

Christ Church Weekly

A newsletter for members and friends

Christ Church Parish • Friday, August 25, 2023

A Message from Fr. Samuel Torvend

No denial of science here

The wild fires in western Canada, eastern Washington, and Oregon; the drought and torrential rains in California; and the catastrophic heat experienced in Arizona are signs, say scientists, of the effects of global warming. Indeed, there is universal scientific agreement on the reality of climate change due to human use of fossil fuels. Thus, it is surprising if not shocking to hear candidates running for public office flat out deny this stark reality.

By way of contrast, Pope Francis, the Orthodox Patriarch, Dimitrios, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, the General Secretary of the Lutheran World Federation, the Rev. Dr. Anne Burghardt, and leaders of the World Council of Churches have joined to support a **Season of Creation** from September 1, the universal Day of Prayer for the Creation, through the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, October 4. This is a remarkable undertaking that unites the Orthodox, Roman Catholics, Anglicans, Lutherans, and many Protestant communions in a singular effort to support the reduction of fossil fuels - against furious opposition from the petroleum industry - and to serve as advocates for the earth and its many creatures: brought to life by the Word of God as we confess each Sunday in the Creed.

Mark Sunday, **October 15**, in your calendar as we gather to **Sing with the Earth: Evening Prayer with Christ Church Choir**, at 4 PM - one of our contributions in what we hope will be a Year of Creation.



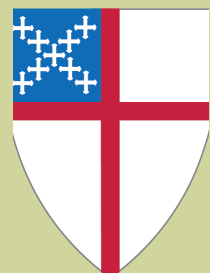
SEASON OF CREATION

Upcoming Events

- Hilltop Street Fair, Jazz in the Courtyard, **August 26**
- Tour of Christ Church, Veterans Village Prep, **August 27**
- Veterans Village Food Service, **August 28**
- NA Meeting, **August 31**
- Evening Prayer at Table, **September 6**
- NA Meeting, **September 7**
- OPOP Meeting, **September 10**
- NA Meeting, **September 14**
- Third Friday Concert, **September 15**
- 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.

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**.

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:

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry; Robert Reeves; 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; and all those who perished in the fires on Maui.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

St. David of Wales/San David de Gales, Shelton • Chaplains on the Harbor, Westport

Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui

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

Greetings, People of the Diocese of Olympia,

Please join me in praying for Presiding Bishop Curry as he has been hospitalized this past weekend for a recurrence of internal bleeding. You can find the press release about Presiding Bishop Curry's hospitalization below. Join me in praying for the wisdom of the medical team looking after him, that they would know the best way forward.

In Christ,

**+Melissa Skelton,
Bishop Provisional**



Episcopal Church Presiding Bishop Michael Curry was admitted to the hospital this past Thursday night, August 17, with a reoccurrence of the internal bleeding that required him to be hospitalized over Memorial Day Weekend. Doctors were able to intervene and monitor earlier in this instance, and Bishop Curry's whole medical team is weighing the potential benefits and risks of surgery to remove his right ad-

renal gland and an attached mass, which appears to be the source of the internal bleeding. Please pray for the doctors' discernment.

"I am so grateful for your prayers," said Bishop Curry. "I expect that the work of the medical team will lead to healing that will make a difference. Fervent prayer plus good medical care is a powerful combination. In all things, God is good."

Caring for the Garden

This spring my wife and I had some difficulty getting around to working in our flowerbeds. By the time we were able to put shovel to dirt the whole place was chock-a-block with grass worthy of the Af-

rican savannas after the spring rains. It took a long time to get rid of the grass and weeds. When we were done we were left with empty spaces. We rebooted former ways of gardening. We set aside a place for perennial flowers and planted bushes elsewhere.

That was the beginning of the beginning. But then, some of the flowers immediately wilted. We prescribed great volumes of water. Agua! Vasser! Eau! Then came the heat. More water was called for, but we had to wait to water until it was practically dark. Now we think we are ahead of the game, but more loving care is called for.

You will not be surprised to learn that this whole (lovely) enterprise reminds us of the care we need to take of life around us. Some of our new flowers and bushes moved right in and made an easy adjustment. But others not so much. So it seems that while there are still plenty of stable elements in life, there are many more which need our loving care.

What are the actions we can take to water, to nourish this island home of ours? Can we assess our daily actions? Yes we can, for the earth's sake.

~William Tudor

CHRIST CHURCH PARISH



Gathering Sunday
SEPTEMBER 17

Formation and Service

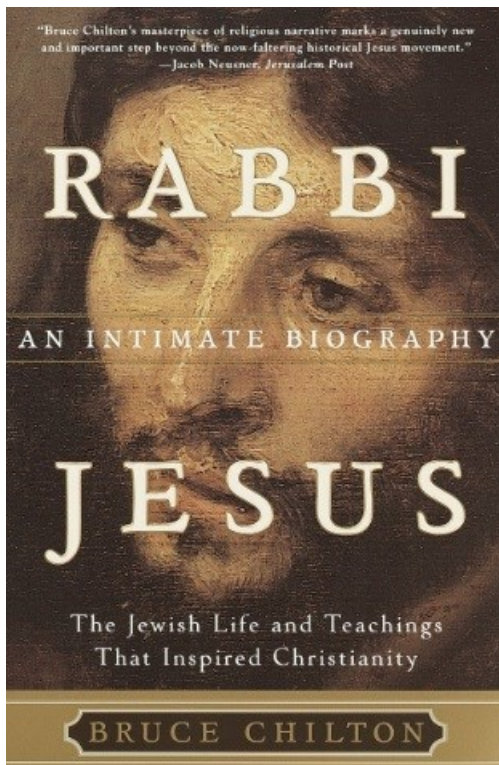
Sunday, September 3

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](#).



The Little Pantry

In the olden days of church at the time of the offertory, the most common phrase used by the priest was "It is more blessed to give than to receive." Over time those words fell out of favor. *Maybe they were too direct*. In any case those are St. Paul's words quoting Jesus. (Acts 20:35) Just think about them. They are words to live by. They are the basis of our keeping the Little Pantry stocked.

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!

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!



We are cooking for the veterans at FOB Hope (aka Veterans Village) on **August 27** and serving them on **August 28**. Because it is still so hot, we are making an Asian chicken salad and vegetable fried rice. As always, we need desserts; you can bring them on Sunday. And we can always use help, or just friends, in the kitchen. Please join us!

We need to add some folks to our core team for this important and fun ministry. Our core team contributes by planning, cooking, and delivering the meals. You don't have to be available every month, just when you can. Let [Deacon Donna know](#) if you'd like to be part of our team!

~Deacon Donna Arellano

Service and Community



Join us for
Evening Prayer at Table,
Wednesday, September 6 at
6:00pm in the Library.
Let us know you'll be there by
signing up in the Narthex or
[contact the Parish Office.](#)

Christ Church Choir
rehearsals begin
Thursday, September 14

Search Committee Update

The Search Committee continues on our quest to provide a Rector recommendation to the Vestry. We are in the process of scheduling interviews with applicants.

~Shelby Clayson,
Search Committee Reporter

third friday
concerts at Christ Church

September 15, 2023 at 12:10pm

Svend Rønning, violin
Paul Tegels, organ

featuring works by
Bach, Rheinberger, and others
donations gladly accepted at the door

Community

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, TACOMA

jazz IN THE courtyard

FEATURING

**cassio vianna,
keyboard**

**elliott turner,
guitar**

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 26
7:30PM**

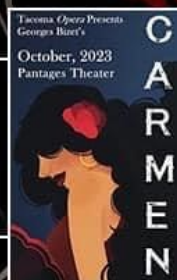
CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
310 North K Street
Tacoma, WA 98403

donations gratefully accepted
253.383.1569

info@christchurchtacoma.org

CHRISTCHURCHTACOMA.ORG

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



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


Community

The Tacoma City Ballet Dances On

We said *au revoir* to our Ballet friends this past Friday at the end of three weeks of daily rehearsals in Wells Hall. Miss Erin, the Ballet Executive and Artistic Director, promised to return soon, as she loved being here at our special venue. Students enjoyed being able to relax in the courtyard, and appreciated the proximity to nearby Frisco Freeze—a long line of students wearing matching practice apparel was spotted there the other day.

Corps members will be back for several rehearsals next week in preparation for their collaboration with the Tacoma Opera's performance of *Carmen*.



TACOMA  CITY BALLET

Performances at Christ Church during 2023-2024 so far

Performance dates are filling up for the 2023-2024 season here at Christ Church. Be sure to save the dates!

Bold designates a Christ Church presentation.

August

26 Jazz in the Courtyard

September

15 Third Friday Concert

24 Organ 101: an intro to the Brombaugh Organ

30 Jazz in the Courtyard

October

15 Singing with the Earth

20 Third Friday Concert

November

17 Third Friday Concert

December

2 Wellspring Ensemble

3 Advent Lessons and Carols

10 Esoterics

15 Third Friday Concert

16 Northwest Repertory Singers

17 Northwest Repertory Singers

January

19 Third Friday Concert

February

16 Third Friday Concert

March

10 Esoterics

15 Third Friday Concert

April

16 Third Friday Concert

May

4 Northwest Repertory Singers

5 Northwest Repertory Singers

17 Third Friday Concert

June

21 Third Friday Concert

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 27, 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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christchurchtacoma.org

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

TO:

