parish outreach this season, we will be collecting donations for the FISH Food Pantry. Our goal is modest: \$5 from 30 parishioners/families. *If you feel so moved, please give more.* The FISH Food Pantry can make this money go much farther than any of us can do shopping. Please send in or bring \$5 to Christ Episcopal Church/Nickell House, [68 E. Church Street, Xenia, 45385](#) and we will write a check for the pantry. Make your checks to Christ Episcopal and put FISH in the memo line--or just tuck in a \$5 bill.

Bless you in your everyday matters, and bless you every day.

December 6, 2020 Advent 2
Preparation for the Coming of the Christ Child

December 6, 2020 is First Sunday

Scripture Readings for December 6

Isaiah 40:1-11

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

2 Peter 3:8-15a

Mark 1:1-8

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

Worship this Sunday

Liturgy of the Word 9.30 am on Zoom
Rev. Jennifer, presiding

**It's easy! Click the link or the Sunday ZOOM button below and
join.**
***You need not participate unless you wish to...you can just watch
and worship.***

Sunday ZOOM link

We will stream live and record this Sunday

Your Guide to Worship at Christ Episcopal and COVID-19

**Due to high levels of COVID-19 in our county,
we are currently worshipping online**

Here is a copy of the new **diocesan guidelines** (click on the bolded and underlined words) for worship during COVID. When Greene County is **purple** we are always on-line worship. With the terrible spike in cases and COVID-related deaths, we will be remote until further notice.

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

Ohio Dept of Health Map

Stewardship and Pledges

Please help us close the 2020 financial year with your remaining pledge, and please prayerfully consider what you can offer to in 2021.

Talent and Time needed!

***Lectors**

***Zoom operators (not difficult--we'll teach you!)**

***contributor to the congregation or stories of the church**

***backup videographers**

***Weekly newsletter editor (we'll teach you!)**

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

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CALLING ALL LECTORS AND INTERCESSORS

We need lectors and intercessors for Sunday worship--live and via Zoom.

Please contact the church office.

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++Parish Prayer List++

Prayers for your daily devotions

Healing

John N, Rick B, Cynda, Connie, baby Amelia, Karen, Diana, Peter, Heather, David, Tawn, Bishop Breidenthal, Autumn, Rev John T, Woody W, Bob M, Traci S, Rick F, Rogue C., Richard L., Sue, and for all who suffer because of COVID-19

On-going prayer

Matt, Trisha, Reid, Connie, Trish, Carolyn, Shayna, Mike, Kathy, Steve, Dorothy, Marcia, Shirley, Terry, Arlene, Kim, Jill, Lynne, Cynthia, Tiffany, Heidi, Madysun, Ken, Lamar, Laura and Avis, John, Grandma Ann, Mukul, Chris, Greg, Jess and Tim, and Marsha S.

Please keep our diocese in your prayers, especially Bishop Ken, Bishop Nedi, and Bishop Wendell, and the Standing Committee who will be serving the diocese for the coming months as we discern the process for calling a new bishop.

++Christian Formation++

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**

++Previous Sermons++

Sermons from Father Mike

Click on the link below--these are wonderful sermons!

Sermon: Father Mike Kreutzer, Nov 29

Sermon: Father Mike Kreutzer, Nov 22

Advent Devotionals and Music

There is a wealth of Advent devotionals and special offerings in this year of COVID--all delivered to you via the internet.

Here are two this week:

Calvin University Campus Choir

click here: **Healer Concert**

7.00 pm, Sunday Dec 6

Diocese of Southern Ohio Becoming Beloved Community

Way of Love Advent Series click here: **Way of Love**

7.00-8.30pm Wednesday December 2

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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