

Christ Church Weekly

A newsletter for members and friends

A Message from Fr. Samuel Torvend

I've been listening to a podcast called *On Judaism*, recommended by Marc Dollinger, the Goldman Chair in Jewish Studies at San Francisco State. The podcast focuses on why Jews drop out of participating in synagogue life. Much of what is discussed in *On Judaism* also rings true for those who identify as Christian but don't participate in a Christian community (and that's a large percentage of the population in the Pacific Northwest). Here's some of what Jews and Christians need to keep in mind:

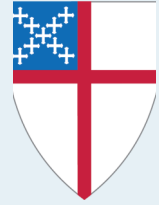
- ◇ "I came to worship but no one said a word to me the whole time I was there. I expect an usher to greet me but what about others?"
- ◇ "I came to worship and then went to the coffee hour but saw friends talking to friends: no one offered me a word of welcome. I might as well have been invisible."
- ◇ "The clergy made no attempt to reach out to us after the service or during the reception afterward."
- ◇ "I don't want people fawning over me; that's scary when you're new. But at least a word of welcome isn't too much to ask, is it?"

This particular podcast focused on how spiritual communities can make the **mistake** of assuming that lots of **programs** are sufficient to keep people returning. Yes, a mistake. This is not to poo-poo programs and events: they are important in the life of a spiritual community. The mistake is this:

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MOVING
forward

Christ Church Parish



Friday, October 21, 2022

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Upcoming Events

- Diocesan Convention, October 21 & 22
- Godly Play Virtual Intro, October 22
- Coat Drive, October 23
- Monthly Reading Group, October 23
- Jazz at Christ Church, October 29
- Coffee with the Wardens, October 30
- Newcomers' Coffee, October 30
- Jan Shoop Committal Service, October 30
- Adult Formation: Seeing Jesus, October 31
- Feast of All Souls, November 2
- Christ Church Underground, November 6
- How We'll Exist in Heaven, November 6
- Adult Formation: The Gift November 7

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; Stephen Behr; Christinna Olsson; Pat Trytten; Melissa Glick, Lea Worth; Ginny Peterson; Elin Gratton; Leslie Brooks; 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.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Community of the Lamb • Brotherhood of St. Andrew • The Order of Saint Francis

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Extra-Provincial Churches

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](#)



Worship

A Message from Fr. Torvend

Continued from page 1.

assuming that one does not need to attend to and nourish **relationships**.

When we think about **Jesus**, he did not offer a lot of programs to his disciples (other than those few times when he sat them down to discuss how to pray, who is blessed in the eyes of God, why service to others is a significant mark of being his follower). He did offer a relationship, **friendship**, with a great diversity of people: from widows to tax collectors to well-funded women to those challenged by poverty or illness to children.

Relationships matter enormously, especially after years of social isolation and fear of being with others. Whenever we can welcome and help people gain a sense of belonging by attending to them, to their questions and their needs, we break down the barrier of “insider” vs. “outsider.”

Worship

Once again, we are glad to welcome Fr. Evan Clendenin as guest priest on Sunday, October 23. Fr. Clendenin will preside and preach at the 8:30 and 10:30 Eucharists. Fr. Torvend will be away at what has become a working vacation. He will return on Sunday, October 30.

Sunday, October 30

Prayer and Committal of Jan Shoop

At 2 PM on Sunday, October 30, we will hold a brief service of commendation followed by the interment of Jan Shoop’s ashes in the garden by the reflecting pool. The service of commendation will take place in Trinity Chapel.

All Souls

All the Faithful Departed, November 2

The Episcopal calendar includes a feast for **All the Faithful Departed**, commonly called **All Souls** (November 2). This day is devoted to remembering our beloved dead and praying for them “because we still hold them in our love, and because we trust that in God’s presence those who have chosen to serve God will grow in God’s love” (BCP 862). On **Wednesday, November 2, at 7 PM** we will celebrate the feast of All Souls at Holy Eucharist and, for the first time, use the beautiful readings, prayers, and songs appointed for this day. This solemn liturgy will include the reading of the names of our beloved dead.

Should you want the name or names of your beloved dead read at the All Souls Holy Eucharist on November 2, please **send their names** to our [Parish Administrator, Deborah Breneman](#), no later than **Wednesday, October 26**. We need first name and last name; no titles.

Worship

Altar of Remembrance

As in the past, we will have an **altar of remembrance** in the church, thanks to Sue Stibbe, where you can bring a framed photograph of your beloved dead and light a candle in their memory. The altar of remembrance will be present in the church during the month of November through the Feast of the Reign of Christ, Sunday, November 20. You'll find it close to the glass window that overlooks the reflecting pool.

All Saints, November 6

On the Episcopal calendar, the feast of All Saints (November 1) is a baptismal feast day in which we renew our baptismal vows within the communion of all the saints: the women and men of heroic virtue who serve as guides for living as Christians in the world today. Their names are found on pages 19-30 of the Book of Common Prayer or you can find them here, with a short biography (<http://www.satucket.com/lectionary/Calendar.htm>).

Adult Formation

Monday, October 31

Seeing Jesus: Sacred Art as a Dimension of Faith

7 PM on Zoom with **Don Johnson**

The Monday, October 24 meeting, has been moved to Monday, October 31, from 7:00 to 8:00PM. Again, please note: no meeting on October 24.

Adult Formation

How We'll Exist in Heaven,

November 6

12 Noon in the Parish Library

Dr. Robin Okumu, expert in Dante Alighieri's *Divine Comedy*, will discuss the 14th c. poet's remarkable view of our corporal and relational union with God and all others souls in heaven. During the month of November when we consider "the last things," Dr. Okumu's presentation will be a truly eye-opening glimpse of this great master's vision of Paradise.

The Gift of Preparation:

Make Your Wishes Known!

**Mondays, November 7 and 14 at 7 PM
on Zoom**

We have no idea when death will usher us into what the prayer book calls "the heavenly country." A great gift to family and friends is the preparation you make now that will relieve them of wondering what to do as they bid farewell. In this two-part series, Fr. Torvend will discuss the beautiful funeral rites of the Episcopal Church and what participants can do to make their funeral wishes known to family and friends. To register for this important class, send your [email registration](#) no later than Thursday, November 3. In the subject heading of your email, type: Preparation.



Children's Formation

Two individuals have stepped forward to take part in a Virtual Introduction to Godly Play, which will take place on **Saturday, October 22**, from 12:00noon to 1:30pm. Please contact [Christi McCarren](#) by email or 253.677.8227 if you are interested in helping with this Children's Formation program.



Service

Boy, there are a lot of hungry people around. You should see how fast food disappears from our **Little Pantry** on K Street in front of the church property. Once a few months ago a volunteer stocked the pantry well, and by the time the volunteer got in her car and drove past the pantry it was empty. We don't ask questions about who takes the food. We assume the best. We have to. We must. So, we *keep on keeping* on helping those in need. Join the givers. Bring a little something non-perishable on Sundays to feed the hungry.



Service

COAT DRIVE
for
AIDNW
*in support of
asylum seekers*



October 9, 16, & 23

PLEASE BRING CLEAN, GENTLY-USED
OR NEW, MEN'S
MEDIUM OR LARGE COATS

Flash! *The Number 13 is not always unlucky! Especially when you consider that 13 is the number of coats for Asylum Seekers which have been given by members of Christ Church and friends.*

Can we double that number by next Sunday? You bet we can.

Remember: October 23 is the last day of this quickie coat drive.

If you have a coat to donate but can't be in church on the 23rd, you can leave it at the church office, Monday through Thursday from 10:00am to 1:00pm.

Join the coat donors! Help those seeking a new life and freedom in the U.S.A .

~CSLT

Service

Community

Veterans' Village Dinner

We will be serving dinner to the (previously) homeless veterans at the **Veterans Village** on **Monday, October 24th**. Our menu will be meatloaf, mashed potatoes with gravy, winter squash, dinner rolls, iced tea and dessert. Yum!!

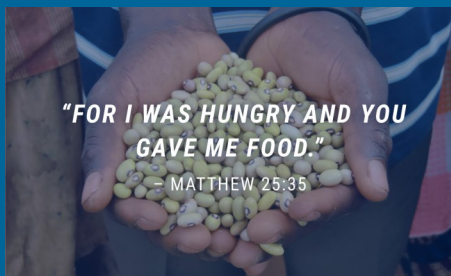
We love doing this for them, and they are so appreciative of a home-cooked meal. We will be cooking in the kitchen after church on **Sunday, October 23rd** – if you'd like to join us just show up, we'd love for you to be part of our outreach.

The Veterans Village provides safe, secure temporary housing for homeless vets, as well as referrals to services they need to get back on their feet. It is located at 82nd and Pacific Ave. We help by providing one hot dinner a month for the residents. ~ **Deacon Donna Arellano**



Help end the global food crisis.

[Donate here](#)



Where's the heat?

Supply chain and labor issues have delayed the start of the work on the HVAC system for Wells Hall. We now have a tentative start date of October 30th with completion expected one month after the work starts. This is, of course, disappointing! However, we are working on a temporary solution for heating in November and as much of December as needed. Thanks for your patience and understanding!

Questions? Please contact me [by email](#) or by phone (253 318-8372).

~ **Nancy Gow Knudsen, Junior Warden**



Our next **Third Friday Concert** will take place on **Friday, November 18** at 12:10pm, featuring organist **Cheryl Drewes**.

Cheryl will be performing works by Cabanilles, Scarlatti, Fauré, and Guinaldo.

Jazz at Christ Church

featuring **94 Strings Attached**

Saturday, October 29 | Wells Hall

7:00pm

Elliott Turner, guitar | **Joshua VanCleave, jazz piano**

Suggested donation \$10, cash/check



*94 Strings
Attached*



Coffee

with the Wardens



Last Sunday of each Month

Join us for coffee, tea, and conversation
with

Christi McCarren, Sr. Warden, and/or
Nancy Gow Knudsen, Jr. Warden

Worship at Christ Church

Sunday Worship at Christ Episcopal Church, Tacoma
The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost, October 23, 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

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PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

TO:

