

Christ Church Weekly

A newsletter for members and friends

Christ Church Parish • Friday, September 22, 2023

A Message from Fr. Samuel Torvend

No one thought it would work

I write from the pilgrims' lodge at Canterbury Cathedral in SE England. This morning I walked to the ruins of St Augustine's Abbey — as in Augustine of Canterbury, the Benedictine monk who was sent from Rome in 597 to bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the Angles and Saxons - a rowdy crowd who had suppressed the Christian faith some three hundred years before.

Augustine was skeptical of this project, but he persisted ... and in time, the rich seed of Christian faith and life grew into a flourishing plant that eventually extended to Christ Church in Tacoma. Yes, our Anglican roots are here in Canterbury.



goodness. For that, I can only say, Thanks be to God.

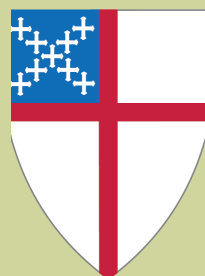
This morning in those ruins, with light rain spitting and wind blowing, I prayed for our beloved parish — for our common witness to the love of Jesus Christ. And I did so with Hope — because the people who form this parish are marked by persistence, charity, and

Upcoming Events

- Organ 101, **September 24**
- CSLT Meeting, **September 26**
- NA Meeting
Choir Rehearsal, **September 28**
- Jazz in the Courtyard, **September 30**
- OPOP Meeting, **October 1**
- Evening Prayer at Table, **October 4**
- NA Meeting
Choir Rehearsal, **October 5**
- First Friday Kids Night Out, **October 6**
- Work Party in Wells Hall, **October 7**
- Ministry Fair, OPOP Meeting,
Blessing of Animals, **October 8**
- Monthly Book Chat, **October 12**
- Mystery Dinner, **October 14**
- Monthly Reading Group,
October 15



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:

Michael Curry; Sonsaray; Robert Reeves; Dee Schoenfeld; Cameron Frisch; Elaine Stafford; 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: The thousands who have died in Libya and Morocco.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Community of the Lamb • Brotherhood of St. Andrew
• The Order of Saint Francis • Earth Ministry

Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

The Church of Ireland

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



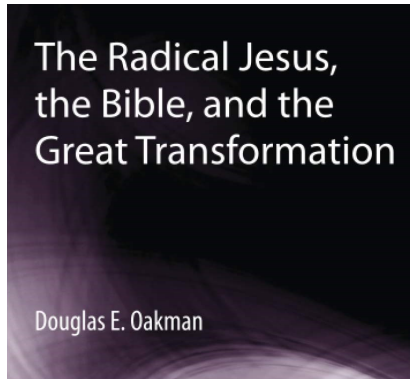
CHRIST CHURCH PARISH

aware of your creative goodness in a streak of rain on a windowpane, in a wee ant hill and in the blinking light of a firefly.

~Bill Tudor

"O HEAVENLY Father, who has filled the world with beauty; Open our eyes to behold your gracious hand in all your works; that, rejoicing in your whole creation, we may learn to serve you with gladness."

The first time I became aware of the vastness of the oceans was on a troopship crossing the northern Pacific in a bleak mid-December. The first time I became aware of the vastness and beauty of The Mountain was on a trip to the Sunrise side of The Mountain. I first became aware of the vastness of the starry night one black night on the Blue Ridge in Virginia. God grant me the wisdom to become



Monthly Reading Group Sunday, October 15

6:30 pm

The Monthly Reading Group will meet at **6:30 p.m. on Sunday, October 15** at the home of Doug Oakman to discuss Doug's latest book, *The Radical Jesus, the Bible, and the Great Transformation*. Questions? Contact [Don Johnson](#).

Adult Formation

[Click here](#) for a pdf of the latest calendar for Adult Formation. Copies will be available on Sunday.

First

Friday is a new Children and Family Outreach that



we will be offering the first Friday of every month, beginning **October 6**. We are targeting children from 5-12 years. Why would we do this? We know parents and caregivers need a break and we have a great facility in which to offer an evening of supervised fun and activities while parents enjoy some down time, have a night out, or use it to catch up on other responsibilities. It is just one more way we are trying to increase our visibility within the city. Flyers are available in the Narthex, so tell your friends and family!



Service and Community



Click on the logo above to
Register for this
September 30th event.



Wells Hall Work Party Saturday, October 7 8:00am - 10:00am

Feeling strong? We
are in need of some
folks to help clear
out our boiler room. Please
[contact the office](#) if you
are able to join in!

FALL MINISTRY FAIR

Sunday, October 8, 2023 | 11:45 am



Once at the Sikh Temple in Auburn many worshippers were placing dollar bills in the offering trays, and then a man made his offering: a bag of apples. It was what he had. It reminds one of the widow's mite in Jesus story. It means, among other things, that every little bit is important. . Your offering to the Little Pantry is full of meaning and deep in results.

Blessing of the ANIMALS

*You are welcome to bring your pet to the
courtyard. Treats for humans
and pets provided.*

Sunday, October 8
4:00pm



Community



As we move into cold and flu season, we have reactivated our Medical Advisory Team, which assisted parish leadership during the height of the COVID pandemic. The team will make recommendations to the Vestry and leadership on health topics, will develop related policies and procedures for the parish, and will provide training for leadership, staff, ushers, and other groups as needed.

The **Medical Advisory Team** includes:

Al Buck, MD
Alyce Schaffer, RN, BS Nursing Ed, MS
Nancy Gow Knudsen, MN, ARNP
Van Hardison, RN, PhD

If you have questions about the Medical Advisory Team or suggestions for areas we might provide help, [please email](#), using the subject line “Medical Advisory Team” and the team will follow up. *If email link does not work, please copy email address and paste in new email.

Masking Guidelines

Christ Church will follow the masking guidelines published by the CDC, the Washington Department of Health, and the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department. Current guidelines are:

- ◆ Wear a well-fitting mask, N95 recommended, on **public transportation**, in **healthcare settings** like hospitals and clinics, and anywhere signs are posted requiring masks,
- ◆ Consider the following factors when deciding whether to wear a mask anywhere else:
 - ◇ Your vaccination status,
 - ◇ Your medical conditions,
 - ◇ Local conditions such as very crowded or poorly ventilated areas.
- ◆ The Medical Advisory Team will monitor the weekly COVID hospitalization rate, published by the Health Department, and following CDC recommendations:
 - ◇ When hospitalization rate is **Low** (as it has been for about a year) masking is not required.
 - ◇ If the rate moves into the **Medium** or **High** range the team will adjust masking guidance, again following CDC recommendations.

We respect everyone’s ability to make the best decisions for themselves while honoring our Christian commitment to protect others through our actions. We welcome questions or suggestions: [please email](#), using the subject line “**Medical Advisory Team.**” *If email link does not work, please copy email address and paste in new email.

Community



The **Christ Church Choir** is pleased to welcome two new Choral

Scholars: **Natalie Worthy, soprano**, and **Lillian Gundersen, mezzo soprano**. We introduce you to Lillian this week.

Lillian Gundersen is in her third year at Pacific Lutheran University majoring in Vocal Performance. She actively participates in opera activities on campus and is in her second year of singing in the Choir of the West. Lillian grew up in the Olympia area on a small farm in which her love to sing was encouraged by her sisters and grandparents. In her spare time she enjoys playing board games, drinking tea and occasionally riding horses. Lillian is very blessed to be able to sing at Christ Church and is excited to connect with the church members.



Lillian Gundersen, mezzo soprano

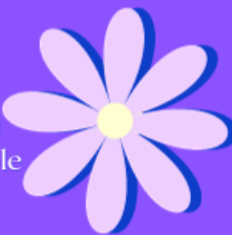
Using the Church Facilities

Please make sure we have all Church activities in our calendar by checking in with the office before making plans or dropping by. This includes all meetings and events.

Our office hours are
Monday—Thursday,
from 10:00am—1:00pm,
and by appointment.
Feel free to call 253.383.1569 x
101, or [email](#) to schedule your
activity.

Altar Flowers

Please check the flower donation schedule in the Narthex for available dates! Thank you!



Community



Don't miss out!!

Because Christ Episcopal Church is so critical to the success of the Tacoma Opera's production of *Carmen*, they are offering Christ Episcopal Church members a special ticket price to see this amazing production. They are giving Christ Episcopal Church members premiere main floor seating for only \$40—a

savings of 50% (fees and taxes are not included in this price; total with fees is \$49.50). To secure these special tickets, please contact the [Christ Episcopal Church office](#) to be placed on a list and receive payment information. The deadline to contact the office is **September 25**.



JAZZ IN THE COURTYARD

featuring
KATE OLSON, SAXOPHONE
CASSIO VIANNA, KEYBOARD
CLIPPER ANDERSON, BASS

**Saturday,
September 30
7:30pm**

donations gratefully accepted

Christ Church Parish *Evening Prayer* at Table

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

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

*zoom link available at
christchurchtacoma.org/calendar

Sunday Worship at Christ Episcopal Church, Tacoma
September 24, 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:

