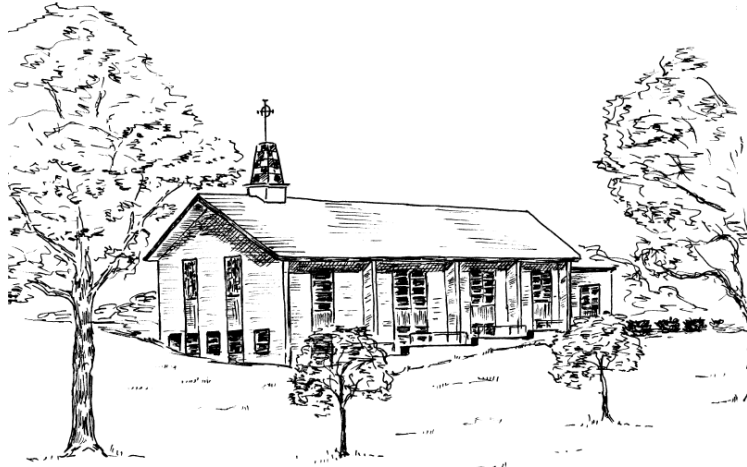


The Lantern of
Saint Christopher
Lighting the Way for Christ

September 2018

Volume CLXXVI



From the Pastor
Gregory P. Sammons +

September, 2018

Dear Sisters and Brothers of St. Christopher's,

To everything, there is a season (Ecclesiastes 3). It's September! The fall season is nearly upon us. The flowers in the garden are beginning to look seedy and worn and, as we pick the tomatoes, we notice the vines underneath have begun to wilt. Their job is done and they are letting go.

The end of summer can bring a certain melancholy. But, for many of us, it is balanced by a feeling of exuberance in the possibilities of a new season. The change of warm summer into chilly fall reminds us that nothing is forever except God's faithfulness and love which will meet us in the midst of all our changes.

I am thinking a lot about this as my time to serve as your “Supply Plus” priest comes to a close. I want you to know how very privileged I have felt to have been with you on so many Sundays and Tuesdays during this year past. I have received more from you than I have been able to give back.

The challenge over the past year has been for St. Christopher’s to “hang together” with one another and with God—and it looks like that is exactly what you have done. And I am grateful for the gift of being with you through much of this, observing your kindness to one another, your faithfulness to your parish church and your love for God.

I believe you are well-positioned to partner enthusiastically with your next priest in charge when he or she arrives. And I am enthusiastic about your future with that priest because I know what a hospitable, kind and enthusiastic congregation you are.

In the meantime, I look forward to being with you on 3 more Sundays (September 16, 23, and 30) and on the two Tuesday (Sept 18 and 25) which fall in between those 3 Sundays. I hope to express my gratitude and thanks to each of you personally when I see you then.

I’d like to pass along the words on a birthday card I received a few years back which continues to inspire and lift me up. *Remember, in every season there is a reason to rejoice.*

Alleluia! Rejoice in the Lord, saints of St. Christopher’s.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Gregory Sammons+

Supply Priest

WARDENS' WORDS

Deb Snavely, Senior Warden

I have wonderful news! We have filled our part time rector position. Beginning 9 October The Rev. John S. Paddock will be our new Priest-in-Charge. John comes to us having recently retired from his position as rector of Christ Church Dayton after 19 years. Interviews with the search committee and Vestry went perfectly, references were stellar and we couldn't be happier with our decision. John will be working on a twelve month letter of agreement that will be renewable on an annual basis.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support over the last year. Judy Brainard and I have had some personal challenges this past year that made our positions as Wardens much more challenging. We could not have gotten through these challenges without the support of the entire church community.

I always tell people that the strength of St. Christopher's is its parishioners. The church is not just a building or an extension of its clergy, it is the people that are the church. The St. Christopher's family is very important to me. I am grateful that it is important enough to all of you that we have made it through these trying times.

Deb Snavely

Senior Warden



“News of Note”

Melody Kelley



How pleased we are to welcome Chester Howes, a new singer to adult choir and there is a potential for Ms. Joy Carter to join us on occasion, when she is not singing in Springfield.

However, there is room in our choir pews for more; if you feel the call to count it all joy to praise Him with us.

After hearing our choir form the percussion band Sunday, the 19th of August, in cooperation with Cindy Feltz on Congo drums, and Frank Eguaroje on his African Talking Drum, I couldn't help but think, “Our Choir Rocks!” Truly, the joy of the Lord is our strength!

With a newly tuned piano and a list of vocalists having contributed to our summer special music program, they've kept on their toes both vocally and in the Greene County Community Band. They have prepared themselves for service and I know the congregation will appreciate their praise at the beginning of our new choir season, as we strive to make His praise glorious!

Why don't you come and join us?

Sincerely,

Melody Kelley

FELLOWSHIP September 2018

Mary Donnellan

Yikes! Summer is almost over, the children and young adults are in school, and we are beginning our new educational year. How did that happen? I didn't do a tenth of what I wanted to do this summer. But, what can you do other than plow into fall. Our first event is our annual cookout on September 9 after church. Our young cooks have agreed to do it yet another year, and we appreciate their skills. There are sign-up sheets in Christopher's Corner for meat, buns, and anything else you would like to bring.

The second event is September 30, the fifth Sunday in September. There will be a salad potluck. Bring your special salad and enjoy food and fellowship. This will be held after church.

BOOKS

I do love to read! I read real books (no Kindle, etc.) and listen to books on my phone when I am in my car. And I am in my car much of the time! The best ones since I last reported are these:

Sharp Objects, based on the novel by Gillian Flynn, is being shown on one of the channels I don't have, but maybe many of you are watching it. I found the book to be a real thriller. I can't tell you much about it without giving too much away. I put the book in the back of Christopher's Corner with the other books. You can purchase it at the next book sale, or if we are not having a sale any time soon, you may read it and pass it around. This would be a good book club book.

Min Jin Lee is the author of an entertaining and informative novel about Korea before, during, and just after World War II. The book, *Pachinko*, tells about the lives of three generations of family caught in the politics of the time. There are vivid portrayals of the Japanese occupation of Korea and the attitudes and prejudices that continued long after occupations and wars ended. Min Jin Lee is a powerful storyteller who brings her characters into your mind and heart,

Breakfast with Buddha by Roland Marullo is an absolute delight. But better than that, it is food for thought. Two men, one a successful food book editor and the other a Buddhist guru-monk, find themselves together on a road trip across America. The characters are fascinating, the situations in which they find or put themselves are often hilarious, and the ending is one of those "Ah-h-h" moments. The book is not new. My grandson read it on a plane trip to Europe and recommended it to his father. My son knew I would really like it, and he was right. It is well worth the read and well worth thinking about after you finish.

I think I have already mentioned *Dope Sick* by Beth Macy. I eagerly awaited its publication, and it was released early in August. Everyone who has in any way been touched by the opioid epidemic in the U.S. should read this book. And I would think that is almost everyone. Beth not only has done her usual stellar research, but she also offers well documented solutions. She also helps us to understand that the obituaries we read and the stories we hear on the news are all about real people with real families. Some of you know how devastated I was at the death of a wonderful young man who was a husband, father, teacher, football coach, church going Christian, and a dear friend. He was the least likely person in the world to die of a fentanyl overdose until he was prescribed pain killers for a legitimate condition. The first prescription pretty well ended his life. Beth Macy tells similar stories as well as stories of economic hardships, lack of adequate medical care, and the other factors that have given us this nightmare. I highly recommend *Dope Sick*.

This Is How It Always Is by Laurie Frankel is a novel about rearing a transgender child. Claude believes he is a girl and wants to be called Poppy. She has four understanding brothers and two supportive parents. All good, right? Not by a long shot. The author takes us through the many, many challenging steps that must be taken in order to help Poppy become who she is while not ignoring the

feelings, fears and needs of the other children. Understanding, education, and love are all necessary in a situation such as the one in the book, but the journey is still difficult and, at times, dangerous.

The history of prosperity theology is discussed in *Blessed* by Kate Bowler. The author takes us through the beginnings of prosperity theology, sheds light on reasons for the popularity of televangelists, and opens the realities of the mega-churches that are still flourishing today. Of course, we don't have to look far to see prosperity theology in some churches in our area. If you are rich, you are blessed by God and are a chosen one. If you are poor, there is something wrong with you, and you do not have God's favor. Never mind that this theology has nothing to do with the message of Jesus. But rich or poor, you must pour money into the church, much of which money goes to the leaders of the organization. Although I have always been a critic of prosperity theology, I did learn new facts. The book is definitely worth the time.

Don't forget to sign up for coffee hour!



SEPTEMBER



September Birthdays

- 5 Debbie Snavely
- 7 Theresa Turner
- 24 Jake Jones
- 25 Gordon Hermann
- 25 Ruthie Kobert
- 29 Alan Haberecht

September Anniversaries

- September 2 Loreen and Steve Dimmick
- September 5 Carole and Ed Smith
- September 5 Melody and Barry Kelley
- September 8 Andrea and Alan Haberecht
- September 12 Hayward and Telesa Learn
- September 26 Robin and Tyson Jones



We would like to include everyone in the celebration of Birthdays and Anniversaries. If we have "missed" your special days, please send your family's dates for birthdays and anniversaries to the office.

St. Christopher's Prayer List

For illness, healing:

Linda, Betty, Carol, Joanne, Toni, Lynda, Daphne, Florence, Edwin, Jim and Ann, Warren, Peggy, Camden, Frank, Joe, Nikki, Paul, Zada, Peg, Judy, Deb, and for all those who lost their health and freedom through addiction



Thank you, God!

Sunday Attendance

It is important that we are aware of how many people are in attendance on Sunday. So each month we show the attendance numbers. Remember, statistics indicate that to have a thriving and prosperous congregation, we need to shoot for 100 as the average Sunday attendance.

| <u>Sunday Attendance</u> | <u>May</u> | <u>June</u> | <u>July</u> | <u>August</u> |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1st Sunday | 59 | 63 | 56 | 46 |
| 2nd Sunday | 70 | 57 | 47 | 64 |
| 3rd Sunday | 48 | 67 | 61 | 72 |
| 4th Sunday | 50 | 51 | 61 | 61 |
| 5th Sunday | n/a | n/a | 49 | n/a |
| <u>TOTAL</u> | <u>227</u> | <u>238</u> | <u>274</u> | <u>243</u> |

Treasurer's Report

St. Christopher's Financial Report

by Robin Jones

| 2018 | <u>April</u> | <u>May</u> | <u>June</u> | <u>July</u> | <u>YTD</u> |
|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Operating income | 12,951.03 | 11,608.17 | 8,492.17 | 9,981.17 | 69,680.46 |
| Operating expenses | (14,121.84) | 19,102.72 | 5,706.53 | 5,114.91 | 37,364.86 |
| Difference | 27,072.87 | (7,494.55) | 2,785.64 | 4,866.26 | 32,315.60 |



A Gentle Reminder: When planning church activities, please check the calendar posted in the church office to avoid scheduling conflicts. And **please post** upcoming activities.

September 2018 Events and Announcements, Opportunities

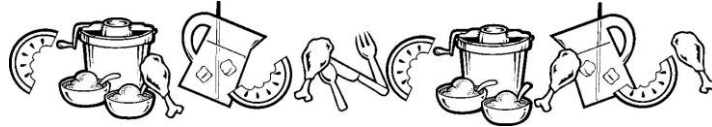


- ✧ **Sunday Schedule –**
 - 9:30 – Sunday School Junior/Senior high
 - 10:00 – Eucharist, Sunday School Pre-K and up
- ✧ **Sunday September 2 – Morning Prayer Service**
- ✧ **Monday September 3 – Labor Day Holiday** – church office closed.
- ✧ **Wednesday September 5** – 6:30 – 8:00 Girl Scouts Fairborn Service Unit Team meeting.
- ✧ **Thursday September 6** – 7:00 Choir restarts
- ✧ **Sunday September 9** – We will start the new program year with our usual picnic/potluck. Sunday School and Choir will start again September 9th.
- ✧ **Tuesday September 11** – 6:30 – 8:00 Girl Scouts Fairborn Service Unit meeting.
- ✧ **Saturday September 15** – USAF Marathon
- ✧ **Sunday September 16** – ECW/M used book sale
- ✧ **Sunday September 16** – 11:30 Vestry meeting
- ✧ **Sunday September 23** – 4th Sunday FISH donations.
- ✧ **Monday September 24** – deadline **October 2018 Lantern** articles/info
- ✧ **Sunday September 30** – Fifth Sunday – Salad potluck Coffee Hour
- ✧ **Weekly Healing Service** – **Tuesdays at noon** a Healing Service is held in the church proper. The service is open to anyone who wants to attend.
- ✧ **Check sign-up sheets** – On the counter in Christopher’s Corner there are sign-up sheets for **altar flowers**, sanctuary candles, fellowship, ECW activities, Prayer Chain, etc. ****Please consider signing up for Altar Flowers and/or to host Coffee Hour. Many dates are available!**
- ✧ **OUTREACH** –Remember **Box Tops for Education**. Please continue with donations for FISH; they need shampoo, tooth brushes, cereal, peanut butter, deodorant, toilet paper, sugar, and other Food items. And feed your change to our bank – for 2 cents a meal.
- ✧ **Prayer Concerns:** Please call or email Joyce D’Alessandris to activate the Prayer Chain. e-mail: dallessa@aol.com, phone: 254-0005.
- ✧ **The September Lantern** – will be online at stchristophersfairborn.org. A printed copy is available upon request.
- ✧ We are still collecting used printer cartridges. They can be recycled at the office supply stores. There is a plastic container in Christopher's corner for you to fill!!



***** Note:** Champion Force Athletics uses the Fellowship Hall on Mondays from 5:30-9:15 p.m. and on Thursdays from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

September Event - Sunday September 9th
St. Christopher's start of our new program year,
including a Picnic/Potluck following the service.



Save the Date

October 14th is the date of the Fairborn CROP Walk. It starts at 2:00 p.m. at the Methodist Church on Broad Street. All ages are welcome to participate in the 10K walk which raises money for the local FISH pantry as well as other local food pantries and CROP International.

See Gail Stauffer or Rosalie Arnold for more information.

We also need sign-ups for hosting Coffee Hour.

*** Remember to sign up for coffee hour. Coffee hour does not have to be elaborate. More than one family can share, and then it's almost no trouble at all.



Coffee Fellowship

Altar Guild — Please Join Us!

Looking for a way to get involved at St. Christopher's? St.C's Altar Guild is in need of new members. The guild is seeking people interested in "setting the Lord's table".

St.C's Altar Guild currently has seven members who serve one week in rotation, usually two at a time, to prepare for our Sunday services and our occasional services during the work-week.

If you'd like to know more about St.C's, our Episcopal traditions and history, or if you have a couple of hours each month to share with us, please contact Andrea Haberecht, or any Altar Guild member.



Volunteers needed - to help with putting the sign saying up.

We have lost 3 people this year and need help. It's not difficult finding sayings with the books we have and the internet. It helps if you partner up with another person and it only has to be done about 2 months a year. See John Stauffer or Ed Smith for more information.

Please note:

You may have noticed that there have been many requests for volunteers lately. As we start a new program year, how can you best contribute your time and talents to St. Christopher's? There are many options – participating in the worship service, or the choir, assisting with Altar Guild, changing the sign by the street, supporting Fellowship activities and ECW/M, helping to maintain the landscaping, and many, many more. Talk to any Vestry member for more information about ways you can participate in activities at St. Christopher's. (ksm)

St. Christopher Episcopal Church
Po Box 1026 1501 N. Broad St, Fairborn, Ohio 45324-1026
(937) 878-5614 (Office)
Website: stchristophersfairborn.org
E-Mail: office@stchristophersfairborn.org

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|---|----------------------------|---|------------------------------|----------|
|  | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost 10 am Morning Prayer | 3 LABOR DAY Holiday Church Office Closed | 4 Noon Healing Service 6:30 GS Fbn SU Team meeting | 5 6-8 GS Meeting #30240 | 6 7:00 Choir Starts | 7 | 8 |
| 9 Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost 9:15 am Sunday School 10 am Morning Prayer, Sunday School New Program Year Sunday School Picnic/Potluck <i>New moon</i> | 10 6-8 GS Meeting #30240 | 11 Noon Healing Service 6:30 GS Fbn SU meeting | 12 | 13 7:00 Choir | 14 | 15 |
| 16 Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost 9:15 am Sunday School 10 am Eucharist, Sunday School ECW/M used book sale 11:30 Vestry mtg | 17 5:30-9:15 Champion Cheer (start fall) 6-8 GS Meeting #30240 | 18 Noon Healing Service | 19 | 20 5:30 8:30 Champion MA (start fall) 7:00 Choir | 21 | 22 |
| 23 Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost 9:15 am Sunday School 10 am Eucharist, Sunday School 4th Sunday for FISH donations | 24 Lantern Inputs Deadline 5:30-9:15 Champion Chr | 25 Noon Healing Service <i>Full moon</i> | 26 | 27 5:30 8:30 Champion MA 7:00 Choir | 28 6:30-8:30 GS mtg 31280 | 29 |
| 30 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost 9:15 am Sunday School 10 am Eucharist, Sunday School Fifth Sunday – Salad potluck Coffee Hour | Oct 1 5:30-9:15 Champion Chr 6-8 GS Meeting #30240 |  | | | | |

2018

SEPTEMBER SCHEDULE

2018

| | <i>Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost Morning Prayer September 2</i> | <i>Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost Morning Prayer September 9</i> | <i>Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost Eucharist September 16</i> | <i>Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost Eucharist September 23</i> | <i>Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost Eucharist September 30</i> |
|--|---|---|--|--|---|
| Worship Leader | Cindy Feltz | David Christmas | Ron D'Allessandris | Toni Olgeaty | David Christmas |
| Chalice Bearer | n/a | n/a | David Christmas | Alan Haberecht | Toni Olgeaty |
| Acolyte | Ed Smith | Alan Haberecht | James Lester | Ed Smith | Kathy Smith |
| 1st Reader LECTORS 2nd Reader | Judy Brainard <i>Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9</i> John Stauffer <i>James 1:17-27</i> | Mary Donnellan <i>Isaiah 35:4-7a</i> Theresa Turner <i>James 2:1-10, 14-17</i> | Lauren Faller <i>Proverbs 1:20-33</i> Ann Volkmer <i>James 3:1-12</i> | Ron D'Allessandris <i>Proverbs 31:10-31</i> Judy Brainard <i>James 3:13—4:3, 7-8a</i> | Cindy Feltz <i>Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22</i> Ron D'Allessandris <i>James 5:13-20</i> |
| Ushers | tbd James Lester | Ann Foster Sierra Lester | Gordon Herman Hayward Learn | Eleanor and Becky Wood | Iyabo Eguaroje James Lester |
| Healing Prayers | tbd | tbd | tbd | tbd | tbd |
| Greeters | Judy Brainard, Telesa Learn | Darlene and Gordon Walbroehl | Joyce and Ron D'Allessandris | Telesa Learn Gordon Hermann | Andrea and Alan Haberecht |
| Nursery | Kopp | Stauffer | Volkmer | Faller | Jones |
| Altar Guild | Judy Brainard Betty Crichton | Eleanor and Becky Wood | Kathy Smith Sierra Lester | Andrea Haberecht | Judy Brainard Betty Crichton |
| Tellers | Rosalie Arnold Gordon Walbroehl | Gordon Hermann Ed Smith | Cindy Manship Millie Roach | Susan Brainard John Stauffer | Deb Snavelly |
| Fellowship | open | Picnic/Potluck | open | Cindy Feltz | 5 th Sunday Salad potluck |

PLEASE check the schedule and note your assignment(s). If you are not able to serve, or there is a conflict of assignments, **notify the person responsible for that assignment** and the office (878-5614).

| | | | | | |
|----------------|----------|---|------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Ed Smith | 429-4518 | Worship Leaders, Chalice, Lectors, Acolytes, Ushers | Andrea Haberecht | 546-1208 | Altar Guild Coffee Hour/Fellowship |
| Judy Brainard | 879-3987 | Greeters | Melody Kelley | (937) 372-6687 | Director of Music |
| Rosalie Arnold | 878-5097 | Tellers | Deb Snavelly | 878-4054 | Senior Warden |
| Amy Kopp | 258-0082 | Nursery attendants | | 937-478-3587 (C) | |

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 10 AM to 2 PM, Monday through Friday