

# Christ Church Weekly

A newsletter for members and friends

Christ Church Parish • Friday, May 12, 2023

## A Message from Fr. Samuel Torvend

### *A most welcome gift for family and friends*

On Saturday, March 25, the church was packed with family, friends, and colleagues of Deborah Oakman who had died a few weeks before. We were there to celebrate the Holy Eucharist and the Commendation of Dead. Searching through her emails, Doug Oakman, her spouse, discovered a number of communications from 2019 between Debbie and Mother Janet Campbell, emails in which Debbie made known the following: the lectionary readings for her funeral liturgy, the hymns to be sung, who should preach, and where the funeral liturgy should take place. She made these **decisions** having reviewed the suggestions for biblical readings and hymns found in The Book of Common Prayer.

These instructions were a marvelous gift to her family and to the staff at Christ Church: **no guessing was needed**. In November 2022, I offered a Zoom class that focused on the three services of the prayer book: first, a **vigil or wake** held the day or evening before church service in which family and friends can share memories of their beloved dead; second, the **funeral Eucharist** held in the church which focuses on thanksgiving to God for the life of the deceased (thus, no eulogies); and third, the **interment or burial**. We discussed the “logic” of this practice. We considered the many questions participants asked about end-of-life issues. And we reviewed an expanded list of biblical readings and music for selection by participants.

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## Upcoming Events

- Jason Schroedel Funeral, **May 13**
- Adult Formation: A Lonely Resurrection?, **May 14**
- Vestry, **May 16**
- Choir Rehearsal, **May 18**
- Wellspring Ensemble Concert, Esoterics Concert, **May 21**
- CSLT Zoom Meeting, **May 23**
- Newcomers' Luncheon, **June 4**
- Evening Prayer and Soup Supper, **June 7**
- Symphony Tacoma Chorus, **June 10**



SCAN ME



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:

Steve Skramstad; Tim Williams; Patty Botkin; Betsy Buck; Al Buck; Liz Heath; Robert Reeves; Miri Hinds; Christina Amos; Dick Gregory; Stephen Behr; Danielle Olsson; Melissa Glick, and Jim Pierson.

**Those who have died in Christ, who holds us in life and death, and all who grieve for them:** Jason Schroedel.

### Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

St. John's, Gig Harbor • Faith, Poulsbo • St. Andrew's, Port Angeles

### Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

The Church of the Province of West Africa

## 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

Continued from page 1.

Those who joined these classes all mentioned how helpful and refreshing it was to discuss what is frequently avoided by so many people: **preparing one's funeral wishes** and then not having to think about it, getting on with life! But of great importance was the desire to give instructions so that adult children who regularly, never, or no longer participate in church life would know and know clearly the wishes of their parent. It takes a considerable amount of time for staff to prepare funeral services; that preparation is made so much easier when we have on file a form filled out by a Christ Church member - a form that indicates their wishes: a great gift to family and friends.

The Book of Common Prayer asks that **every member** of an Episcopal parish **complete and communicate a form** that gives clear instructions concerning one's funeral. When I was diagnosed with prostate cancer and knew that I would be facing a lengthy surgery, I thought it a good time to make my wishes known. That form was filled out (in detail!) and now I rarely give it another thought: my spouse, my sister, my nephew, the priest or bishop who will preside, and the musician who will play at my funeral liturgy will know my wishes.

I strongly encourage you to **access this form**, "Funeral Practices and Making Wishes Known," [here](#) for an overview of Episcopal funeral practices; then **access, print, and complete this form**, "Christ Church Episcopal Funeral Rites and Guide Form," [here](#) and submit it in print or as an email attachment to [Deborah Breneman, Parish Administrator](#).

## So that no one goes without

The Christ Church vestry has established a Liturgical Fund to which members and friends can make donations. What is the purpose of the fund? It is to ensure that every Christ Church member or immediate family - *regardless of financial ability* - will receive a funeral and reception without the need to pay fees. Ministry to the sick, dying, and dead is a sacramental act of Christ and his church. *No different than Holy Baptism and Holy Eucharist, a funeral and reception are to be offered without cost to every member.* The Liturgical Fund thus pays for a cantor, the production of worship programs, and a simple reception. No additional funds need to be offered to the presiding priest and organist as their ministry is part of their negotiated contracts.

Of course, if a family wants "more" for a member who has died, they are welcome to provide the funds for whatever "more" might mean (e.g., more singers, a complete lunch, a catered reception, live streaming, flowers or plants).

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# Worship and Formation

Continued from page 3.

Would you please consider making a **donation to the Liturgical Fund**? You can place your check, made out to Christ Church, in the Sunday offering plate or mail it to the church. The **memo line** needs to read: Liturgical Fund.

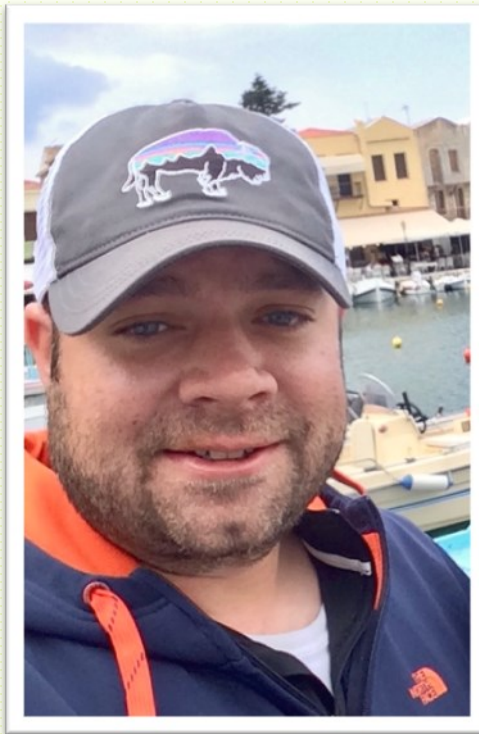
## Receptions

At Christ Church, we have volunteers who each week prepare food and drink for coffee hour after the 10:30 Holy Eucharist. This is a wonderful ministry that allows us to extend eucharistic hospitality from the church into Wells Hall. Food and drink are provided without cost (though donations are always welcome).

And we have a Parish Life Team that prepares a monthly community event for members, friends, and newcomers to the parish: e.g., a mystery dinner, a BBQ, an Easter Vigil reception, a Thanksgiving dinner.

But at the moment we have no Funeral Reception Team that can come together quickly and prepare a simple reception or a light lunch. As a staff we plan on three funerals each year, recognizing that there could be less or a few more. **Would you be willing to serve on this Team?** It would be a great help to the parish and make clear our commitment to provide a reception for family, friends, and out of town guests who are not related to the parish. Simply [send an email](#) to Parish Administrator, Deborah Brene-

man, by **Wednesday, May 31**. Once we have the Team, we'll have a quick meeting after the Holy Eucharist on a Sunday in June to review team efforts. Keep in mind that we try to schedule funerals on Saturdays for ease of travel those coming from afar. Again, this Team would serve infrequently throughout the year.



Jason Schroedel  
1981-2023

## Funeral Eucharist

The Holy Eucharist with the Rite of Commendation for **Jason Schroedel** will be celebrated on Saturday, May 13, at 11:30 in the morning in the church. Following the Eucharist, lunch will be served in Wells Hall. Members and friends of Christ Church are cordially invited to attend.

## Formation

**Sunday, May 14**  
**12 Noon in the Parish Library**  
**A lonely resurrection?**

Western depictions of the resurrection of Jesus tend to portray him by himself (well, with a few Roman soldiers knocked out at his feet). Among Eastern Christians, however, we find a much different portrayal: he is never depicted on Easter morning and he is never by himself. Join Fr. Torvend as we explore the Byzantine icon of the resurrection and how its color, movement, and content can shape our spirituality during the Fifty Days of Easter. A nice deal: a color image of the icon for each participant!



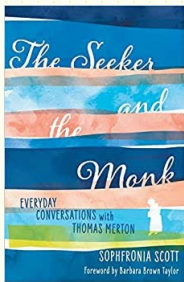
# Formation and Service

**Sunday, May 21**

**12 Noon in the Parish Library**

## **Images from the East**

During their travels, Floyd and Lani Frisch, Christ Church members, have collected a remarkable treasure of icons. Join them as they show us and discuss these precious images from the Eastern Orthodox tradition. Floyd is a retired Episcopal priest and attorney-at-law and Lani a seasoned interior designer.



**Sunday, May 21, 6:30pm**

## **Monthly Reading Group**

Meet at the home of Don and Wanda Johnson to discuss *The Seeker and the Monk: Everyday*

*Conversations with Thomas Merton* by Sophronia Scott. All who are interested are welcome!

**Questions? Contact**

**[Don Johnson.](#)**

**Godly Play, our Children's Formation,** is now every Sunday through the end of May. Meet in the Narthex at 10:30 am to travel to Wells Hall together on Sundays.



**FOB HOPE**  
FORWARD OPERATING BASE

*One of the many ways that Christ Church is helping our community is by preparing and de-*

livering a hot meal to the residents at FOB Hope – aka Veterans Village. We feed the approximately 35 residents and staff who live and work there. This month we are preparing a campfire meal – hamburger cornbread casserole, potatoes, and salad...and, of course, desserts that you all provide!

On **Sunday, May 21** we will be cooking the casserole and the potatoes in our kitchen after the 10:30am service. We welcome anyone who wants to help, even just to come hang out. Kitchens have always been a place of community as well as work. Come join us! If you want to see the Village and meet some of

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the residents, you can join us on Monday evening when we deliver and set up the buffet meal. If you would like to bring a dessert, please bring it on Sunday, May 21. You can leave it in the fridge or on the counter, but please label it for Veterans Village or FOB Hope. Be sure to let us know on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex. [Email Deacon Donna](#) for details.

Do you want to be part of our effort to feed these veterans in the future? There are many ways to help. Each month, we can use:

- ♦ 1 person to help plan the meal and line up volunteers;
- ♦ 2-3 people to help cook. Sometimes the cooking is done at home, and sometimes we cook in the church kitchen after services;
- ♦ 2-4 people to deliver the meal to the Village and lay it out. In warmer weather, we'll stay around, serve the food and chat with the residents. In the colder weather when few people are hanging out in the mess tent, we just set up the food buffet style, chat for a bit, and leave.

In all cases, you will be working alongside of some awesome volunteers on our core team. If you'd like to be involved, but none of these opportunities sound like a fit for you, then each month we will be asking for donations of desserts. Each dessert should feed 6-8. A new sign-up sheet will be on the glass table in the Narthex, so you can join us once to try it out or become part of our core team. Up to you!

*~Deacon Donna Arellano*

**The Emergency Food Network Hunger Walk** on May 6 kicked off Hunger Awareness Month in Pierce County. Father Samuel greeted us at the starting line and **Len and Linda Johnson** caught up with **King and Dee Schoenfeld** on the course. To date our Christ Church Tacoma team has raised \$1,150.00 which means our effort so far will provide 2,300 meals to our neighbors in Pierce County! We have the opportunity to make donations throughout the month of May via the **link below** or placing a check made out to Christ Church in the offering plate with the Memo Line that reads **Hunger Walk**.

**Please make a donation at**

[Christ Episcopal Church Tacoma - Hunger Walk \(runsignup.com\)](https://www.runsignup.com/ChristEpiscopalChurchTacoma/HungerWalk)

**Select Donation (top of page)**  
**Select Team Fundraiser (scroll down on right)**  
**Select Christ Episcopal Tacoma (scroll down until you locate)**  
**Donate**

*~Linda Johnson*



Linda and Len Johnson and King and Dee Schoenfeld at the Hunger Walk on May 6.

# Community

## Book Donations/

### Progress in the CCP Library & Archives

There's been some progress in the library – three boxes of books have been cleared from the workroom just today; there are three more boxes plus a few full shelves of books in the workroom that will be a little slower to work through, and I'm so excited to be able to get to this.

With the room and desk cleared it's now possible to give real focus to the library cataloging. Some of you have been kindly offering books to donate to the CCP Library and we'll be interested in donations some time this year, but for now we ask that you please keep them in your home until we're ready to consider donations in a timely manner.

Some of the progress is actually to do with organizing the Archives which are also in the Library Workroom and were in a seriously messy state. The multiple boxes that were stacked so high and deep in the room that it was almost impossible to walk through and prevented the door from closing are now down to just four (soon to be assimilated into the closet) and the normal progress of managing archives can proceed once again. Boxes and frames of photos are all together now on one shelf as are boxes of old clippings. Past years of Vestry Minutes are also gathered by date on shelves, old "Contact" newsletters are collected in one place, minutes of various guilds back to 1909 can now be found together, diskettes of old bulletins have been

identified and labelled, all of the notes from the 1969 building project have been boxed and stored, lists of gifts to the church are now protected in the safe, and all of the old building and architectural plans have been placed in a newly obtained, free map case. The computer cataloging program (which was unavailable to use for a couple of years during covid) has been tested and successfully processed ten books.

Please, though, hold back those donations as the Archives/Workroom is very small and, having just made it possible to work in there, I need to be able to finish clearing— and then

we can talk about how we'd like to proceed with adding new life to the library. I'm in the church office every Thursday 10am-1pm; if you'd like to talk with me please feel free to call. ~Susan Manning, CCP Librarian

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Christ Church Parish



Library  
AND ARCHIVES

### **New Parish Directory Is Available!**

Did you receive your electronic copy through mailchimp? If not, [please let us know](#). We do have a limited number of printed copies for those who cannot print. Ask in the Parish Office.



## third friday concerts @ Christ Church

Our next **Third Friday concert** on **Friday, May 19,** at **12:10pm**, features **Michael Plagerman**, Director of Sacred Music at Seattle's Church of the Blessed Sacrament where he oversees concert planning, shares organ duties, and directs the parish choir as well as the Cantorei, a professional vocal ensemble that sings choral masses and concerts throughout the year. Michael holds degrees from Pacific Lutheran University, the University of Notre Dame, and Cornell University. In the completion of these degrees, he



has received numerous scholarships and awards including the James D. Holloway Scholar, the David P. Dahl Organ Scholar, and the Craig Cramer Award in Organ Performance. He is currently finishing his doctoral dissertation at Cornell University where he researches late 19th – century American organ performance. His primary teachers have been Paul Tegels, Craig Cramer, Douglas Reid, Nathan Laube, Christophe Mantoux, and Annette Richards.

**WELLSPRING ENSEMBLE**  
SEATTLE, WA | EST. 2014  
WWW.WELLSPRINGENSEMBLE.ORG

# THE PEACE OF WILD THINGS

CHORAL MUSIC FOR THE EARTH, NATURE, AND THE HUMAN EXPERIENCE

**MAY 20TH - 7:00 PM**  
PHINNEY RIDGE LUTHERAN CHURCH, SEATTLE

SPECIAL GUESTS:  
INGRAHAM HIGH SCHOOL  
SEATTLE CHILDRENS' CHORUS ALUMNI ENSEMBLE

**MAY 21ST - 4:30 PM**  
CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, TACOMA

SPECIAL GUESTS:  
GRAHAM-KAPOWSIN HIGH SCHOOL

**TICKETS: ADULTS \$20 IN ADVANCE - \$25 AT DOOR - STUDENTS (18 AND UNDER): FREE**

Please join us for this special concert, featuring J.S. Bach, Mendelssohn, and Mozart. Donations gratefully accepted at the door.



**The Esoterics presents Ligeti:  
György Ligeti Centennial  
Sunday, May 21 at 8:00pm**

Born to Hungarian Jewish parents on 28 May 1923 in Transylvania (then in Romania, now in Hungary), **György Ligeti** was to become one of the most innovative and influential figures of the avant-garde and contemporary concert music in the latter twentieth century.

Ligeti received his first musical training at the conservatories in Cluj and Budapest, but his education was interrupted by World War II. György was sent to a forced labor camp, his younger brother Gábor as well as his parents were sent to concentration camps. His mother was the only member of his immediate family to survive. After the war, Ligeti returned to his studies at the Franz Liszt Academy of Music, where he studied with Kodály, Bárdos, Farkas, and Veress, and conducted ethnomusicological research of Hungarian folk music. After completing his studies, Ligeti became a professor of harmony, counterpoint, and music analysis at the Liszt Academy from 1950 to 1956. During this time, the communist regime in Hungary restricted all communication outside the Eastern Bloc. Being cut off from the artistic developments in the West further frustrated the young composer.

In later 1956, after the Hungarian uprising was suppressed by the Soviet army, Ligeti fled to Vienna. He left behind many manuscripts of his early works,

most of which are now lost. Ligeti consoled himself by claiming that he wasn't interested in this early work, and only cared about his non-tonal music. After arriving in Vienna, Ligeti then moved to Cologne, where he attended the Darmstadt Institute, and studied with Stockhausen. After three years of being inspired by electronic music, he left it behind, preferring instead to create its textures with acoustic instruments and singers. Ligeti then taught in Stockholm between 1961 and 1971, at Stanford University in 1972, and settled into a post as professor of composition in Hamburg between 1973 and 1989.

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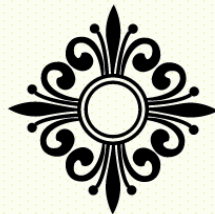


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In addition to his fascination with micro-polyphony, micro-rhythm, and arhythmic canon, Ligeti was particularly interested in African percussion music, the literature of Lewis Carroll, Franz Kafka, Jorge Luis Borges, and Douglas Hofstadter, as well as the fractal geometry of Benoit Mandelbrot. Ligeti died on 12 June 2006, and is buried in the Vienna. His musical legacy is carried on by his son Lukas, a composer and percussionist based in South Africa.

Best known in cinematic circles as the composer of *Lux aeterna* from Stanley Kubrick's film, *2001: A space odyssey*, György Ligeti also wrote music that is featured in *2010, The shining*, *Eyes wide shut*, *Shutter Island*, *Heat*, the 2014 remake of *Godzilla*, *The killing of a sacred deer*, and the radio series based on *The hitchhiker's guide to the galaxy*. His early choral music (from 1946 to 1956) is mostly modal or tonal, inspired by Hungarian folk texts, and is replete with polyphonic pattern and verse forms. Beginning in 1966 with his *Lux aeterna*, one is able to witness a second stage in Ligeti's creative life – in which he employs arhythmic canons and modernist tone clusters to create fragmentary fantasies, extraordinary etudes, and a set of post-modern “nonsense songs.”

In this concert, The Esoterics will perform ALL of Ligeti's music for a *cappella* mixed chorus – from his earliest work in 1946 to his last in 1993. Please join us for this extraordinary choral event on the weekend before Ligeti's 100th birthday! **The Esoterics appear at Christ Episcopal Church on Sunday, May 21, at 8:00pm.** [For tickets please click here.](#)



**Our Sexton, Tim Williams,  
is taking a leave of absence  
for a few weeks. If you  
need anything, please  
contact the  
Parish Administrator at  
253.383.1569, x 101.**

## Calling all jam jars!

The jam-team is gearing up to whip up some more jam! If you have canning jars knocking around your house, we are collecting. We're especially in the market for 4 and 8 ounce jars (smaller jars as opposed to pints and quarts). Leave them on the aluminum counter in the kitchen: We will gather them up and fill them with delectable jam. Thank you!

~*Mary Hanneman*



## THE JAM TEAM

CALLING ALL JARS!



### 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

May 14, 2023

8:30am Holy Eucharist in Trinity Chapel

10:30am Holy Eucharist in the Church and



[Bulletin for 10:30am](#)

### Christ Episcopal Church

310 North K Street  
Tacoma, Washington 98403

p: 253.383.1569  
[info@christchurchtacoma.org](mailto:info@christchurchtacoma.org)  
[christchurchtacoma.org](https://christchurchtacoma.org)

PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

TO:

