

# Christ Church Weekly

A newsletter for members and friends

## A Message from Fr. Torvend

At this time a year ago, we were celebrating the Holy Eucharist in the courtyard with about 30 people scattered among the trees. Janet Campbell had announced her resignation and retirement. Our wonderful parish administrator was beginning her tenure at Christ Church. And we were trying to figure out the safest way to be together in the church as a new variant of the Covid virus was emerging across the land.

MOVING  
*forward*

Today we are worshipping in the church with *double* and sometimes *triple* the number that were able to make it to the courtyard a year ago. We are welcoming visitors and newcomers every week. We've been blessed with the support of a summer choir under the direction of our delightful and talented director of music. The leadership of our wardens, the vestry, and the various teams that are supporting new ventures in the parish remains effective and outstanding. New forms of service to our neighbors call for our time and energy. Our deacons are leading discussions around antiracism. Daily Prayer continues throughout each week. Godly Play is soon starting up, a type of children's formation that has done wonders in other parishes. And adult formation continues unabated. The other day, our beloved former director of music, David Dahl, said this: "There's optimism and a sense of hope in the air."

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## Christ Church Parish



**Friday, September 2, 2022**

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### Upcoming Events

- Sacrament of Healing, September 4
- Adult Formation, September 5, 12, 19
- Wyatt Smith, Harpsichord, September 9
- Secular Book Club, September 9
- Choir Open House, September 11
- Parish Writing Workshop, September 11
- Sign up for Small Group Dinners, September 11, 18, & 25
- Choir Rehearsals Begin, September 15
- Third Friday Concert, September 16, with Marc Fitze
- **Moving Forward Sunday, September 18**
- Sounds Wonderful Drum Circle, September 25
- Coffee with the Wardens, September 25

**We strongly encourage masking during worship, mindful that we worship among people who need added protection. Masking not only protects us but also our neighbors.**

## Need Help??

To add to our prayer list, email the [Parish Administrator](#). If submitting a name other than your own, please ask permission from that person first. Names remain on the list for **four weeks**, unless renewed by the one who submitted them.

In a pastoral emergency, please contact [Fr. Torvend](#).

**Parish Help Team:** Errands run, groceries, meals provided, medication pickup, vaccination transportation, etc., contact [Deacon Gen Grewell](#) or call her cellphone at 360.280.5593. You may speak with a deacon on Sunday at the **10:30am Holy Eucharist**.

# Christ Church Prayer List

*Our baptismal commitment calls us to pray for the world and the needs of our community, including those who are experiencing any sort of trouble, illness, or grief.*

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

### Members and Friends of our Community:

Stephen Behr; Doug Dahlgren; Christinna Olsson; Pat Trytten; Melissa Glick, Lea Worth; Ginny Peterson; Elin Gratton; Leslie Brooks and her children; Bryon and Carrie Epp and their daughters Carly, Breanna, and Po; Debbie and Doug Oakman; Jim Pierson.

### Those who have died in Christ, who holds us in life and death, and all who grieve for them:

Fred A. Heyn and Jan Shoop.

### Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

St. Andrew's, Aberdeen • St. Hugh of Lincoln, Allyn • St. Luke's, Alma

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Anglican Church of Australia

## Christ Episcopal Church, Tacoma *Weekly Newsletter*

The Rev. Samuel Torvend, Priest for Worship, Adult Formation, and Pastoral Care

Deborah Hope Breneman, Editor/Design and Layout

The *Weekly* is a publication of Christ Episcopal Church, Tacoma.

Please visit our website at [Christchurchtacoma.org](http://Christchurchtacoma.org) to connect to newsletter links and previous editions.

[Christ Church Calendar](#) • [Next Week at Christ Church](#)

To submit an article to the *Christ church Weekly*, contact the [Parish Administrator](#).

Articles must be submitted by Wednesdays to be included in the Friday edition, and may be edited.

We never share your information outside the church family.

### Land Acknowledgement

**We gather at 310 North K Street.** Let us give thanks to the Creator for the Puyallup and Nisqually people on whose ancestral land this church and many of our homes stand. Their descendants live among us still. For their wise stewardship of the creation, we offer our gratitude. May we never forget that their land was taken by force and broken treaty.

[Episcopal News Service](#) • [Episcopal Church on Facebook](#) • [Diocese of Olympia Bishop Rickel's Blog](#)

# Worship

## Sacrament of Healing

"Are any among you suffering? Are any among you sick? Call for the elders of the church and they will pray over you, anointing you in the name of the Lord" (James 5:13-14). If for any reason you desire to receive God's healing presence in your life, come to the altar platform after the postlude. Fr. Torvend will pray with you and anoint you with healing balm.

## Welcoming Newcomers

Speaking of EXPLORE (our gatherings in Episcopal formation), we are glad to announce that nine adults have recently indicated their desire to affiliate with Christ Church. And did you know that since 2015, every new member of Christ Church - baptized, confirmed, or received - has been an adult who has found a welcome home in our midst? Newcomers find out about Christ Church through our website, our musical offerings, a flyer, and - guess what? - through a member who invited them to join us for worship or an adult formation gathering.

## Adult Formation

### How Our Regional Culture Shapes Church Life and Leadership: for good and for ill

**Mondays, September 5, 12, and 19 at 7:00 PM on Zoom**

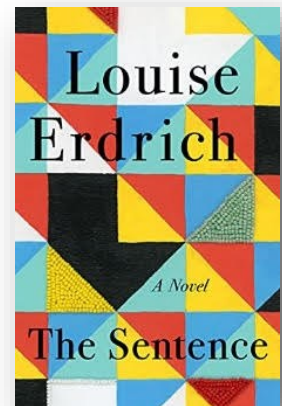
As we consider our aspirations as a parish and look to new leadership, we do well to consider the ways in which the distinctive culture of the Pacific Northwest both *erodes* and *supports* spiritual life. And, as a bonus, we'll consider why many people under 40 (but not all people) have little in-

terest in church life. Fr. Torvend has served as the director of the Center for Religion and Culture in the Pacific Northwest since 2011. We think you'll find this an illuminating series of presentations and discussions in this time of transition. Send your **registration** to [Fr. Torvend](#) no later than 5:00 PM today, Friday.

## Monthly Reading Group, Sunday, September 25th at 6:30pm

Meet **September 25 at 6:30pm**, at the home of **Sandy and Ronn Johanson** to discuss *The Sentence: A Novel* by Louise Erdrich.

Newcomers are welcome! Questions? [Contact Don Johnson.](#)



## Children's Formation

We are instituting a few changes this Fall:

- ♦ We will discontinue Zoom Sunday School in favor of an in-person experience.
- ♦ The schedule will start every other Sunday, beginning **September 18** during the 10:30 liturgy. (The schedule is posted in the Narthex and available on our website.)
- ♦ In January, we hope to be able to provide Sunday School every week.
- ♦ We will be launching a program called, **Godly Play**. We hope you will prayerfully consider making a donation toward materials needed for this program.

**Continued on page 6.**

## Service

### Little Food Pantry

"I can no other answer make but Thanks and Thanks and ever Thanks," wrote the Bard in *Twelfth Night*. And indeed, our hearts are full because of the on-going generosity of this congregation and friends and neighboring supporters of the Little Pantry. To wit: this last week a Little Pantry volunteer checked the Little Pantry and found it empty. Bare. Unoccupied. Open. Clear of contents. Fifteen minutes later the volunteer returned to replenish the mighty box, only to find that in that



space of time someone had filled it to the brim. Wow! Astonishing. Such generosity. So, thanks to all who help and who care about those in need of food.

Thanks, and ever thanks.

~ **The Little Pantry Team**

### It Takes a Village

On Monday, August 15, Christ Church delivered 35 bagged lunches, plus 10 extra sandwiches, to the **Veteran's Village** – which were very much appreciated! The Veteran's Village, located at 82<sup>nd</sup> and Pacific Ave in Tacoma, provides temporary housing for veterans who

were previously living on the street. On Sunday, August 14, we had many helping hands prepping and then bagging the lunches in Wells Hall – sandwich, fruit, veggie sticks, chips, and a



cookie, plus some personal notes were placed in the bags to let the residents know where the lunches came from. Several did offer their thanks as they walked by Len, Jim, and Deacon Gen talking with one of the onsite managers, Josh. So many of you wanted to help – we had more workers than work to be done. A joyous circumstance, thank you so much!

The plan is to provide another meal to the Veteran's Village in late September. Deacon Gen will check to see where their greatest need is – lunch or a dinner. Our hope is to provide a meal monthly. If you would like to be involved in the planning for these much-needed meals to our veterans, please let either [Deacon Donna](#) or [Deacon Gen](#) know.

~ **Deacon Donna**

### Street Teams Needed

Several of you have asked if we need help getting the word out about all of our upcoming events, and the answer is, **YES!** We need you! If you have some free time to pass around posters to local businesses and

residences, [please let us know](#). We can have flyers printed and ready to go in a flash. And thanks so much!

~**Deborah**

## SMALL GROUP DINNERS

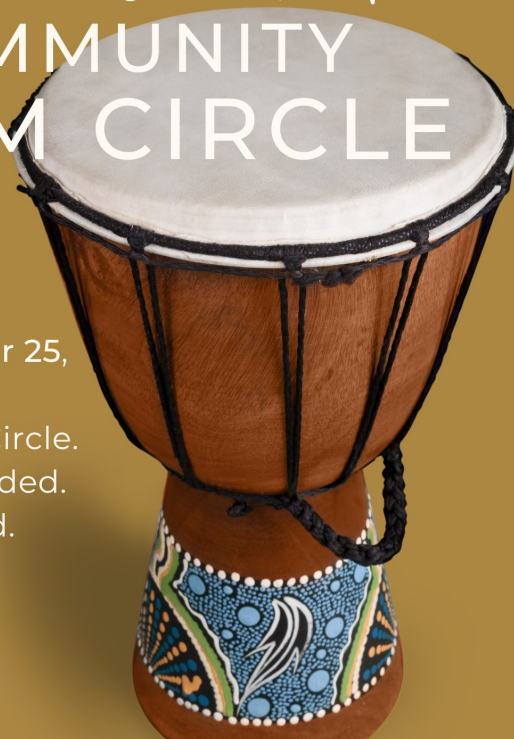
*There's a place set for you.*



If you're interested in being a part of Small Group Dinners this fall, please sign up at the glass table in the entry way or at a designated table at coffee hour. Sign up will occur September 11, 18, or 25. *Questions?* Call or text **Sandy Johanson, 253.905.1051.**

## Sounds Wonderful COMMUNITY DRUM CIRCLE

Join us  
Sunday, September 25,  
at noon  
for our next Drum Circle.  
No experience needed.  
Drums provided.





## Message from Fr. Torvend

*Continued from page 1.* And so we are **moving forward** into the Fall, a most appropriate way to speak of Sunday, **September 18**, when will celebrate **Moving Forward Sunday**: with a new musical setting of the liturgy, a new eucharistic prayer, the return of the full choir and choral scholars, a dense program of adult formation offerings, events for the public - from Jazz in the Hall to the Blessing of Animals, the publication of a Parish Profile, the appointment of a search committee, and yes: the wonders of stewardship as we move to another healthy budget. I hope you can join us on September 18: for worship and for what we've been told will be a terrific reception afterward in Wells Hall.

Yes, we are **moving forward** as we pray for the Spirit's guidance and wisdom.

~ Fr. Torvend

## Children's Formation

*Continued from page 3.*

**What is Godly Play?** Godly Play has a foundation of 40+ years of research and practice steeped in Montessori principles. Children have an innate sense of the presence of God. The Godly Play approach helps them to explore their faith through story, to gain religious language and to enhance their spiritual experience through wonder and play. Godly Play allows children to make meaning for themselves by inviting them into stories and providing space to connect Scripture with personal experience and open-ended response.

**Why would Christ Church consider adopting Godly Play as our approach to Children's**

**Faith Formation?** In our recent congregational assessment survey, drawing in children and families was cited as the top priority of this parish. Godly Play is one means to attract children and families. But that is not the only reason. The best explanation for why we should do this is in a piece written by Emily Mullens in 2011.

*"In an age where we feel we need to meet children in their high-tech world, Godly Play is a unique way to present the beautiful and elo-*

*quent truths of the Bible in a very simple, natural*



*form with no bells or whistles. In most religious education, children are told who God is. In Godly Play, children discover who God is. Using the principles of learning in the Montessori method, we respond to the child's request to 'help me do it by myself.' It shares spiritual education in a beautiful, peaceful, intimate manner, demonstrating the power and richness of God through meaningful and intentional presentations of His Word. This puts the teacher in the role of spiritual supporter or guide who fully accepts that each child has his or her own relationship with God already. Godly Play Bible stories are told gracefully and beautifully using simple hands-on figures, made of natural and meticulously designed materials. The storyteller, serves as a "guide" to the truth being told. Then, sits back and asks, "I wonder ...?" allowing the children to find their own way. Children are encouraged to explore their thoughts, ideas and feelings about the story through expressive art following the presentation..."*

## Civil Discourse Sessions



The Episcopal Diocese of Arizona, the Arizona Chapter of the Union of Black Episcopalians (UBE), and Province VIII Black African Ministries (BAM) invite you

to join us to learn about civil discourse. Civil discourse is engagement in conversation intended to enhance understanding. In this curriculum, we will discuss and dialogue on the need for civil discourse and values-based conversations. This 4-week series will allow participants to work through what it means to enter civil discourse in a practical way.




Sessions will be held on Tuesdays, 6:30-8:00 pm PST on 9/13, 9/20, 9/27, and 10/4/22. Space is limited, please register by 9/10/22 using the link below. This is a FREE event with an optional suggested donation \$20. [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYkd0uuuqj4tE9G3bmBH\\_HGwqSsOKxW6XT7p](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYkd0uuuqj4tE9G3bmBH_HGwqSsOKxW6XT7p)  
For more information [email](#) here.

**DR. WYATT SMITH**  
**HARPSICHORD**  
**THE GOLDBERG VARIATIONS**  
**J.S. BACH**



**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup>**  
**8:00pm**

 **CHRIST  
EPISCOPAL  
CHURCH**

**310 North K Street,  
Tacoma, WA 98403**  
[www.christchurchtacoma.org](http://www.christchurchtacoma.org)

# Worship at Christ Church

Sunday Worship at Christ Episcopal Church, Tacoma  
The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost, September 4, 2022:

## Daily Office at Christ Church

◇ Monday 9:00am\*

[Morning Prayer](#)

◇ Tuesday 7:30am\*

[Lectio Divina](#)

◇ Thursday 7:30am\*

[Morning Prayer](#)

◇ Saturday 9:00am

[Morning Prayer](#)

\*zoom link available at  
[christchurchtacoma.org/calendar](http://christchurchtacoma.org/calendar)

8:30am Holy Eucharist in Trinity Chapel  
10:30am Holy Eucharist in the Church and



[Bulletin for 10:30am](#)

Visit [Christchurchtacoma.org/calendar](http://Christchurchtacoma.org/calendar) for weekday Morning Prayer,  
Lectio Divina, and Conversation & Compline Service Schedule

## Christ Episcopal Church

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PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

TO:

