

Christ Church Weekly

A newsletter for members and friends

A Message from Fr. Samuel Torvend

This past Sunday, September 25, a parish member challenged by a mental health disorder entered the sacristy before worship where she spoke to me, insisting that she was going to speak at length during the Holy Eucharist. It was clear to me and others that her prescribed medication had not been taken. Much of her speech was confusing; it also vacillated between sounding friendly and angry, bordering on belligerence. I said that she was welcome to speak with friends during coffee hour but this invitation was refused and I was told where I could go. At this point, our senior warden, Christi McCarren, assisted in escorting her to an entryway pew where they were able to sit for much of the service. As I was about to pronounce the final blessing, our troubled member entered the church, having ripped a No Trespassing sign from its holding, began yelling, and then threw the metal sign in the direction of the altar party. Her eyes, however, were on me.

This is not the first time and, no doubt, will not be the last time someone enters worship who is agitated, confused, or belligerent. A number of parishioners told me that they were frightened by the yelling and throwing of an object that would hurt someone. As you know, we do not worship in private; ours is a public worship. We pray

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MOVING
forward

Christ Church Parish



Friday, September 30, 2022

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Upcoming Events

- Christ Church Underground, October 2
- Blessing of the Animals October 2
- Ministry Fair October 9
- Adult Formation: Seeing Jesus, October 10, 17, and 24
- Christian Faith and Animal Rights, October 13
- Secular Book Club, October 14
- Concert: Esoterics, October 15
- Third Friday Concert: Andrew Koch, October 21
- Diocesan Convention, October 21 & 22
- Godly Play Virtual Intro, October 22
- Coat Drive, October 23 & 30
- Jan Shoop Committal Service, October 30

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:

Mark Nassutti; Christi McCarren; Stephen Behr; Doug Dahlgren; Christinna Olsson; Pat Trytten; Melissa Glick, Lea Worth; Ginny Peterson; Elin Gratton; Leslie Brooks and her children; 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:

David Burton Grimes; and Fred A. Heyn.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Huston Camp & Conference Center, Gold Bar • St. Andrew's House, Union • Refugee Resettlement Office Canada

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 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](#)



Fr. Samuel Torvend Message

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for and care for members, friends, and strangers who are in need as witnessed by our senior warden who only a few weeks ago invited a highly agitated man to sit with her for the service. Why was he agitated? He was hungry. Luckily our senior warden had something that he could eat. When he left, he gave her a sweet peck on the cheek and thanked her. But a bite of food would not calm someone hallucinating and in a highly aggressive mood.

Our goal is to Care and to Protect. And in pursuing the latter, our desire is to ensure that our worship space is a safe one for all; that no one feels threatened by yelling, by belligerent acts, or by verbal threats. To this end we are working to bring an expert in de-escalating belligerent activity to coach our staff and ushers. At the same time, we recognize that there are degrees of agitation: some can be cared for with a friendly word or a willingness to listen. At other times, however, when harm seems possible, another response is needed. We aspire to provide Care and Protection. As our colleagues in other churches and in the city's one synagogue make clear: we have a moral and a legal responsibility to ensure that no harm is done in the house of God. We ask for your prayerful support.

Sacrament of Healing

Should you seek the healing presence of God in your life, please come to the altar platform after the postlude concludes at the **10:30 Eucharist on October 2. Fr. Torvend** will be present for the laying on of hands and anointing with healing oil.

Spiritual Gifts Inventory

The United Methodists have produced a helpful inventory that allows one to see a bit more clearly what one's gifts or abilities are within a Christian context. Answer the questions asked and then wait for a moment: a report on your spiritual gifts will appear. Our only regret: there are no questions that can help one discern the gift of ironing altar linens! [Here's the link:](https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/spiritual-gifts-inventory/en) <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/spiritual-gifts-inventory/en> Why not take the inventory before our Ministry Fair on **Sunday, October 9?**

Mondays, October 10, 17, and 24

Seeing Jesus: Sacred Art as a Dimension of Faith

7 PM on Zoom with **Don Johnson**

Over the centuries the story of Jesus has been told in words -- and in pictures. How do we "read" this rich visual part of our heritage? Join together in exploring the meaning and value of selected images of Jesus for the life of faith. Register for this engaging conversation by sending an [email to Fr. Torvend](#) no later than Thursday, October 6.



Episcopal
Relief & Development



*What is our Christian
obligation to animals?*

Christian Faith and Animal Rights

A discussion with

Dr. Dustin Crummert, PhD

Thursday
October 13, 2022
7:00pm



**Christ Church Trinity Library
310 North K Street
Tacoma, WA 98403**

253.383.1569
info@christchurchtacoma.org
christchurchtacoma.org

Adult Formation

Thursday, October 13

Christian Faith and Animal Rights

7 PM in the Parish Library with

Dustin Crummert

On Sunday, October 2, we will celebrate the Blessing of Animals in the courtyard. Flowing from that blessing, we are glad to announce that Dr. Dustin Crummert, Christ Church worshipper and professor of philosophy at UWT, will lead a discussion on October 13 concerning Christian faith and animal rights. Dustin says: *Some influential schools of Christian thought have held that we have no, or only very minimal, obligations to animals. But if we consult sources like reason, the Bible, or Jesus, this turns out to be false, and the result is that we should often treat animals differently than we currently do. Save the date for what will be a fascinating and enlightening discussion.*

Children's Formation

A Virtual Introduction to Godly Play will take place on **Saturday, October 22**, from 12:00noon to 1:30pm. We have purchased registrations for two individuals to attend. Please contact [Christi McCarren](#) by email or 253.677.8227 if you are interested.



Service

Little Food Pantry

That stand in front of the church that holds food for those in need is a kind of oasis. Oases are traditionally places of refreshment, and often the means of survival. Like the real thing the Little Pantry often has water as well as food for those in need. Sometimes around oases fig trees are known to flourish – food indeed. We are the ones who keep this oasis of nourishment filled with plenty, and we are doing a splendid job of it. Last Sunday there was a huge outpouring of gifts of non-perishable foods. Thank you so much.

~ The Little Pantry Team



Sunday, October 9

Ministry Fair

11:45 AM in Wells Hall

Prior to the pandemic, we held a Ministry Fair during coffee hour in Wells Hall and - guess what? - we're doing it again as we move forward into Autumn! If your group or ministry would like to host a table kindly send an email to parish administrator, [Deborah Breneman](#) no later than Wednesday, October 4. Your table will need to be ready to go before the 10:30 Holy Eucharist ends on October 9. We have many newcomers and visitors who just might be interested in your particular ministry.

Service

Veterans' Village

On Monday, members of the CSLT and spouses went to the Veterans' Village (AKA FOB Hope) and provided a full BBQ dinner.

Len Johnson was the grill master, cooking up cheese burgers for everyone. We had all the fixin's, plus baked beans, potato salad, chips, soda, and cookies.

The residents were really appreciative and enjoyed the meal. Having been living on the street before coming to the Village, many expressed how long it had been since they had a BBQ. Several stayed to chat with us. We are beginning to develop a community with them.

Our plan is to provide a lunch or dinner on the 4th Monday of the month. Our next meal will be on October 24. We need volunteers to help plan the meal, shop for the food, and help serve.

If you would like to participate, let [Deacon Donna](#) or [Deacon Gen](#) know. Or you can stop by the CSLT table at the Ministry Fair.

FOB Hope provides a safe place for previously homeless veterans to live while providing them with case management for the purpose of getting them into more permanent housing.

~ Deacon Donna

Community

Parish Life Update

Your Parish Life Committee has been busy at work coordinating activities for the church community of Christ Church Parish. In addition to treats for humans, we will be providing treats for dogs and cats at the Blessing of Animals this Sunday in the courtyard. See

Community

below for more info.

The following **Sunday, October 9**, is our **Ministry Fair**. Since we are now into the fall season, we would like to encourage members to provide their favorite apple dish to share: pies, cobblers, sauces, cakes—whatever you like to make—and bring it to Coffee Hour. It's not a contest, but rather a chance to share a "potluck" of apple goodness with your church family and friends.

We are interested in having more folks join our committee, and certainly are most willing to entertain your suggestions regarding fellowship ideas. People have expressed interest in potlucks, game nights, dinners, and just some gatherings for fellowship besides Coffee Hour.

Looking forward to trying your apple goodies.

~Carol Gregory



Blessing of the Animals

You are most welcome to bring your pet to the church courtyard on **Sunday, October 2, at 4:00 pm**. Each pet will receive its own blessing and you'll receive a certificate that acknowledges the blessing to take home. Our terrific Parish Life Team will have refreshments for humans and pets. Consider inviting neighbors, friends, and work colleagues to bring their pets to Christ Church.

Blessing of the ANIMALS

*You are welcome to bring your
pet to the courtyard.
Treats for humans
and pets provided.*

Sunday,
October 2
4:00pm



Community

Message from the Senior Warden

Vestry News

The most important news to share is that your Vestry voted on September 20th not to call another Interim Rector. Fr. Torvend has graciously agreed to stay in his current role as part time Priest for Worship, Adult Formation and Pastoral Care through the end of the year. At that time, we will reevaluate where we stand relative to our Rector Call.

Profile Committee

Our Profile Committee is writing in earnest and should have a completed document by the end of October. As such, plans for a Search Committee are underway. More information to follow in October.

Financial Status

We continue to track well with our 2022 budget. As of the end of August, our revenue was \$6668 over budget. During the same period expenses were under by \$39,016, spread evenly across all expense categories. We must remain cautious as our expenses continue to exceed our income by \$106,545 year to date. We close this gap through budgeted Fund Transfers.

Rental Income Fall 2022

Thanks to the proactive efforts of our Parish Administrator, Deborah Breneman, we are seeing a significant increase in rentals.

Continued on page 10

August 2022 Budget Report					
REVENUE	Current Month	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	2022 Budget	
Pledge Payments	\$ 31,909	\$ 245,921	\$ 225,750	\$ 350,000	
Other Contributions	2,531	17,014	31,488	44,503	
Event Revenue	1,062	1,062	934	2,153	
Facility Rental	3,267	26,176	25,333	38,000	
Total Revenue	\$ 38,769	\$ 290,173	\$ 283,505	\$ 434,656	
EXPENSES					
Outreach and Assistance	10,758	72,927	78,556	113,644	Primarily diocesan assessment
Personnel Compensation and Benefits	22,247	241,913	259,830	383,132	
Worship, Christian Formation, and Hospitality	3,791	9,896	6,243	15,888	
Facilities	3,035	40,061	51,743	69,616	
Administrative	5,591	31,295	38,118	45,674	
Other	-	626	1,244	3,485	
Total Expenses	\$ 45,422	\$ 396,718	\$ 435,734	\$ 631,439	
Net Results before Fund Transfers	\$ (6,653)	\$ (106,545)	\$ (152,229)	\$ (196,783)	
Fund Transfers					
Boaler	14,000	70,000	94,400	114,400	
Dahl	3,923	46,627	42,816	57,088	
Outreach	2,372	13,672	28,323	28,323	
Total Fund Transfers	\$ 20,295	\$ 130,299	\$ 165,539	\$ 199,811	
Net Results	\$ 13,642	\$ 23,754	\$ 13,310	\$ 3,028	
Annual Budget Amounts reflect revisions approved by Vestry in February 2022					

CHRIST CHURCH PARISH PRESENTS

FALL MINISTRY FAIR

Sunday, October 9 | 11:45 am

Find your calling at Christ Church.

Coffee, tea, and treats for all.

Christ Church Wells Hall

310 North K Street

Tacoma, WA 98403

253.383.1569 | info@christchurchtacoma.org

christchurchtacoma.org

Message from the Senior Warden

Continued from page 8

Organization	Date
NW Rep Singers Audition	August 22/29
Wellspring	August 21
Contra Dance	September 11
NW Rep Singers Retreat	September 17
NW Rep Singers Rehearsals	September 19-December 12
Contra Dance	October 9
Esoterics	October 15
Contra Dance	November 13
Wellspring	December 4
Contra Dance	December 11
NW Rep Singers	December 17/18
WA Regency	January 7
NW Rep Singers Retreat	January 21
Total:	\$6540

Donations As usual, you are a very generous congregation. The list below is a summary of contributions from the beginning of the year. It does not reflect fund balances in certain categories (example: Rector's Discretionary Fund).

Contributions by purpose for the period of 01/01/2022 to 09/15/2022		
Generated by gordon.craig.cpa@gmail.com on 2022-09-15 19:28		
Purpose	Amount	# Contributions
Pledges	253,818.26	570
Non-Pledged Giving	8,431.62	69
Plate Offering	4,142.54	39
Rector's Discretionary Fund	400.00	3
Godly Play	1,960.00	5
Wyatt Smith Concert on 9 September 2022	775.00	6
Jazz in the Courtyard	1,483.50	13
Third Friday Concerts	1,377.05	17
Wells Hall Door Replacement	2,624.80	16
Dahl Music Fund	7,109.45	23
Capital Projects Fund	520.00	3
Facility Rental/Use	26,868.77	22
Flowers	1,878.62	24
Other Contributions	1,710.02	9
Livestreaming Fund	1,375.00	2
Adult Formation	841.31	12
Choral Scholars Fundraiser	5,134.57	19
Good Friday Offering	373.00	5
Ukraine Fundraiser	50.00	1
Shrove Tuesday Dinner	309.00	2
June Mystery Dinner	485.00	8
Plate Offering - 8:30 Service	50.00	2
Livestreaming System Use	150.00	1
In-Kind Donations	212.32	2
Columbarium Fund	675.00	1
Jan Shoop Funeral /BurialContributions	675.00	6
Total	323,429.83	880

Children's Faith Formation

Godly Play was launched September 18, 2022 and went extremely well. With the generosity of this congregation, we have been able to purchase most of the materials needed for the 2022-23 year.

In October the Godly Play Foundation is offering an on-line class: An Introduction to Godly Play. We have reserved two registrations for anyone interested in learning more.

Congregational Development

Grant Proposal

To support expansion of *Music at Christ Church*, a Congregational Development Grant application was submitted on Wednesday, June 22, 2022. Unfortunately, our grant was denied. The rationale given was that the Diocese supported church "core functions."

Odds and Ends

You may have noticed one of the front pews missing to accommodate our congregants with disabilities.

"I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope."
Jeremiah 29:11

~Christi McCarren, Senior Warden



Episcopal
Relief & Development

Please contribute to the
Hurricane Relief Fund
to support relief and recovery efforts.



COAT DRIVE

in support of

AIDNW

*Bring your clean, gently-used or new coats
on Sunday October 23 and 30.*

CHRIST CHURCH TACOMA
310 North K Street
Tacoma, WA 98403
253.383.1569 | info@christchurchtacoma



The Esoterics: **THE VALLEYS** the atlas of the way

Appearing at Christ Church Tacoma

Saturday, October 15 at 8:00pm.

For tickets, visit their [website](#).

General admission is \$20, student/senior \$15.

Appearing at Plymouth Church in Seattle

Sunday, October 16 at 4:00pm.

14-16 Octo

A world premiere by American Sufi composer, Forrest Farhad Pierce

In THE VALLEYS, The Esoterics is excited to present a world-premiere commission by Forrest Farhad Pierce: *The atlas of the way*. Originally from the Columbia Plateau of Washington state, Pierce is now Professor of Composition at the University of Kansas, a member of the faculty of the Cortona Sessions for New Music, a wayfarer of both mountains and valleys, and a teacher of Sufism in the Inayati tradition. Pierce writes music of meditative stillness and ecstatic virtuosity that is rooted in a deep connection to the natural world.

In his *Atlas*, Pierce has created a concert-length *a cappella* choral work based on the epic Sufi poem, *The conference of the birds [Mantiq ut-Tair]*, by Farid ud-Din Attar (1145-1221). As both poet and composer, Pierce has distilled nearly five thousand couplets of this ancient poem into a nine-movement work, with eight interludes (called *sohbets*). Pierce's piece describes the journey of a gathering of curious birds who are led by their teacher - the hoopoe - to learn of their own origin. Through this vast landscape, the birds traverse seven evocatively-named valleys - of farawayfaring, lovestruckness, kenning, enoughing, onement, wonderstruckness, and noughtness - each representing a Sufi *maqam*, or spiritual station of progress. Between each musical valley, Pierce's interstitial *sohbets* capture quiet, intimate conversations between student and teacher in which they reflect on this spiritual journey.

ber 2022

Community

Message from the Junior Warden

I have exciting news! The electrical upgrade to support an HVAC system for Wells Hall has been almost completed and the work on the HVAC system is scheduled to start next week. We have been two long years without heat/cooling in this wonderful facility. I am so thankful that we can look forward to being warm when it is cool and cool when it is warm!

Just like in our own homes, however, when we make improvements, other needs emerge. Thanks to the diligent work of our Parish Administrator, Deborah Brenneman, we are renting space in Wells Hall multiple times a month. And, of course, it is our central gathering place for socializing and Parish Life events.

Look around the next time you are in Wells Hall. Look at the bathrooms (upstairs and down). Look at the kitchen, our classrooms, and the stage. This is the picture we present to all who enter our “living room.” I cannot predict the future. We know that we have some serious space and financial planning to do over the next 3-5 years. However, in the interim, the impression that others who only join us in this space, is a bit beyond “Shabby Chic.” And, as we use the space, it is important for us to both feel safe and comfortable as well.

The Vestry has put together a preliminary list of projects that would make Wells Hall more presentable in this interim time while we are planning. These are not big projects, but rather smaller projects that would greatly improve the appearance, safety, and usability of Wells Hall as a venue as well as for our Parish. I am including the list below. All costs

are “estimates” based on proposals and/or other information. Please note that this is not an exhaustive list.

Questions? Concerns? Please contact me by [email](#) or phone (or 253 318-8372). Thanks for reading this message!

~Nancy Gow Knudsen, Junior Warden

Wells Hall

Curtains and Rigging	\$10,000
Doors	\$10,000
Paint 1st Floor	\$ 7,000
Paint 2nd Floor	\$ 5,000
Bathroom 1st Floor	\$13,000
Bathroom 1st Floor	\$ 5,000
	\$ 5,100
Bathroom 2nd Floor	\$ 5,000
Fireplace Room Carpet	\$ 5,000
Fireplace Room paint	\$ 2,000
Fireplace Room chairs	\$ 3,500
Green Room (paint, floors	\$ 3,000
furniture)	
Room next to Green Room	\$ 3,000
(paint, floors, furniture)	
Children's bathrooms 2nd fl	\$ 6,000
Refurbish nursery	\$ 2,500
Refurbish Sunday School	\$ 2,500

Education

Godly Play (children's \$ 4,187

Kitchen

Cabinets, flooring, counters \$30,000

Inviting Friends and Family to Christ Church Events—

If you would like mini posters to hand out to your family and friends, feel free to take some from the glass table in the Church entry, or drop by the Parish Office to pick some up. You are welcome to have as many as you need!



**Please support hurricane recovery efforts
Episcopal Relief & Development mobilizes in
coordination with local partners to provide
assistance to those affected by hurricanes.
Please contribute to the [Hurricane Relief Fund](#) to
support relief and recovery efforts.**



Episcopal
Relief & Development

Worship at Christ Church

Sunday Worship at Christ Episcopal Church, Tacoma
The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost, October 2, 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

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



[Bulletin for 10:30am](#)

Visit Christchurchtacoma.org/calendar for weekday Morning Prayer,
Lectio Divina, and Conversation & Compline Service Schedule

Christ Episcopal Church

310 North K Street
Tacoma, Washington 98403

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christchurchtacoma.org

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

TO:

