

Christ Church Weekly

A newsletter for members and friends

Christ Church Parish • Friday, June 2, 2023

A Message from Fr. Samuel Torvend

Green is good

For the few of us who were present at our diocesan convention last October, it was clear that our diocese is embracing the need to become “green” as guided by our sixth baptismal vow: “to cherish the wondrous works of God, and protect and restore the beauty and integrity of all creation.” Given the continued growth of global warming, our bishop has made it clear that the embrace of greening practices is not an option for us.



Indeed we witness the sorry effects of such warming in the forest fires that have sent noxious smoke into the Puget Sound region, the continued melting of the snowpack and

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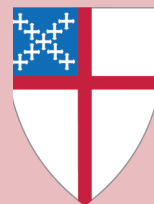
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Upcoming Events

- Newcomers' Coffee, One Parish, One Prisoner, **June 4**
- Evening Prayer and Soup Supper, **June 7**
- Symphony Tacoma Voices, **June 10**
- Tacoma Contra Dance, **June 17**
- Farewell BBQ for Archdeacon Gen Grewell, **June 18**
- Vestry Meeting, **June 20**



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:

Tammy Hess and Family, Tim Williams; Patty Botkin; Liz Heath; Robert Reeves; Miri Hinds; Christina Amos; Dick Gregory; Stephen Behr; Danielle Olsson; and Jim Pierson.

Those who have died in Christ, who holds us in life and death, and all who grieve for them: Betty Sporrer; Steve Skramstad; Dori Conklin, and Ann Combe.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

St. Joseph-St. John, Lakewood • St. Mary's, Lakewood

Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

The Episcopal/Anglican Province of Alexandria

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

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.

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Worship

Continued from page 1.

glaciers of the Cascade and Olympic mountains, and increasing temperatures that are altering the region's flora and fauna.

A greening parish

At Christ Church, we have a group of parishioners who are committed to greening practices at the parish, in their homes, and in their advocacy with elected officials. We have meet from time to time to discuss biblical, historical, and Episcopal commitments to protecting the creation. We anticipate a meeting with Earth Ministry (originally established at our cathedral, St. Mark's). Of course, we are not the first to show this concern: for instance, Bill and Roxy Giddings have long been active promoters of greening practices.

A green practice

The parish has purchased plates, soup bowls, coffee cups, and flatware that are

easily washed and reused over and over again so that we do not fill landfill with paper plates and non-biodegradable plastic utensils and cups. Yes, it does take a bit of time to wash our dishes. But washing coffee hour plates and cups is a small but significant gesture toward caring for the earth. And guess what? We could use volunteer washers! If you want to join our growing group that runs our dish washer, contact [Parish Administrator, Deborah Breneman](#).



We won a grant!

I am happy to announce that our application for a grant to attend a conference on "Worship and the Climate Crisis" was accepted. Christ

Church is one of only six parishes in Canada and the U.S. who received this coveted conference grant. The gathering will take place at Saint John's University and Abbey in Collegeville, Minnesota, in mid-July. Vestry member and accomplished musician, Van Hardison, and Fr. Torvend will be the delegates (Fr. Torvend will also serve as one of the conference speakers). Our purpose is to plan a variety of liturgical and musical events that focus on care for creation. Speaking of which ...

Save the Dates

Sunday, October 8: the annual **Blessing of Animals** in the afternoon in the courtyard. On Sunday, October 15, Christ Church will host **choral Evening Prayer** with music and readings focused on the crea-

tion. This will be the first choral Evensong we've sponsored in a long, long time. Other Episcopal and local parishes will be invited to join us.

Worship 101

One of the great blessings of Anglican spirituality is the calendar of feasts and seasons that shape our faith and common life. The Fifty Days of Easter culminated in the celebration of Pentecost. As one parishioner noted at the end of the Pentecost liturgy, "This was the most meaningful service of Pentecost I've ever experienced: everything worked so well together." Well, consider this: the planning among artists, musicians, and other liturgical ministers makes a difference!

On Sunday, June 4, we keep the feast of the Most **Holy Trinity**, what some have called a "theological" feast. But that moniker ("theological") does short shrift to something of great significance for those of us who live in the Pacific Northwest. Our regional culture is noted for its rugged individualism and skepticism of established institutions (churches, for instance). And yet we know that such *individualism* easily leads to the experience of *loneliness* and *depression*. And the isolation of the pandemic has only deepened that sense of loneliness.

What does this feast of the Holy Trinity hold out for us? Well, we worship **a communal God** and do so as a community engaged in **communal prayer**. What can we

people into the inclusive love of God made known in Jesus.

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

offer those who feel adrift in a rapidly growing urban region? Quite simply, **the gift of community**. The feast of our communal God reminds us that if we are anything it is a community that welcomes

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

Service

the funds for whatever “more” might mean (e.g., more singers, a complete lunch, a catered reception, live streaming, flowers or plants).

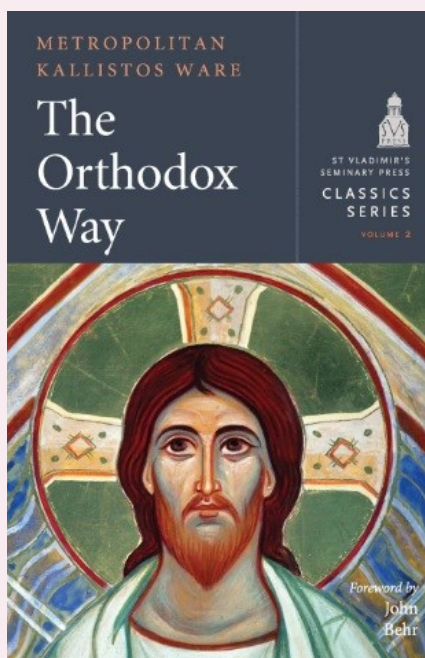
Would you please consider making **a donation to the Liturgical Fund?** You can place your check, made out to Christ Church, in the Sunday offering plate or mail it to the church. The **memo line** needs to read: Liturgical Fund.

Sunday, July 23

6:30 pm

Monthly Reading Group

The Monthly Reading Group will meet next at **6:30 p.m. on Sunday, July 23**, at the home of Sandy and Ronn Johanson to discuss *The Orthodox Way* by Kallistos Ware. (There will be no meeting in the



month of June.) Questions? Contact [Don Johnson](#).

A Car is Needed—A member of Christ Church who has been diagnosed with Multiple Melanoma and has many medical appointments is in need of a used vehicle for trips to Seattle and Tacoma clinics. If you can make a gift of a car or know someone who is capable of doing this, please contact [Deborah Breneman](#), Parish Administrator, as soon as possible, thank you.

Summer Choir

Our regular Christ Church choir will sing for the last time this season on Pentecost, May 28. I want to thank each member for their dedication and their contributions to the musical leadership in the services at Christ Church.

For the Sundays starting June 4 through September 10, I'm hoping to provide musical leadership with instrumentalists from the congregation and with a pick-up choir for each Sunday.

If you play an instrument and would like to share your musical gifts with the congregation, please email me, and we can set up a meeting to look at options.

If you'd like to participate in the pick-up choir, there is a sign-up [here](#) where you can put your name for the Sunday(s) that you can participate. The sign-up is also available in hard-copy in the narthex. There is a separate sign-up for each Sunday.

If possible, please sign up by the Friday prior to the Sunday(s) that you'd like to participate, so that I can plan for the people that will be there that Sunday. We will have a

ONE PARISH || ONE PRISONER

Join the
Resurrection Movement.

Q & A with OPOP
SUNDAY, JUNE 4
12:00 NOON
PARISH LIBRARY

In Washington State, there are roughly the same amount of churches as there are incarcerated men and women.

What if every church built a relationship of mutual embrace and trust with just one person releasing to their area then walking with them as they emerged from the tombs of incarceration?

UNDERGROUND MINISTRIES
undergroundministries.org/lopop

Service and Community

quick rehearsal at 9:30am before the service on Sundays.

So please sign up if:

- ♦ you're a regular choir member and would like to keep singing;
- ♦ you don't want to commit to an entire choir season, but love to sing occasionally;
- ♦ you were never sure whether you would like singing, so want to try it out;
- ♦ you can think of any other reason to sign up!!

Thanks!

~Paul Tegels, Interim Director of Music

Flower Donations

We have some spots available for altar flower donations in the upcoming weeks. The sign-up list is located in the Narthex. Once you sign up, you will be contacted by the Parish Office for your flower acknowledgement, which will be printed in our weekly bulletin. Thanks so much!

First Wednesdays Evening Prayer at Table

YOU are invited to come and enjoy pulled pork sandwiches and evening prayer on **Wednesday, June 7** at **6:00 pm**. Delicious pulled jackfruit is the vegan option.

Put first Wednesdays on your calendar and plan to join in for community and conversation in the context of prayer and worship.

In the spirit of community, please feel free to come early to help set up!

Sign up in the Narthex or contact the [Parish Office](#) to let us know you'll be coming.

Call for Volunteers!

Are you looking for a once-every-five-weeks job with big impact? Coffee hour teams would benefit from a few extra people! These teams set up for coffee hour, bring goodies to share, and help clean up afterwards. If you would like to join a team, please contact Sandy Johanson by text 252-905-1051 or by [email](#).

Forward Movement

Christ Church provides **Forward Day by Day** daily prayer booklets for free! One booklet contains daily prayers for three months, and can be picked up in the Narthex or Parish Library.



SYMPHONY TACOMA VOICES

2023 SPRING CONCERT

JUNE 10 | 7:30pm

American
Contemporary Classics
Christ Episcopal Church

Get tickets and info
at symphonytacoma.org



Community



Worship at Christ Church

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)

Sunday Worship at Christ Episcopal Church, Tacoma

June 4, 2023

8:30am Holy Eucharist in Trinity Chapel

10:30am Holy Eucharist in the Church and



[Bulletin for 10:30am](#)

Christ Episcopal Church

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PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

TO:

