



# Christ Church Weekly

*A newsletter for members and friends*

**Christ Church Parish • Friday, March 3, 2023**

## ***A Message from Fr. Samuel Torvend***

Years ago, I enrolled in a graduate school course on *global theology*: how Christian cultures from around the world understand God. It was a fascinating study as we encountered theologies from China, the Maori of New Zealand, South Africa, Brazil, Russia, and the Sami of Norway and Sweden. It became clear that when the “seed” of Christian faith and life is planted in a particular cultural “soil,” there will be diverse forms of faith appearing.

One day I met the professor in his office. There was an enormous map of the world covering one wall. I was struck by the red pins pushed into different locations throughout the world and asked Fr. Powell if the pins related to the cultures being studied in class. “Oh no,” he said gently. “Each morning I listen to the news on the BBC to find out what parts of world are experiencing distress and that becomes my morning prayer: holding the people who live in these distressed areas in prayer before God.” Why the BBC? Better coverage of international news than what one finds in the U.S.

I found this brief conversation to be a helpful corrective to my very personal prayer - largely focused on me, my family, and friends. The map with pins served to expand my prayer but also my interest in Christian communities different than my own.

During these days of Lent, we are invited to be more intentional in our prayer: to set aside a time each day, without distraction, for conversation with God. This week my prayer has expanded to Greece, Nigeria, and the Palestinian Territories - as well as Ukraine. Might this be a good time to expand one’s prayer and concern beyond the borders of the U.S.?

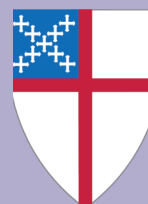
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## **Upcoming Events**

- Lent Quiet Morning  
**March 4**
- Rector Search Committee  
**March 5**
- Evening Prayer and Soup Supper,  
**March 8**
- Garden Clean-up Party, **March 11**
- Adult Formation: Water, Light, and  
Life Lead Us to the Three Days,  
**March 12**
- Evening Prayer and Soup Supper,  
**March 15**
- Adult Formation: Water, Light, and  
Life Lead Us to the Three Days,  
**March 19**
- Vestry Meeting, **March 21**

Click Here to Donate  
to *Deck the Halls*  
(Wells Hall)



**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:

Roby and Marie Dodd; Tammy Creley; Liz Heath; Robert Reeves; Miri Hindes; Christina Amos; Dick Gregory; Bill Garriott; Stephen Behr; Christinna Olsson; Melissa Glick, Ginny Peterson; Morrie Stafford; and Jim Pierson.

**Those who have died in Christ, who holds us in life and death, and all who grieve for them:** Lloyd Albert; Debbie Oakman; and Lois Garriott.

### Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Ascension, Seattle • Epiphany Seattle • St. Clement of Rome, Seattle

### Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Church of the Province of South East Asia

## 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

To submit an article to the *Christ Church Weekly*, contact the Parish Administrator.

Articles must be submitted by Tuesdays 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 and Formation

## Preparing for Holy Baptism

The invitation to keep a holy Lent spoken during the Ash Wednesday liturgy includes this important sentence: This season of Lent provides a time in which those coming to the faith are prepared for Holy Baptism. And so it is with great joy that we announce that **Savannah McClellan** will be



preparing for Holy Baptism at the Easter Vigil on Saturday, April 8. Kindly keep Savannah in your prayer throughout the coming days and weeks. And, then, let us gather on Holy Saturday evening as she is washed publicly into the life of the risen Christ.

## Weekly Altar Flower Donations

There are still a few Sundays available for flower donations; please sign up in the Narthex. ***Please note that due to our arrangement with our florist, we are unable to accept specific floral requests.***



**Saturday, March 4**

## Lent Quiet Morning

**10:00am to 12:00 noon**

### In the church

The Daily Office Team invites you to Morning Prayer in the church at 9 AM, followed by refreshments in the entry way. The Quiet Morning will then begin at 10 AM in the church (and will be live-streamed as well). We will reflect on how ancient monastic wisdom can lead us to keep a fruitful and life-giving Lent. While this is a free event and open to all, your donations are always welcomed.

**Wednesday, March 8**

## Evening Prayer at Table

**6:00 PM**

Join us for evening prayer and a simple soup supper: a time for common prayer, good conversation, and delicious soup. If you plan to come, please *sign up* on the sheet at the glass table in the church entryway on *Sunday, March 5*. Evening prayer with soup supper will continue each Wednesday in Lent.

**Sundays, March 12, 19, and 26**

## Water, Light, and Life lead us to the Three Days

**11:45 AM in the Parish Library**

In these three gatherings, we will discuss how each image from the Sunday's gospel invites us into a closer relationship with Christ, each other, and the world in which we live - with art, music, and spiritual reflections.

# Formation

Sunday, March 19

## Monthly Reading Group

6:30 pm

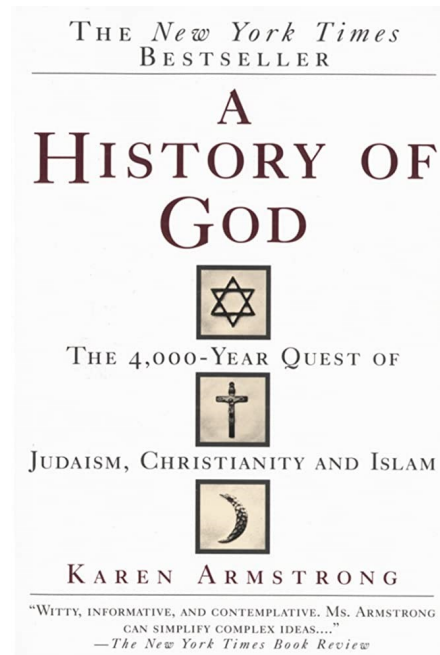
Meet at the home of Ronn and Sandy Johanson to discuss chapters 1-6 of *A History of God* by Karen Armstrong.

Godly Play, our  
Children's  
Formation,

is now every

Sunday through mid

June. Meet in the Narthex at 10:30 am to travel to Wells Hall together on Sundays.



# Service

Our crew at the **Little Free Pantry** is ready to grow again. The Community Service Leadership Team has found the pantry to be a very meaningful project, and wants to continue helping those who are experiencing food shortage. We can put lots of good things out there in our street level pantry. We just need volunteers—Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, most any time of day that suits you. It's about a 10-minute Labor of Love. Contact [Jim Limerick](#) to sign up. ~Jim Limerick



## Help needed this Sunday...

We are hoping for at least 2 volunteers who could help move tables and chairs out of the way after our Coffee Hour this Sunday. It should take only a few minutes to clear the room for its next use.



# VOLUNTEER

If you are available, please see Tim, our Sexton, on Sunday. He will be glad to see you, as he has been injured and is unable to do this work for a few weeks. Thank you in advance for your help!

# Service

Saturday March 11

## Spring Garden Clean-up Party

10:00am—12:00noon



I'm hoping many of you will be able to join us on **Saturday, March 11**, from 10:00am—12:00 noon to begin preparing our gardens for Spring.

Our work will be focused on clearing out the beds, weeding, and light pruning. Our arborist, Robert Sweet, will be with us on April 3 to prune our courtyard trees and larger landscaping.

Please [let me know](#) if you can attend. Hopefully our weather will have warmed up a bit by then!

~Linda Johnson



## CHRIST CHURCH PARISH

**S**ome of you may have been wondering if we forgot to order paper plates and plastic forks for use during Coffee Hours and special events....or if we re-organized so well in the Wells Hall kitchen we can't find them any longer...but, the news is, we are not purchasing these disposable items any more.

Christ Church is moving toward becoming a **Green Parish**.

**What does this mean?** Moving forward, we are making small changes that will hopefully have a large impact. For example, instead of plasticware, we will be using the silverware we already have, and instead of paper plates that end up as mounds of trash, we can wash the dishes that we already own, in our own dishwasher.

Other small changes: purchasing LED lightbulbs to replace regular bulbs, purchasing recycled paper towels and napkins, saying no to Styrofoam and plastic, making sure to throw paper waste in the recycling bins instead of regular trash. Stay tuned for more information as we welcome the **Executive Director of Earth Ministry, Keah Callucie**, on **April 23**.

~Deborah Breneman

# Community

Did you join in the fun last week? How did your Saints do? As of the writing of this article, we've had 6 contests – I am 3 and 3. I was hoping that Olga was going to win over Bertha, because her life shows that metanoia is possible for anyone, with God's help. Honestly, I didn't know about her prior to this but I like her story. Did you learn about someone new? it would have been fun to see Augustine battle his mother for a spot in the Elate 8. But Joanna proved to be a worthy opponent for Monica.

If you are saying to yourself, "What the heck is Deacon Donna talking about?". Then go and check out Lent Madness ([www.lentmadness.org](http://www.lentmadness.org)). This fun game is brought to us by Forward Movement, the group that publishes Forward Day-by-Day. 32 Saints, chosen by the "Supreme Executive Committee" of Fathers Tim Schenck and Scot Gunn, compete for the honor of being awarded the Golden Halo. We the People vote each weekday in Lent, and learn (more) about some amazing people.

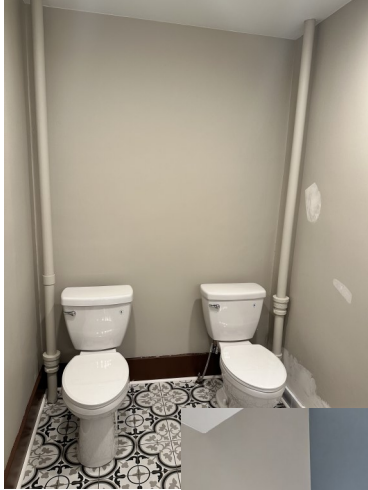
Past wearers of the Golden Halo have been José Hernández (2023), Absolom Jones (2022), and Harriet Tubman (2021). In 2016, the final voting was so close between Dietrich Bonhoeffer and Julian of Norwich that the Supreme Executive Committee decided to award Julian a 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Silver Halo – a one-time event!

Let's have some fun. If you are participating, come find me at Coffee Hour so we can debate our choices. I'm still hoping that someone from Modern Mayhem is crowned! What do you think? ~Deacon Donna Arellano



# Community

## Wells Hall Renovation Updates this week...



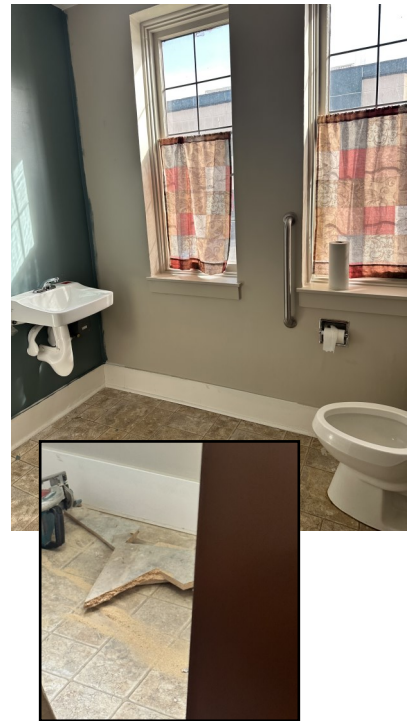
Left: Ladies Room — new toilets and below, new sinks, cabinets and lights. Yes, Nancy promises there will be stalls as well.



Above: New handles arrived on Friday.



Below left: New toilet; Middle: new sink and cabinet to match in the 2nd floor bathroom. Right: Accessible bathroom on 1st floor has new fixtures and the floor is being replaced to match other bathrooms.



### 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](https://christchurchtacoma.org/calendar)

## Worship at Christ Church

### Sunday Worship at Christ Episcopal Church, Tacoma

March 5, 2023:

8:30am Holy Eucharist in Trinity Chapel

10:30am Holy Eucharist in the Church and



Bulletin for 10:30am

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

Online Daily/Weekly Devotion information:

[Forward Day by Day](#) | [Episcopal Church Weekly Reflection](#)

### Christ Episcopal Church

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PLEASE  
PLACE  
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TO:

