

Christ Church Weekly

A newsletter for members and friends

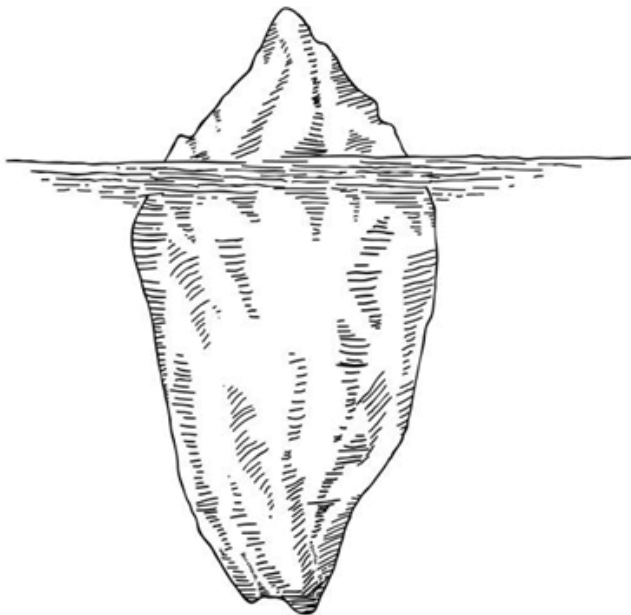
Christ Church Parish • Friday, August 18, 2023

A Message from Fr. Samuel Torvend

What's under the iceberg?

When my spouse and I were being trained in our diocesan College of Congregational Development, we were amused when asked to draw an iceberg floating in the water. Believe me: It's not that difficult to draw. A waterline with the tip of the iceberg showing above it and the bulk of the iceberg showing below it. (Does the Titanic come to mind?) Once we finished our sketching, the leader suggested that the iceberg is an image of a parish. What?

She went on to say that above the waterline is what is heard and discussed at meetings, over coffee hour, in a sermon or in a class, in newsletters and reports. What's below the waterline - the bulk of the iceberg - are private conversations - sometimes about what is working well but also



what appears to be going wrong in a parish. Below the waterline, one can discern the heavy weight of "we've always done it this way." Below the waterline, one can find resistance to change as well as the temptation to gossip.

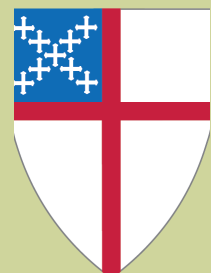
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Upcoming Events

- Tacoma Contra Dance, **August 19**
- Wellspring Ensemble Concert, **August 20**
- CSLT Meeting, **August 22**
- NA Meeting, **August 24**
- Hilltop Street Fair, **August 26**
- Tour of Christ Church, Veterans Village Prep, **August 27**
- Evening Prayer and Supper, **September 6**
- NA Meeting, **September 7**
- OPOP Meeting, **September 10**
- NA Meeting, **September 14**
- Tacoma Contra Dance, **September 16**
- Gathering Sunday Adult Formation, **September 17**



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.

Christ Church Prayer List

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**.

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:

Dee Schoenfeld; Cameron Frisch; Elaine Stafford; Al Buck; Robyn Potter; Barbara Pasi; Tammy Hess and Family, Miri Hindes; Christina Amos; Dick Gregory; and Danielle Olsson.

Those who have died in Christ, who holds us in life and death, and all who grieve for them: Nita Cameron.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

St. Christopher's, Olympia • St. John's/San Juan, Olympia

Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

The Church of England

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.

Episcopal News Service • Episcopal Church on Facebook • Diocese of Olympia Bishop Rickel's Blog



Worship. and Formation

from page 1

In the near future, a new rector will come to Christ Church and that person may well have some new ideas, new initiatives, and new ways of doing things. This should come as a surprise to no one. For a parish to flourish, much less survive, leaders are called to discern what are the strengths of a parish and build on those strengths. They are also called to discern what is weak and in need of strengthening. And, yes, there may be some practices that just need to go.

Here is what will help a new rector as well as the staff and ministry leaders: honest conversations face-to-face and, if it arises, cordial disagreement, also face-to-face. What we learned in congregational development is the need to bring what is below the waterline in to the light above so that whatever is happening can be considered openly and constructively.



All whales that move in the water

The Book of Common Prayer contains a number of canticles assigned for Morning and Evening Prayer, biblical canticles that possess a *wholistic* view of the creation. In the Song of the Three Young Men (in the fiery furnace: Daniel 3), the three youths invite the creation to praise God: "Glorify the Lord, springs of water, seas, and streams, O whales and all that move in the waters. All you birds in the sky, give praise and exalt God." What's so interesting about this ancient invitation addressed to creatures of sea and sky is that scientists today are learning more and more about the languages - yes - *the languages spoken by earth's creatures*. What the writer of this hymn of praise suggests is that other creatures, in their own way, give thanks to their Creator for life. Here, one's attention is not narrowly focused on the human alone but on all those other creatures, a view far more expansive than the little me. The poet Christopher Smart expressed such delight in his poem, *Jubilate Agno*: "I will consider my Cat Jeoffry. For he is the servant of the Living God duly and daily serving him. For at the first glance of the glory of God in the East he worships in his way. For this is done by wreathing his body seven times round with elegant quickness." Well, the next time your cat or dog begins to wreath his or her body round, look carefully for this gesture of praise. Listen

to Benjamin Britten's setting of the Smart poem here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EWxioCH9Dwg>

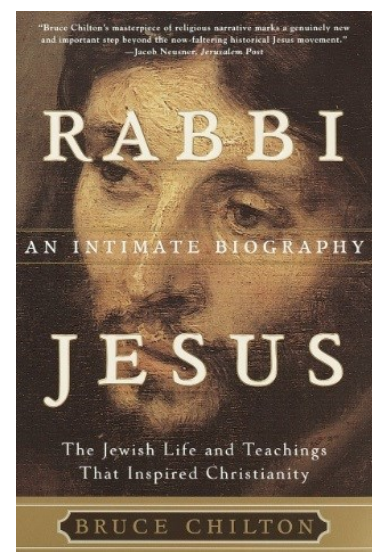
Sunday, August 20 Worship Committee

Members of the Worship Committee will meet in the Parish Library after the 10:30 Holy Eucharist.

Sunday, September 3 6:30 pm Monthly Reading Group

The Monthly Reading Group will meet at **6:30 p.m. on Sunday, September 3**, at the home of King and Dee Schoenfeld to discuss *Rabbi Jesus* by Bruce Chilton, New Testament scholar and Episcopal priest. Note that there will be no meeting in August.

Questions? Contact [Don Johnson](#).



Service and Community

We need to get the word out

We are working to let the larger public know about events at Christ Church. Prior to concerts, blessing of animals, and other events, we need help in distributing posters to areas businesses. If you can spend *one hour in one month* distributing posters, please let Deborah know by **Thursday, August 31**: we really need help from members who have a few free hours during the day. Thank you!

The Little Pantry

Once again, shortly after the pantry was filled on Sunday it was emptied. This is not usually the case. It happens. What does it mean? For our purposes, our understanding, It means that someone needed the food. Thanks be to God the food was there. Not to worry, There are volunteers who, during the week supply the pantry as needed. And thank God for those who bring food on Sundays and other times. If it is not yet your habit, it is never to late! And thank YOU!

One Parish One Prisoner Update

Thanks to everyone who contributed envelopes and stamps. We've been writing letters to Sunni, and she now knows that even though we are out here, we are in her corner! We've learned that, like folks

outside, it's more common for inmates to communicate via email or text messages than by postal mail. The DOC versions of e-messaging are, however, costly for inmates. Donations to the **OPOP Communications Fund** are welcome! Use an envelope marked **OPOP** for small bills (\$5 or \$10) or write "OPOP" on the memo line of your check, and place it in the Offering basket.

~Thanks from the OPOP Team!

The Jewelry Ministry of Leslie Brooks

Christ Church member and anchorite, Leslie Brooks, continues to create works of beauty for members and friends of Christ Church: rosaries, prayer beads, book marks, earrings, and bracelets. Leslie only asks that clients pay for materials; the labor of creating commissioned jewelry is her free offering to the parish. Leslie has created jeweled works of art for those who have lost a loved one, for those experiencing sickness or surgery, for the newly-baptized, for birthdays, weddings and the anniversary of a marriage, and for those who find in a rosary or prayer beads a meaningful way to pray. Interested in discussing a commissioned work of art?

[Email Leslie here.](#)





Ann Margaret Young Simón

1935 - 2023

Funeral Service
on August 19

For Ann's obituary, please click
[here.](#)

Join **Wellspring Ensemble** for our summer season concert; Sincerely, Yours. A love letter to our local composers who have made a big impact on WE, on **Sunday, August 20, at 4:00pm**. Come hear music written by Daniel Schreiner, Andrew Jacobson, Vijay Singh, David Hendrix, Rachelle Bunch, Rick Asher, Richard Nance, Jason Saunders, Eric Barnum, Joyce Szmko, and Reg Unterseher. Also featuring the winner of our 2023 Composition Competition winner, Chris Wallitner.

This concert we will be hosting a **pre-concert lecture starting at 3:20pm**. Join our composers as they talk about the special music they created for Wellspring to sing!

WELLSPRING ENSEMBLE
SEATTLE, WA | EST. 2014

19-20, 2023
SEATTLE
TACOMA

a love letter to our local choral composers

Sincerely, Yours

August 20th
4:00pm
Christ Episcopal Church
Pre-concert lecture at
3:20pm

TICKETS

\$20 ADVANCE | \$25 DOOR
STUDENTS : FREE

www.wellspringensemble.org/event

Community



Save the Date! Join Episcopalians from across the Diocese at this exciting new event open to everyone! Gain new resources and support, and spend time learning from and networking with churches from every corner of Western Washington!

Convene 2023 will feature multiple workshop sessions throughout this day-long opportunity for learning and connection, preparing us all for the future of our communities, helping us discover (and rediscover!) new ideas, and giving us the time and space to share information about programs and ministry opportunities.

September 30th, at Everett Community College.
More information to come!

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, TACOMA

jazz IN THE courtyard

FEATURING
cassio vianna,
keyboard

elliott turner,
guitar

SATURDAY, AUGUST 26
7:30PM

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
310 North K Street
Tacoma, WA 98403

donations gratefully accepted
253.383.1569
info@christchurchtacoma.org

CHRISTCHURCHTACOMA.ORG



TACOMA  CITY BALLET

Community



Join us for a
TOUR
of
Christ Church
with Fr. Samuel Torrend
AUGUST 27, 2023 * NOON

TACOMA
Contra Dance



Upcoming Dates:
August 19, September 16, October 21,
November 12, December 16, 2023
\$15-\$20 donation
Wells Hall at Christ Church

The **Tacoma Opera** and the **Tacoma City Ballet** will be combining forces for these upcoming performances of **Carmen** at the Pantages Theatre in October. Both groups rehearsed right here at Christ Church, beginning the first week of August and through the end of September. Ticket information below; more information to come as we get closer.

**OCTOBER 6 & 8, 2023
PANTAGES THEATRE**



**TICKETS ARE ON SALE NOW FOR THE
MUST-SEE CARMEN OF THE YEAR**
tacomaopera.org

Tacoma Opera Presents
George Bizet's
October, 2023
Pantages Theater
**C
A
R
M
E
N**

Worship at Christ Church

The 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

Sunday Worship at Christ Episcopal Church, Tacoma

August 18, 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

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info@christchurchtacoma.org
christchurchtacoma.org

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

TO:

