

## Christ Church Parish • Friday, December 22, 2023

### A Message from Fr. Samuel Torvend

### A Labor of Love

The worship and coffee hour hospitality of our parish do not fall from heaven ready-made. Many, many hours are given over to preparing many things for members, friends, and the visitors who will come to worship with us during the Christmas Season of December 24 to January 5. Should you have a moment, kindly offer your thanks to Donna Arellano, our deacon; to Paul Tegels, interim music director, and the choir; to Pat Chen, altar guild lead and to the altar guild teams; to Ciara Aylsworth and Christi McCarren for the Advent and Christmas wreath; to Jean Tudor, Harriett and Ron Fields, Sue Stibbe, and Elizabeth Keathley for the adornment of the church; to Robert Hicker, eucharistic minister lead and to our eucharistic ministers; to Elin Gratton, eucharistic visitors; to Caroline Huckaby, acolyte lead and to our acolytes; to Dorie Hahn, our EM lead at the 8:30 Eucharist; to Brianne Knudson, lector lead and to our lectors; to Len Johnson, usher lead and to our many ushers; to Winfield Giddings, for live streaming; to Robert Hicker, Rod Blackburn, Mary Hanneman, and Barbara Williams for the Daily Office; to Linda Johnson who cares for flower beds and grounds; to Deborah Breneman who creates our many worship programs, readings, and seasonal posters; to Tim Williams who maintains our many spaces in tip-top shape; to Cynthia Anthony, Susan Manning, and Pam Vidan, our

## **Upcoming Events**

- Advent IV
   Christmas Eve Holy Eucharist,
   4:00pm and 9:00pm
- Christmas Day Holy Eucharist
- Parish Facilities Closed
   December 26-30
- New Year's Eve Party
   December 31
- Parish Facilities Closed
   January 1-2
- Evening Prayer at Table January 3
- Mo. Maria Gwyn McDowell's First Day!
   NA Meeting, January 4
- First Friday Kids Night Out, January 5
- Epiphany Women's Brunch,
   Epiphany Blessing at Owen Beach,
   January 6



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#### **NEED HELP??**

prayer list, email the
Parish Administrator
before Friday, or the Rector from Friday through
the weekend. 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.

To add to our

# 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.

Bring comfort and healing to those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit: for Al Buck; Gwen Horner Gryskevich; Alex Gryskevich; Mark Morris; Chaundra Pospychala; Carolyn Guppy; Judy Cullen; Sonsaray; Robert Reeves; Cameron Frisch; Robyn Potter; Miri Hindes; and Dick Gregory.

#### We commend to your mercy those who have died:

Jonathan Rodriguez; Gary Crippen; and the many who continue to perish in the Middle East.

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

Good Shepherd, Vancouver • St. Luke's/San Lucas, Vancouver

#### **Anglican Cycle of Prayer:**

The Episcopal Church in the Philippines

## 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. Photo Credits: King Schoenfeld.
The Weekly is a publication of Christ Episcopal Church, Tacoma.

Please visit our website at <u>Christchurchtacoma.org</u> to connect to newsletter links and previous editions.

Christ Church Calendar

To submit an article to the *Christ Church Weekly*, contact the <u>Parish Administrator</u>.

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

office volunteers; and to Sandy Johanson, coffee hour lead and to the many who offer food and drink for our enjoyment each and every Sunday and on many feast days. The labor of many, frequently behind the scenes, make possible our common worship and after liturgy hospitality: a welcoming environment to which a steady stream of visitors continues to be attracted.

We are blessed with wonderful leadership: our senior warden, Christi McCarren; junior warden, Truman Coggins; project manager, Nancy Gow Knudsen; treasurer, Winfield Giddings; accountant, Gordon Craig; chancellor, Ralph Flick, and the members of the parish vestry.

As this is my last "Message," I offer sincere and my hearty thanks for the opportunity to serve this wonderful parish. For my faults, I am grateful for your mercy; and for your support, I give thanks each day. May Christ Church continue to grow as a witness to the Light of Christ in the Stadium District and the city.

### Advent IV, December 24 10:30 a.m. Choral Eucharist

#### **Christmas Eve**

Sunday, December 24 4:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist 9:00 p.m. Carols and Anthems with the Christ Church Choir 9:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist, with incense

#### **Christmas Day**

Monday, December 25 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist



# Formation and Community



### **Parish Facilities Closed for Holidays**

The Parish Facilities will be closed from Tuesday, December 26—Saturday, December 30, and again both Monday and Tuesday, January 1st and 2nd. The Office will reopen Wednesday, January 3, and our Sexton, Tim Williams, will return on Thursday, January 4. *Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year to all!* 

The Christ Church *Weekly* will be taking a break next week as well. Our next issue will be sent on Friday, January 5.

SAMUEL TORVEND

Episcopal Church Women Epiphany Luncheon January 6, 2024 at 9:30 am

Cost: \$15

Registration begins at 9:30am in the church entryway; the Holy Eucharist starts at 10:00am. Luncheon will begin in Wells Hall following the Liturgy. Please make reservations by January 3rd by talking to Roxy Giddings in person, by phone at 253.537.3075, or by email.

A celebration in honor of Fr. Samuel Torvend and Senior Warden Christi McCarren will be held on Saturday, January 13, at 5:00pm in Wells Hall. As this event will be catered, there is a suggested donation of \$30/person, but please know that all are welcome to share in this gathering! RSVP to the Parish Office, 253.383.1569 x 101, or by email.

### Monthly Reading Group Sunday, January 21 at 6:30pm

The Monthly Reading Group will meet at 6:30pm at the home of **Sandy** and **Ronn Johanson** to discuss Father Samuel Torvend's new book, *Monastic Ecological Wisdom*, with him. Everyone interested is welcome. Questions? **Contact Don Johnson**.

## New Parish Directory in 2024!

We are fortunate to have so many new additions and changes to our address book that we need a new list already. If you have moved, or if you know you're not on our list, please let us know ASAP by calling 253.383.1569 x 101 or emailing the Parish Office. We will begin working on a new directory by the end of January.



## CIVIL RIGHTS PILGRIMAGE

Register today!

September 30 - October 9, 2024

All are welcome to join The Rev. Canon Carla Robinson, The Rev. Canon Britt Olson, and The Rev. Bryon Hansen in October 2024 for a transformative 10-day Civil Rights Pilgrimage! This pilgrimage is rooted in the movements for racial justice and the people of courage who have gone before us. We will walk in their footsteps from Atlanta to Memphis as we strengthen our own commitment to "strive for justice and peace among all people and to respect the dignity of every human being." Trip itinerary, cost, and registration information can be found on the trip website here: <a href="https://circlesofcolor.org/crpilgrimage/">https://circlesofcolor.org/crpilgrimage/</a>.



Greening! Think of not wasting as of being ecologically hip.

I was recently on a trip to Colombia, there just as the Christmas season started. Fireworks and Christmas illuminations you never could imagine.

Then, at one point in the trip, I was sightseeing on a vast mountain lake. I asked a man if the lake level ever changed. He pointed to some steps leading down to the lake. Normally, he said the level *is here*. At that moment the lake was well down below the steps.

It turned out that the lake fed a dam, which in turn produced electricity. The demand for power for Christmas lights was so great that the level of the water had fallen. Hmmm. To what better purpose could the power have been put? Spoilsport, maybe, but the question remains with me.

~William Tudor









Next First Friday Kids Night Out: Friday, January 5 at 5:00pm



## 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/

## Worship at Christ Church

## Sunday Worship at Christ Episcopal Church, Tacoma December 24, 2023

10:30am Holy Eucharist in the Church 4:00pm Holy Eucharist in the Church 9:00pm Carols and Anthems in the Church 9:30pm Holy Eucharist in the Church



#### **Bulletins**

Visit Christchurchtacoma.org/calendar
Online Daily/Weekly Devotion information:
Forward Day by Day | Episcopal Church Weekly Reflection

#### **Christ Episcopal Church**

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p: 253.383.1569 info@christchurchtacoma.org <u>christchurchtacoma.org</u> PLEASE PLACE STAMP HERE

