

# Christ Church Weekly

A newsletter for members and friends

Christ Church Parish • Friday, September 8, 2023

## A Message from Fr. Samuel Torvend

### Oblate Heaven!

I have arrived safely in Rome with my colleague, Fr. John Forman (St. Elizabeth's Burien). We are here to attend the World Congress of Benedictine Oblates.

What, you ask, is an **oblate**? An oblate is a baptized Christian, lay or ordained, who affiliates with a community (monastery) of Benedictine nuns or monks and does so for one's lifetime. Oblate comes from the old Latin word oblation: an offering.

The oblate offers him or herself to the monastic community and does this by engaging in **three practices**: praying alone or

with others the Daily Office (morning, noon-day, evening, or nighttime/compline); spiritual reading of a great variety; and service to others. Guess what? That sounds a lot like

the model of the parish we employ at Christ Church: wor-

The Abbey of Saint Anselm in Rome. The world headquarters of all Benedictines.

ship; formation; and service. What's distinctive about Benedictine spirituality is the Rule of Benedict, composed in the 6<sup>th</sup> century not far from Rome.

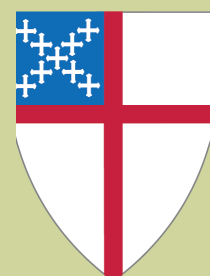
Continued on page 3.

## Upcoming Events

- OPOP Meeting, **September 10**
- Monthly Book Chat  
NA Meeting  
Choir Rehearsal, **September 14**
- Third Friday Concert, **September 15**
- Tacoma Contra Dance, **September 16**
- **Gathering Sunday**  
Adult Formation, **September 17**
- Vestry Meeting, **September 19**
- NA Meeting  
Choir Rehearsal, **September 21**
- Organ 101, **September 24**
- CSLT Meeting, **September 26**
- NA Meeting  
Choir Rehearsal, **September 28**
- Jazz in the Courtyard, **September 30**
- Evening Prayer at Table, **October 4**



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:**

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.**

### **Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:**

Episcopal Retirement Communities

• Mission to Seafarers • Seattle Service Corps

### **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](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

From page 1.

The **Rule** is a practical guide for the living the Christian life. Of course this means that some elements in the Rule which made sense in the 6<sup>th</sup> century make no sense today and thus are set aside.

The Rule is a  The abbey church of Saint Anselm.

**treasure of wisdom** for people

of Christian faith and life; it is surprisingly and remarkably relevant to our modern, ur-

ban, scientifically shaped lives in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

At this conference, 22 nations are represented with over 200 delegates from around the world. Our purpose is to listen, pray, think, and converse together about extending **the gifts of Benedictine spirituality** into parish life. So, look for some engaging classes and retreats coming up in Winter and Spring 2024!



The core team organizing the congress.



CHRIST CHURCH PARISH

## From Waste to Care

*"For our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us, accept our repentance."*

*Litany of Penitence,  
Ash Wednesday*

## One day twenty-five years

**ago**, my mother, concerned about the climate said, "I would change if I could, but I don't know how!" She speaks for me, as well. The problem seems so huge, so intransigent. What can I do that will make a material difference? How can I show that I repent of the unconcern that I've shown for most of my life? To repent is to turn back, to change direction; and repentance requires action to be real and effective. What things can we do to change our consumption? Turning off lights, letting lawns turn brown, setting thermostats up in summer and down in winter, driving less, supporting green initiatives in our communities—these are small changes that lead to larger cumulative results and work to keep us more connected to creation.

~Ann Welton



# Worship and Formation

## Gathering with Dr. Larry Rasmussen Wednesday, September 20 6:00 pm

On Wednesday, September 20, from 6:00 to 7:15 pm, you are invited to participate in an evening conversation with Dr. Larry Rasmussen as we reflect with him about his most recent book, *The Planet You Inherit*, *Letters to My Grandchildren when Uncertainty's a Sure Thing*, a 2023 Nautilus Book Gold Prize winner. Dr. Rasmussen is professor emeritus and holder of the Reinhold Niebuhr Chair in Social Ethics at Union Theological Seminary (New York City). You are encouraged to read his book and bring your questions as we reflect with Dr. Rasmussen on this important subject on climate change.



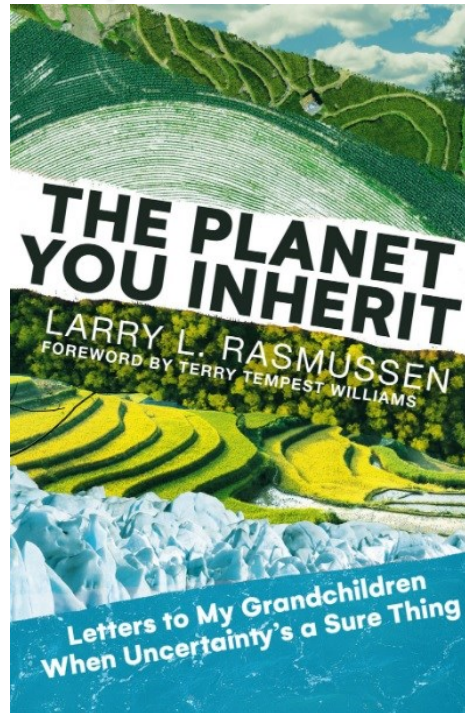
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Dr. Rasmussen was the featured lecturer at PLU's 2012 Lutheran Studies Conference. He spoke to a packed and overflowing house: here is a summary of his most engaging presentation:

### Location of Event:

St. Mark's Lutheran Church by the Narrows  
6730 North 17th St.,  
Tacoma  
253.752.4966

Visit his website for more information on options for ordering the book:



<https://www.larrywrites.info/>

As an alternative to reading the book, consider watching an interview with Dr. Rasmussen at the Yale Forum on Religion and Ecology: [fore.yale.edu/blogs/entry/1677004437](https://fore.yale.edu/blogs/entry/1677004437)

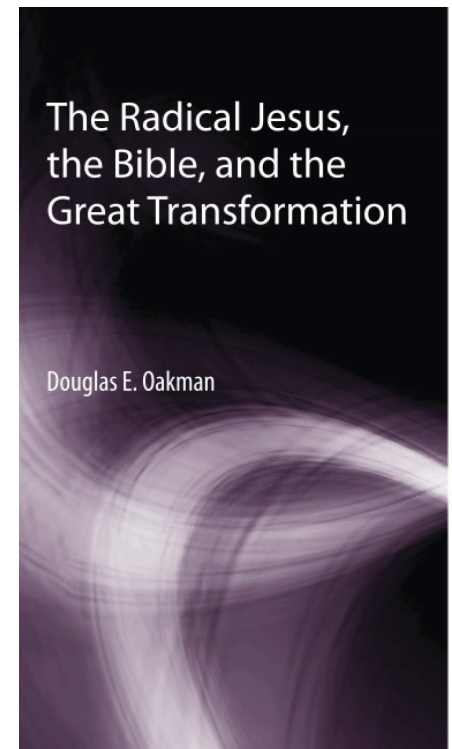
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<https://www.plu.edu/news/archive/2012/09/20/voices-from-empty-chairs/>



## 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.

# Formation. Service. and Community

## Godly Play

### Resumes

### September 17th

### During 10:30 Service

We welcome back our children to **Godly Play** on **September 17th at 10:30**. Unlike last year, we will not return during the service. We felt we needed more time to make this a meaningful, creative experience. The children will rejoin their families at the end of the service in either the Narthex or the Courtyard. Also new is that the Godly Play Classrooms have been moved to Trinity House (former Multicare space).



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!



## JAZZ IN THE COURTYARD

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

Saturday,  
September 30  
7:30pm

donations gratefully accepted

## 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!

**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,



## First Friday

Kids Night Out

First Friday of each month, from 5:00pm - 9:00pm

Food, Fun, and Friends

Kids from age 5 - 12

### Using Wells Hall

Please make sure we have all Wells Hall activities in our calendar by checking in with the office before making plans or dropping by. This includes events that have occurred on an annual basis.

### Our office hours are

Monday—Thursday, from 10:00am—1:00pm, and by appointment. You can call 253.383.1569 x 101, or [email](#).



# Community

## Christ Church Choir rehearsals begin Thursday, September 14

The formal choir season with the full Christ Church Choir will start with our Thursday rehearsal on **September 14**, from **7:00-8:30pm**. We will start singing for the Sunday services on the following **Sunday, September 17**, Gathering Sunday. Any new members are welcome to join; contact me for more info.

A huge "thank you" to everybody who participated in the summer choir (and will participate this Sunday, September 10). Whether you sang once, a few times, or most of the Sundays over the summer, your contributions are very much appreciated. Thank you,  
~Paul Tegels,  
Interim Music Director

## TACOMA Contra Dance



Upcoming Dates:  
September 16, October 21, November 12,  
December 16, 2023

7:00pm lessons, 7:30 dance  
\$15-\$20 donation

**Wells Hall at Christ Church**  
310 North K Street, Tacoma  
[tacomacontradance.org](http://tacomacontradance.org)

## 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

CHRIST CHURCH PARISH



Gathering Sunday  
SEPTEMBER 17



**A** Bold New Production of *Carmen* by the Tacoma Opera will explode onto the Pantages stage **Friday, October 6, at 7:00pm** and **Sunday, October 8, at 2:00pm**. With a cast of 80 singers, *Carmen* also boasts the amazing dancers of the Tacoma City Ballet, which is partnering with us in this production. *Carmen* includes a full orchestra, incredible sets, and amazing costumes, along with singers from around the United States. The final product is simply dazzling.

Director Kelly Kitchens brings a fresh and new production—with all of its music and power—and an exciting and thrilling dramatic interpretation.

While this opera will mark a dra-

matic return to grand opera for the company, it is this season's mission that includes a partnership with [Catherine Place](#) that showcases the opera's new commitment to the community. This season, Tacoma Opera will be bring finances and awareness to Catherine's Place, a space that offers help and resources for women in crisis. The purchase of merchandise from the lobby will go directly to the center.

Because Christ Episcopal Church is so critical to the success of our production, and is kindly welcoming us and renting Wells Hall to the opera for our rehearsals, we are offering Christ Episcopal Church members a special ticket price to see

this amazing production. We 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**.

~Limuel Forgey, General Director,  
Tacoma Opera

# TACOMA OPERA



## 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](https://christchurchtacoma.org/calendar)

Sunday Worship at Christ Episcopal Church, Tacoma  
September 10, 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:

