

Christ Church Weekly

A newsletter for members and friends

Christ Church Parish • Friday, January 19, 2024

A Message from Fr. Samuel Torvend

Many thousand thanks

The gathering on last Saturday evening, *Tusen Tak* (“A thousand thanks”), was a wonderful time of community, generosity, and good humor. I offer my great thanks to those who could join us for the festivities and to those who made the tables of abundant food and drink possible. Thank you to those who prepared the round tables so beautifully and to those who set up and cleaned up afterwards. Thanks to our beloved choir for their musical blessing and to those who offered brief presentations for Christi and for me. Thanks to our staff who did so much to promote and manage the event. Thanks to our rector for asking God’s blessing on our time together. Thanks to the Greening Parish Team for the birdbath and plaque – what a surprise, especially given my family’s long-time commitment to care for our avian companions. Wells Hall was filled to the brim! What a delight to be together as we shared the joy of our common life. As Christi said, “We should be so blessed to see such a crowd gathered at our annual meeting!” Yes, please join us for another joyful gathering on February 4. With you, I hope that our outgoing senior warden will be wearing her new Viking “crown”! *Mange tusen tak*: many thousand thanks for such generosity!

See pages 6-7 for photos of January 13th’s Celebration.

Upcoming Events

- Greening Parish Meeting, Monthly Reading Group, **January 21**
- CSLT Meeting, **January 23**
- Coffee with Mo. Maria, **January 24**
- Choir Rehearsal, NA Meeting, **January 25**
- Coffee with Mo. Maria, Veterans’ Village Food Prep **January 28**
- Coffee with Mo. Maria **January 31**
- Choir Rehearsal, NA Meeting, **February 1**
- First Friday: Kids Night Out, **February 2**
- ANNUAL MEETING, **February 4**
- Choir Rehearsal, **February 6**
- Evening Prayer at Table, **February 7**



Christ Church follows guidance published by the CDC, the Washington Dept. of Health, and the Tacoma-Pierce Co. Health Dept. These guidelines may change based on new evidence or new protocols issued by public health authorities. We respect everyone’s ability to make the best decisions for themselves, including when to wear a mask, while honoring our Christian commitment to protect others through our actions. Christ Church will continue to provide face masks and hand sanitizer.

NEED HELP??

To add to our 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](#).

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 George Lewis; Al Buck; Mark Morris; Chaundra Pospychala; Carolyn Guppy; Judy Cullen; Sonsaray; Robert Reeves; Robyn Potter; and Dick Gregory.

We commend to your mercy those who have died:

All those who have died, especially Kym Nelson, and the many who continue to perish in Gaza, Ukraine, and South Sudan.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

St. James, Kent • St. George, Maple Valley • St. Luke's, Renton

Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

The Church of South India (United)

Christ Episcopal Church, Tacoma *Weekly* Newsletter

The Rev. Maria McDowell, Rector, The Rev. Samuel Torvend, Associate Priest

Deborah Hope Breneman, Editor/Design and Layout. Photo Credits: King Schoenfeld and Don Johnson.

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.

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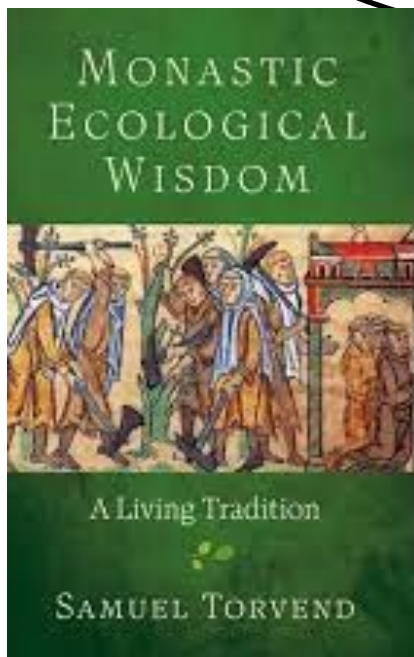
Worship and Formation

The Nicene Creed: a new(ish) translation

You may have stumbled a bit over a new translation of the Nicene Creed in our bulletin last week. The translation given was approved in 1994 at the 71st General Convention, and will appear in new revisions of the BCP. It importantly shifts focus from Jesus' maleness to *becoming fully human*, a concise summary of a rich theology of salvation as ongoing growth in participation with God. It also removes the phrase "and the son" which did not appear in the original, ecumenically agreed upon, Greek version of the Creed. Read more about this from Mother Maria in [The Christ Church Weekly](#) from January 12, 2024.

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.](#)



Adult Formation: What I Learned About Us in Canterbury

Sunday, January 28 at 12:00 PM

Join Fr. Torvend for **What I Learned about Us in Canterbury**, an illustrated discussion of what we might learn about our spiritual lives in a visit to Canterbury, England, the point of origin for English and Anglican spirituality.

Lent Quiet Morning: Rewilding Lent

**Saturday, February 17
from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM**

The rewilding movement is an ecological strategy that seeks to restore healthy and sustainable ecosystems by returning land to a natural, uncultivated state, and increasing biodiversity through processes like reintroducing keystone species. Rewilding also includes humans leaving things alone, letting nature guide the way instead of us trying to overly manage it (in fact, mostly us getting out of the way!). Might

some of the principles of rewilding invite us to engage the season of Lent and our lives of faith in some new ways? And/or, maybe some old, wild ways? In this Lent Quiet Morning, we'll listen to the wisdom of the rewilding movement, interact with God's scriptures of creation and the Bible, and lean into the ways God might be rewilding us.

Annual Meeting Notice

Our 2024 Annual Meeting will be held on
Sunday, February 4, 2024, in Wells Hall.
Luncheon will be served.

THE EPIPHANY PROCLAMATION 2024



Dear friends in Christ, the glory of the Lord has shone upon us, and shall ever be manifest among us, until the day of his return. Through the rhythm of days and seasons, let us celebrate the mysteries of salvation. Let us note the year's culmination, the Paschal Triduum, the Three Days of the Lord: his last supper, his crucifixion, his burial, and his rising, celebrated between the evenings of March 28 and March 30, 2024.

January 6, 2024

The Epiphany of Our Lord Jesus Christ

January 7, 2024

The Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ

February 2, 2024

The Presentation of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple

February 13, 2024

Shrove Tuesday

THE PASCHAL CYCLE

February 14, 2024

Ash Wednesday

February 18, 2024

The First Sunday in Lent

March 24, 2024

Palm Sunday | Sunday of the Passion

Lent ends with sunset on Thursday, April 6

THE THREE DAYS: THE PASCHAL TRIDUUM

March 28, 2024

Maundy Thursday: Institution of the Holy Eucharist

March 29, 2024

Good Friday: Commemoration of the Lord's Passion

March 30, 2024

Holy Saturday: The Great Vigil of Easter, the Lord's Passover from Death to Life

**Mark your calendar well for these holy days when the people of God
gather as one to celebrate the great mystery of our salvation**

Community



CHRIST CHURCH GREENING

Birds

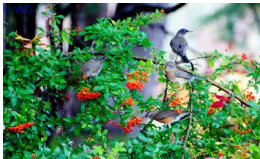
They make you look. A slight movement or maybe a chirp, song, or buzz if your hearing is tuned in.



Our concrete cross makes a landing strip for the resident pigeons, bringing the Peregrine Falcon to feed.

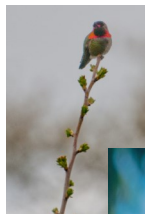
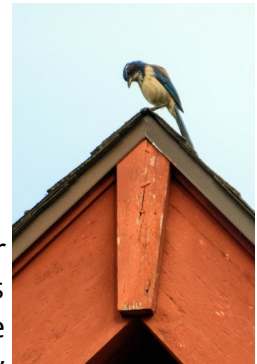


The little Dark-Eyed Juncos really like the reflecting pool garden, but are also in the tight bushes in the courtyard.

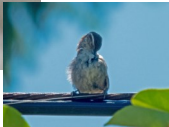


The American Robin can be found munching berries.

The Scrub Jay can be heard scolding from on high.



But my favorite is the hummingbirds – either the Anna's or Rufus. They hang out in the planting strip trees and the ones in the south end of the courtyard. Soon the males will be courting the females by doing their fall from the sky J hook which at the bottom they create a distinct sound.



We may see other species as the newly dedicated birdbath collects water. Slow down while traveling through the outdoor spaces, you will find the birds right here.

~Text and Photos taken at CCP by Winfield Giddings

Meet Mo. Maria—

We currently have two ways to meet Mo. Maria: *Group Coffee Hours*--sign up in the Narthex or contact the [Parish Office](#) to join one of these sessions, which are held Wednesdays at 10:00am and 4:00pm throughout January. *Small Group Dinners* are also being arranged, and Jane Bertolin is kindly scheduling these. Mo. Maria is looking forward to meeting everyone, but as time will not permit individual meetings for everyone all at once, she hopes to see you at one of these sessions.

Community

A Celebration of Mutual Ministry Honoring Sr. Warden Christi McCarren and Fr. Samuel Torvend January 13, 2024



Community

Left Page from top: Christi begins the Celebration; Amazing treats are served, along with Norwegian Kransekake; bottom: The Christ Church Choir sings a blessing.

Right Page: The Viking Princess (AKA Christi McCarren) makes her debut, as Fr. Torvend thanks her for her hard work; below left: Van Hardison and Tim Chen are Emcees for the evening; right: Fr. Torvend says thank you as well.

Bottom: A Tusen Tak "thousand thanks" Toast by all.

Photos by King Schoenfeld.



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

January 21, 2024

8:30am Holy Eucharist in Trinity Chapel

10:30am Holy Eucharist in the Church

Bulletins

Visit [Christchurchtacoma.org/calendar](https://christchurchtacoma.org/calendar)

Online Daily/Weekly Devotion information:

[Forward Day by Day](#) | [Episcopal Church Weekly Reflection](#)



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PLEASE
PLACE
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TO:

