



CHRIST CHURCH COMMUNICATOR

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Christ Church Christiana Hundred

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Sunday Services

8:00, 9:00, and 11:00 AM

Weekday Services

Tuesdays

9:20 AM Intercessory Prayer

Wednesdays

9:00 AM Holy Eucharist

Thursdays

6:30 AM Holy Eucharist followed
by breakfast and Bible study

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From the Rector

STOP – DROP – ROLL

Do you remember this simple mantra? It's the advice taught by fire safety experts in case you are burning. I pray to God not one of us will ever need to practice this routine in order to smother flames on our body. As Lent begins, I'm wondering how this practical and memorable advice could be useful.

Think about the flames of rage that are a contemporary, cultural inferno. If you find yourself on fire, STOP. Disengage for a moment in order to assess the source of the rage and make sure there is a holy reason for its heat. DROP to the floor and humble yourself before God. Prostration is an ancient practice—a gesture of deep humility that physically reminds us of the relationship with the power of God and our identity as creatures of earth. A moment of prayer can cool the heat, reduce the blood pressure, and reconnect you to your true self, your right mind. Then ROLL. I imagine here two kinds of rolling. Though never a martial artist, I am impressed with the flexibility and agility they demonstrate in the heat of conflict. A quick roll reorients the relationship between combatants and allows space for a new approach. The other roll I imagine is the turnaround that is *metanoia* or a holy transformation as we turn to Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. How can a rollover toward Christ smother the flames of rage that are so destructive to our bodies, our minds, and our souls?

As we approach the late opening of Lent on March 9, we will be called to worship. There are several opportunities here at Christ Church and more in the wider community if you cannot get to our tranquil sanctuary. When we worship, I encourage you to STOP the ordinary routine of your day, DROP to your knees in humility and prayer, and ROLL into a holy transformation as you commit yourself to a life with God. A renewed commitment to the practices of Christian faith can save you from the fires we call hell—the destruction and ruin of God's gift of life by the fire of deadly sins like lust, greed, anger, and the rest. A renewed commitment to Jesus Christ can bring you into the life that is life and the spirit: joy, peace, patience, kindness, and self control.

After the STOP, DROP, and ROLL comes the Rescuer, who throws a blanket around the burn victim and attends to the wounds so that healing can begin. That is the work of the Christian community as we minister to one another in the power of the spirit.

I invite you to a holy Lent.

Ruth Lawson Kirk

Lenten Service Fair

Do you have chores around the house that you just can't get to? What about a two- to three-person job that's been hanging over your head? How long has it been since your windows were cleaned inside and out? Well, the Jalonga Youth Missioners have the answer! For a small donation to help offset the costs of this year's mission trip, you can enlist the help of these able-bodied souls. Please sign up at Coffee Hour on **Sunday, March 6** at 10 AM. Some of the services that will be offered include baby-sitting and yard work, but the youth are also available for odd jobs and tasks that suit your needs. Please help us help you! Questions? Call Beth Faulkner at 764-6494. *Beth Faulkner*

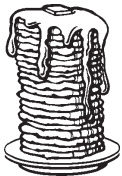


YOUTH SERVICE PROJECT

How Do You Eat an Elephant? (one bite at a time)

Moving from a home where you have lived for many years, or even just a few years, may seem like too big a job to tackle, but with the right help, it can certainly be accomplished. Sometimes "downsizing" can be thought of as "rightsizing" as our needs vary at different times in our lives. Please join us on **Sunday, March 6** at 12:15 PM in Parish Hall B for a bowl of soup and a presentation from *Moving Solutions*. Whether your move is approaching soon or you are just thinking about it, you will learn proven tips and techniques that you can begin using today. Please RSVP at 655-3379 or rsvp@christchurchde.org. Questions? Please contact Helen Giammattei at fgiammattei@aol.com or 654-6364. *Helen Giammattei*

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper



Join us for our annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, sponsored by the Parish Life Committee and J2A youth. We will serve in two seatings—from 6:00 to 6:30 PM and again from 6:45 to 7:15 PM on **Tuesday, March 8** in the Parish Hall. The cost is \$3 for children and \$8 for youth and adults. This is a fund-raiser for the youth's 2012 Holy Pilgrimage. Please reserve your tickets at rsvp@christchurchde.org or 655-3379 to ensure we arrange for adequate supplies.

Ash Wednesday



Ash Wednesday opens the season of Lent. We will worship on **Wednesday, March 9** in the Chapel at

6:30 AM for those who wish to come before the workday; at 9 AM for those who drive best in daylight; at 11 AM for the students at CCEP; and at 4 PM in a service shaped for children. The Christ Church Choir will sing at the 7:30 PM service in the Church for a solemn choral celebration of the Ash Wednesday liturgy. All services will include communion and the imposition of ashes made from the palms of the previous year. *Ruth Lawson Kirk*

Worship in the Season of Lent

Each season in the Church year has a different emphasis. To experience this in our worship, there will be a few changes that will call your attention to the penitential theme of Lent. From ancient times, Lent was a time of repentance and return, humbling a Christian's life before God as one seeks forgiveness. Imagine the experience of the prodigal son. At Christ Church, worship will be muted to make a greater contrast to the joy of Easter. Our silver chalices will be replaced with glass cups. Our color changes to purple, the color for penitence. The confession comes at the beginning of worship. The gospel will not be processed but simply read from the lectern. The greatest change will be in the use of our altars. Beginning Ash Wednesday until the great feast of Easter, we will use the high altar in the upper sanctuary in both Church and Chapel. In this way, all the people, including the priests, face the cross as we remember the sacrifice of Christ's death and the power for us of his resurrection each time we celebrate the Eucharist.

There is another, simpler reason for this change. Using our whole sacred space is spiritually profitable. We experience different emotions as the practice of worship changes. Pay attention to the thoughts and feelings that emerge for you as you experience worship in Lent. Take note of the contrast when Easter comes and reflect on that experience. How does our worship shape our experience of the Holy? How does that experience awaken or challenge our image of God? Of the nature of Church? Of Christian faith and practice? I encourage you to share these reflections with your clergy and fellow parishioners in the coming weeks. *Jennifer Andrews-Weckerly*

24 Hours That Changed the World

No other event in human history has received more attention than the suffering and crucifixion of Jesus of Nazareth—events that occurred in one day. Every day of Jesus' life drives toward this day—his last—the 24 hours that changed the world. The book *24 Hours That Changed the World* uses Holy Scripture, history, and geography and reflects theologically on the last day of Jesus' life in order to illuminate the meaning of these events for us and our lives. Join Ruth and Russ during Sunday Adult Enrichment from 10:00 to 10:50 AM on the Sundays in Lent—**March 13, 20, 27, April 3, and 10**—as we accompany Jesus from the Last Supper through to the Burial and finally to the Resurrection. For all who would like to read this inspiring and accessible book, copies of *24 Hours That Changed the World* are available at a discounted price at Christ Church.

Russ Bohner

The Stewardship of Creation: Fulfilling God's Charge to Serve and Guard the Earth

Grounded in the creation stories in Genesis, this interactive program connects Holy Scripture and environmental concerns facing us today. In each session, we will study what the Bible says and engage with what our tradition teaches us about our relationship with creation. We will then explore practical suggestions and resources that we can use in our lives to better care for the world entrusted to us. Please join Jennifer Andrews-Weckerly for this informative and inspiring program. All are welcome!

Wednesdays, March 16, 23, 30, April 6, and 13

6:15 PM Soup Supper in Parish Hall B

7:00 to 8:00 PM Lenten Program in Parish Hall A

If you need child care, please contact the Church Office at 655-3379 or rsvp@christchurchde.org the Monday before the program.

Jennifer Andrews-Weckerly



Choral Evensong

Join us for Choral Evensong from *The Book of Common Prayer, 1662* for the First Sunday in Lent on **Sunday, March 13** at 5 PM in the Church. The service music will include the *Magnificat* and *Nunc dimittis*, Tallis, and the anthem, *Lo, the Full, Final Sacrifice*, Gerald Finzi.

March Outreach Collections

During March we will collect baby supplies for Delaware Adolescent Program, Inc. (DAPI) and medical supplies for our youth group's mission in Jalonga. Requested supplies include: *diapers, baby wipes, basic clothing (onesies, socks, etc.) in sizes 6 mo. to 2T, blankets and sheets in crib sizes, bottles, pacifiers, and baby toiletries* as well as *band-aids, Neosporin, and chewable vitamins*. Collection bins are set up in the vestibule of the Parish Center near the circle drive and in the back of the Church. Tax receipts are available for your donations.

Lenten Quiet Day

A Quiet Day will be offered in the Chapel on **Saturday, April 9** from 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM. During the morning, there will be meditations with time for silence and reflection. To benefit from this experience, please plan to attend the entire Quiet Day, beginning with Morning Prayer and concluding with noonday prayers. Look for more information next month, but mark your calendars now! A Lenten Quiet Day is a great spiritual gift you can give yourself. To sign up, please contact the Church Office at 655-3379 or rsvp@christchurchde.org. Jennifer Andrews-Weckerly

St. John Passion



The Christ Church Choir, with orchestra, under the direction of William Owen, will present a performance of J. S. Bach's *Passion According to St. John* on **Palm Sunday, April 17** at 4 PM in the Church. Our own Dana Robertson will sing the role of the Evangelist. A donation of at least \$25 per person is requested to defray the cost of this performance. Please make checks payable to Christ Church and mail to P. O. Box 3510, Wilmington, DE 19807 to secure your reservation. You may also pay online at www.christchurchde.org/giving/online.asp. Tickets will be held at the door. William Owen

Annual Meeting on May 15

Wait! Wait! Don't look away. Keep reading!! We know the prospect of attending an annual meeting makes your eyes glaze over and your head drop to your chest in a big snore. Well, things are changing this year for our May 15 Celebration of Ministries and Annual Meeting. Our bylaws say that we have to have an annual meeting, but they don't say it has to be boring and no fun! On **Sunday, May 15** we will have two services at 8 and 9 AM. Ruth will give a State of the Parish sermon at both services. Following the 9 AM service, we will joyously process to the Parish Center behind waving banners and streamers. Parishioners will gather in Parish Halls A and B while children up to age 11 will go to the Chapel for an event of their very own with Pete Moses. Those of us in the Parish Hall will be treated to a celebration of our life together. At 11:45, we will bring the children downstairs and have lunch. We hope this sounds like a fun day for all! Please mark your calendars now, and we'll get back to you with an invitation and RSVP information. This is not your father's annual meeting! *Susan Casscells*

Annual Meeting Steering Committee: Susan Casscells, Chair; Barbara Cairns, Betsy Field, Leslie Kelly, Jennifer O'Connor, Dana Robertson, Ann Wick

Christ Church Episcopal Preschool



Christ Church Episcopal Preschool received its second star from the Delaware Stars Quality Rating and Improvement System in December. We are now undertaking new training and working on improvements to our learning environment and curriculum, family and community partnerships, and the overall management and administration of our school in order to qualify for our third star. In particular, we will receive an outside assessment of our learning environment based on stringent requirements known as the "Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale" and "Infant and Toddler Environment Rating Scale." Our teachers are receiving training on these requirements, and we will be working hard over the next few months to prepare for our assessment. This is a great deal of work, but we are committed to making our school the finest school it can be. *Jo Harney*

A Modern Prophet

All of us who were privileged to hear Bryan Stevenson speak at Christ Church on January 20 were moved and inspired by this modern-day prophet. He spoke about the terrible injustices and abuses suffered by juveniles tried and sentenced as adults in the American justice system. He offered a litany of stark facts: 25% of all the world's incarcerated people are in the United States; Delaware has the sixth highest rate of incarceration in the country; a guilty person of wealth is much more likely to be acquitted than an innocent poor person; for committing the same crime, African Americans are incarcerated at six times the rate of whites and Latinos at nearly double the rate.

Bryan also inspired us by his own story and call to action. He has devoted his life to serving the cause of justice, especially fighting racism and representing the poor and the young. He shared several profoundly Christian insights, telling us that we have the opportunity to create an identity as Christ's church—and that this identity can help us to say and do things that others might consider foolish but which will proclaim and enact God's justice. He reminded us that we are God's witnesses on earth and as such, we need to bring hope to hopeless peoples and places.

One of the questions asked was: how can we help? Bryan encouraged us to get involved—spread the message, visit prisons, correspond with prisoners. You can learn more by visiting the Equal Justice Initiative website at www.eji.org, where you can also find out how you might support their important work.

This lecture was recorded, and a DVD will be available soon for those who missed the event. Look for more information coming soon! *Catherine Lombardo*

Newcomers' Welcome Reception

Following the 9 AM service on Sunday, February 6, members of the Vestry, the Parish Life Committee, and clergy hosted a reception in Parish Hall A to welcome newcomers, their families, and those relatively new to Christ Church. It was an opportunity for new parishioners to learn more about Christ Church's many ministries, learning programs, and service to others. A total of 23 newcomers attended the reception. Newcomers commented that they found the reception to be informative and that they enjoyed meeting other parishioners as well as the tour of the parish grounds. Overall, everyone had a wonderful time. Many thanks to all who provided food or helped contribute toward the success of this event—and again a very warm welcome to all of our newcomers. *Jane Rubini*

Children & Youth Ministries

Next month: There will be Children & Youth Enrichment on Sunday, April 3. No Children & Youth Enrichment on Palm Sunday, April 17.

Children's Ministry

Movie Night was a great success! The children gathered in their pajamas with their sleeping bags and pillows. They watched *Toy Story 3* on the big screen in Parish Hall B and *How to Train a Dragon* on the new big screen TV in the Commons Room. Thanks to all the families, especially the Schlerfs, for bringing all the snacks!

Our Valentine's event—**Kids' Music Experience with Pete Moses**—was so much fun for both children and adults alike! Pete engaged those present with his own spin on some favorite songs with a rock 'n roll twist. The children danced and sang their hearts out! A festive afternoon with Valentine's Day decor, fun music, dance, and pizza topped it all off. Pete Moses will be back at Christ Church in May for a special event. Stay tuned for details!

On Easter, April 24, come join us for an **Easter Egg Hunt** immediately following the 9 AM services on the playground behind the Parish Center. Bring a basket to fill!



Youth Ministry

The **Confirmation class** will head to Camp Arrowhead for their Confirmation retreat on April 1, 2, and 3. Please pray for this group of young people as they explore their faith and prepare to be confirmed. The adult leaders for the retreat will be Lynne Jensen, Ruth Lawson Kirk, Marcy Kempner, Chuck Durgin, and Tom Marcin.

Several youth helped at the **UrbanPromise workday** in February.

The YAC class made and sold **macaroni and cheese** and made \$554, all of which was donated to Haiti and the Dominican Republic trip. Look for additional mac and cheese fund-raisers (with a new, improved recipe) to benefit the DR. This project was created and led by the youth of the YAC class.

Six youth from Christ Church will be going with other youth from the Diocese of Delaware to **Wintercamp** in Glen Spey, New York the first weekend in March. Wintercamp is run by Princeton Youth Ministries. It is a weekend of fellowship, worship, exploration of faith, and fun! It is held at a camp on Lake Champlain.

The J2A class made **prayer beads** to use in their own prayer devotions.

Several youth leaders from Christ Church will be traveling to Philadelphia to participate in **YSPalooza youth leaders training** in March with other youth leaders from the Diocese of Delaware.

Lynne Jensen

Youth Mission Trip to the Dominican Republic

Sixteen youth and four adults will serve the people of Jalonga, Dominican Republic this summer from June 25-July 2. The adult leaders for the trip are Jennifer Andrews-Weckerly, Beth Faulkner, Brad du Pont, and John Crossan.

Look for opportunities to help support our trip and our friends in Jalonga. On March 6, we will hold a Lenten Service Fair (see announcement on page 2) and will collect medical supplies such as *band-aids, Neosporin, and chewable vitamins* during the month.

Part of the requirement for the youth participating in the mission trip is to take part in one of three planned service projects. The first project was on February 12, where five youth and two adults spent the morning at Friendship House painting and cleaning. The youth will also be serving at SOAR and St. Michael's this spring. Look for the DR Service Project photos at www.christchurchde.org/aboutus/photoalbums.asp.

Lynne Jensen

Vestry Highlights from December and January

Our Treasurer reported that 2010 total giving exceeded the amount pledged, resulting in less money needed from the contingency fund. The 2011 campaign is complete, with the hope of an additional 50 pledges expected. Rosanne Miller ends her role as chair of our Stewardship Team, and Phil VanWormer takes over in that leadership role.

After many years of faithful service, Pete Borden steps off as chair of our Personnel Committee, and Carol Mongan takes over that leadership position.

The Vestry extends its gratitude to Allison Brokaw, the committee chairs, and all who made the 2010 Green Show a success.

The Website Design Team reported on its progress and findings as they continue their work. The Vestry also discussed technology at CCCH, envisioning what that might look like as we approach 2018.

The Vestry passed a motion to approve housing allowances for clergy for 2010. The Vestry also appointed Jennifer O'Connor to a two-year term as delegate to the Diocesan Convention; Rebecca Durgin was appointed as an alternate. Our delegates are Chuck Durgin and Jennifer, and our alternates are Rich Tucker and Rebecca.

Susan Casscells reported on preliminary ideas for our Annual Meeting, which will be held on May 15. With input from the Vestry, her team will finalize plans and a new format for our annual gathering. Lunch will be included.

Bishop Frank Turner, retired of Pennsylvania, will be with us on the Feast of Pentecost for Confirmation.

Dana Robertson

The Parish Clergy and Staff

The Rev. Ruth Lawson Kirk, Rector
rkirk@christchurchde.org

The Rev. Russ Bohner, Senior Associate Rector
rbohner@christchurchde.org

The Rev. Jennifer Andrews-Weckerly, Curate
jandrewsweckerly@christchurchde.org

The Rev. Canon Carl Kunz, Jr.,
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Keith Dawson, Business Administrator
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Nadine DiLorenzo,
Saint Nicholas Choir Director

Jo Harney, Head of School
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Linda Hopkins, Housekeeper

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Millie Miller, Senior Administrative Associate
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Walt Morris, Sexton

William Owen, Organist/Choirmaster
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Jane Rubini, Administrative Associate
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Michael Sayer, Administrative Associate
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Don Somers, Sexton

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