

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH XENIA

NewsNote Vol. 2, No. 38
Sunday After Pentecost
Proper 15

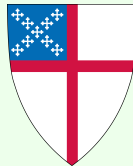


Welcome!

Celebrant: Rev. Dr. Jennifer Oldstone-Moore
Preacher: Rev. Stephen Cuff

We WILL stream to Facebook this week

[Link to Facebook page](#)



I struggled all week with two well known passages from the Bible. The first is that of David and Absalom, the second Jesus’s long discourse on bread—bread that you eat and bread eternal.

The story of David and Absalom is heartbreaking—a family beset with violence, betrayal, anger, abuse—made me think about a moment in my life when I felt at wit’s end with worry about a beloved family member who just could not come around. I was afraid, tearful, frustrated, angry, resentful. I thought of a friend a similar situation, and what a solace it was to have someone who truly understood my situation. I started to keep a list, and quickly found that virtually everyone I knew had some kind of heartache and frustration with those they love. In short, I realized that it is in the midst of messes that the Eternal Word, Jesus, came to dwell with us and to show us the path to the blessed life that feeds our deepest hunger. It is within this mess that the great gift of breath and time is given, and that our puny and futile seeming work can extend that blessing outward.

Dorothy Day, a modern saint who worked tirelessly with and for the poor, wrote this:

Young people say, “What good can one person do?” they cannot see that we must lay one brick at a time; we can be responsible only for one action of the present moment. But we can beg for an increase of love in our heart that will vitalize and transform all our individual actions, and know God will take them and multiply them as Jesus multiplied the loaves and fishes.”

Bless you at work and home this week,
Rev. Jen

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Update Your Emails for the Parish Office

Please update the emails in your computer for when you want to contact Rev. Jen, Becky or Nikki. Having all three use the same email (ChristEpiscopalXenia@gmail.com) is making life a little too

Phenomenal Reverend Jennifer - CECX.Priest@gmail.com

Outstanding Bookkeeper Becky - CECX.Bookkeeper@gmail.com

Primo Parish Administrator Nikki - CECX.Office@gmail.com

New Healing Service: First, Second and Third Wednesdays

We will begin a midweek service on first, second, and third Wednesdays. This will be a liturgy for healing and communion.

The next service is Wednesday, August 11th at 11.00 am in the sanctuary.

As we learn what times are best for those who wish to attend, we may adjust the time for this service--do read your newsletter.

*In order to protect the ill and those who care for them, **masks will be worn over nose and mouth by all at this service, regardless of vaccine status.***

We Need Your Musical Input!

What's your favorite hymn? We want to know! You can either email Nikki [here](#) or give the office a quick ring at 937-372-1594.

Current COVID-19 Protocols

New Update from our diocese (as of August 2, 2021):

- People attending services and meetings held indoors are to resume wearing masks, even if they are vaccinated
- *Full communion--but with celebrant dipping bread into wine*
- *singing with masks*
- *no seating limitations*
- *When Bishop Smith arrives at the diocese on August 15th, he is going to gather the COVID Medical Task Force to consider any further measures*

Read the complete guidelines [here](#). Please be prepared for changes as we continue to learn about this virus.

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Scripture Readings for Proper 14 (August 8)

1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14
Psalm 111
Ephesians 5:15-20
John 6:51-58

You can find copies of the scripture on our weekly devotional at the bottom of this note.

It's that Time of Year Again!

The Xenia Nazarene Church is ready to help kiddos get ready for school! On August 22nd from 6pm to 7pm, kiddos can get free shoes! Note - All shoes are for school-aged kiddos **present at the events!**

You Oughta Be in Pictures!

We need your help to take pictures of our church, parish hall, and people! We will use them to not only update our website but also to have for other needs as they arise. Once you have pictures, you can contact Nikki via phone or email and she can help you get the pictures to the office once she knows the details of the camera you are using. Please take pictures whenever the opportunity presents itself - or when the mood strikes you!

Prayers for your daily devotions:

Current Prayer List

We pray for healing for those who suffer from any illness or distress, especially Amelia, Ron, Chris, John, Rick, Ruth, Cynda, Jennifer, Heather, John, Diana and Peter, Caroline, Tom, Sarah, and for all who suffer because of COVID-19.

Long Term Prayer List

Holly, Madysun, John T, Ken, Lamar, Jess and Tim, Greg, David E, Heidi, Karen, Karen, Barry, David O, Amelia, John G, Carolyn, and Ron.

Our Vibrant Vestry

Want to keep up with our vaunted Vestry? We will begin posting a link to the minutes for their meetings. Just check this space after the second Wednesday of each month when the Vestry meet to stay in the know. Here's a link to the minutes from June (there was no meeting in July): [June Vestry Notes](#)

Weekly Devotional

Our weekly devotional comes from Suzanne Guthrie's "At the Edge of the Enclosure: Soul Work for Sunday." This is a lovely devotional that takes a spiritual pilgrimage each week with reflection, prayer, art, poetry, and commentary on the scriptures. There are links to other resources; Rev. Jen loves the Visual Commentary on Scripture [Edge of the Enclosure](#)

There is a tab on the main page that will take you to the scripture readings for the week.

[Weekly Scripture Reading](#)

Last Week's Sermon

Click the link for Rev. Jennifer's Sunday sermon. [August 8th sermon here.](#)

NEED IN OUR COMMUNITY

Christ Church Clothes Etc. Outreach:

We are starting a special area to collect clothes for Children in Foster Care! Please spread the word and donate as able.

Do you have any unused office supplies or school supplies sitting around the house? Bring them to the office or even to the church on Sunday and we will give them away during our Community Closet on Tuesday.

****We need volunteers to help with our Community Closet!****

Do you have a little spare time? Want to help our community? Would you like to spend time with other people doing the same? Even if you just have an hour or two, please come to the office any time during the following windows: Mondays and Wednesdays from 9am to 11am and Tuesdays from 9am to 2pm.

We continue to need clothes for our community! While we gladly accept all clothing in good condition, we especially need items for school-aged kiddos, teens, and men. Hygiene items are always in great need. Contact the office for details.

...I know that I have life
only insofar as I have love.

I have no love
except it come from Thee.

Help me, please, to carry
this candle against the wind.

--Wendell Berry, *Leavings* (2012)

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