

# THE *Red* DOOR

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH • CHARLEVOIX, MICHIGAN

200 State Street • PO Box 385 • Charlevoix Michigan 49720 • 231-547-6322 • [ChristEpiscopalChurch.net](http://ChristEpiscopalChurch.net)

## *A Quiet and Humble Christmas*

The ways of God and the ways of humans are often vastly different. When God determined to express God's ultimate, irrevocable Word of love for us, what happened? How was that eternal love made manifest?

What might we and the rest of the world have expected? Perhaps, for starters, an international conclave with all the leaders of the world convened in the pomp and circumstance of earthly grandeur.

This was not God's way. God's love for us — God's abiding presence with us — was expressed in the quietest, most humble way anyone could ever imagine. The most wonderful news in the history of humankind arrived unnoticed by the powerful and the "paparazzi" of the time. It was unnoticed and obscure because it came in an insignificant corner of the Roman Empire when a baby was born to a poor, unmarried peasant girl in a stable — a barn!

The world has not been content with this state of affairs. We have attempted to improve on God's efforts. The result? The "holiday season" has become an exercise in excess. Too much food, too much spending, and so many social obligations that we are spent at the end of it all.

Perhaps a return to God's way of doing things is in order. Maybe we'd be better off if our celebration of Christmas and our reception of its joyful good news were centered in those quiet, humble moments that can easily be overlooked:

- The joy of a pet frolicking in the snow
- The glance of a loved one that communicates a lifetime of devotion
- Tears of gratitude when less fortunate folks are touched by our acts of kindness
- A treasured, breathtaking memory of a departed family member or friend
- A child's unbridled glee at a simple pleasure

Who knows? It just might be that God was onto something! We just might find the true joys of Christmas in simple, humble pleasures such as these.

*Grace & Peace,*



*The Rev. Thomas P. O'Dell*

### *Advent Open House*

*at the O'Dell's*

**Sunday, December 15th**

**3:00 — 5:00 p.m.**

**6450 Quarry Ridge Drive**

**Bay Harbor**

**Please let us know if you are coming!**

**[buraaga@gmail.com](mailto:buraaga@gmail.com)**

# Christmas FLOWER FUND

AT CHRIST CHURCH



Anyone wishing to donate to our Christmas flowers, wreaths or trees may do so now. Please make checks payable to Christ Episcopal Church with the memo line: Christmas Flowers, Wreaths & Trees. Place your check in the collection plate or mail to: Christ Episcopal Church, P.O. Box 385, Charlevoix, MI 49720.

Please specify:

My gift is in memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

My gift is in thanksgiving for: \_\_\_\_\_

Your generous donation will help beautify the sanctuary during Advent and Christmas season.

*Thank you,*

*– Linda Wertz*

*The greatest and most important problems of life are fundamentally unsolvable.*

*They can never be solved but outgrown.*

*– Carl Jung*



Linda & Rick Wertz, Mark Stanley and Susan Flanders select a Christmas Tree from Bill's Market in Petoskey

# Prayer List FOR DECEMBER

*Please Pray for your Brothers and Sisters*

The Rev. Peggy Nattermann	Janet Weir
The Rev. Kathy Kircher	Bob Masson
Gunnar Lundteigen	Jeanette Smock
Linda Smith	Judy & Tony Riccio
David Bahr	Joe Cranie
Blake Kirinovic	Audrey Louise Hall
Brad Lopez	Bruce Austin
Lisa Hicklen	Tom Garner
Vicky & Gary Schafer	Cort Esenther
Glen Berger	Lila Nelson
Patti Masson	Patricia Shannon
Leslie Setsler	Diane Meyers



Briggs & Logan  
Connolly and the  
Connolly family

Kathy Smalley  
Linda Boss

*Persons are removed from our Prayer List at the end of each month.*

*Please contact John Fiedorek at [jfiedorek@gmail.com](mailto:jfiedorek@gmail.com)  
to add the names of friends and family to our Prayer List*

*Our Sister in Christ,  
Monsie Cameron*

*Passed on to Greater Glory*

*on November 19, 2019*

*No further details at this time.*

# Upcoming Dates TO REMEMBER

## DECEMBER 2019 AND JANUARY 2020

- December 1      9:30a.m.    First Sunday – Reorienting your life to Jesus – *The Way of Love*
- December 12     10a.m.        Caring Shepherds meeting in parish hall
- December 14     4p.m.         Gospel Choir from Flint, MI to perform in sanctuary  
Reception to follow in parish hall, sponsored by Taylor Series
- December 18     9a.m.         CEC travels to Manna. Soup will be served at CEC upon return.
- December 18     5p.m.         Deadline for January *Red Door*, contact  
Susan Flanders: [susankflanders@gmail.com](mailto:susankflanders@gmail.com)
- December 24     5:30p.m.     Christmas Eve Service  
Fellowship to host reception in parish hall
- January 5        9:30a.m.     First Sunday – Explore and share our spiritual journey and growth.  
All ages are welcome and encouraged to join.
- January 6        6p.m.         Joint Epiphany Service – in Petoskey @ Emmanuel Episcopal Church  
+ Church of the Nativity, Boyne City  
+ Christ Episcopal Church, Charlevoix  
+ Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Petoskey
- January 19      11a.m.        CEC – Annual Parish Meeting (snow date: January 26, 2020)



## Christmas Eve Ministry Schedule

Tuesday, December 24, 2019

5:30pm

OT Lessons & Psalms .....	Tom Kirinovic
The Epistle .....	Dan Sytsma Reed
Prayers.....	Mark Heydlauff
Ushers.....	Nancy & Jeff Porter
Greeters .....	Marge & Tom Kirinovic
Intinction.....	Brownie Flanders
LEM/Acolyte.....	Rick Wertz
Altar Guild .....	Susan Flanders & Linda Wertz
Reception .....	Fellowship Team
Vestry Member on Duty.....	John Masson

# *Columbarium* UPDATE

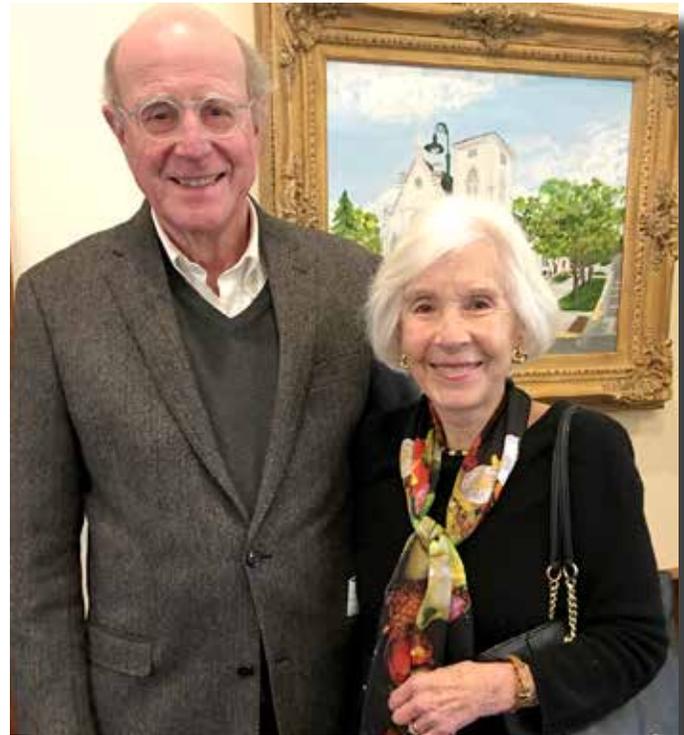
AT CHRIST CHURCH

## *Successful Columbarium Campaign*

The columbarium committee is excited to report the overwhelming success of the capital campaign. To date we have raised \$199,625 to fund the columbarium, the parish hall expansion, a fire alarm system, and ventilation improvements in the undercroft. This sum includes the lead gift of \$54,408 bequeathed to our church by Mel Shafer, and \$145,217 in gifts from our congregation. Thanks to your generosity the project has already begun moving forward with a completion date in early 2020.

Our thanks to the campaign co-chairs, Betty Stephen and Mark Andresky for their tireless effort organizing and carrying out this most successful campaign, and to those who served on the committee making personal calls to our membership.

Your generous giving to the campaign is an important part of helping build a strong and lasting legacy for Christ Church, one that we all can be proud of. As the Christmas season draws near, one can imagine how our gifts will



Columbarium Capital Campaign members Jeff and Nancy Porter

add to the Church we all love, and how future generations will appreciate our gifts to this timely and needed project.

## *Columbarium Updates:*

The Vestry has approved the Columbarium Committee's recommendation to award a construction contract to McBride Remodeling. The work will be supervised by Nick Liebler, architect, of N.J. White Associates.

The project will involve –

- conversion of the existing business office to additional space for the parish hall
- move the business office to the space occupied by the Outreach Office
- remodel of the area between the parish hall

and sanctuary to allow for the installation of 189 columbarium niches and a memorial plaque

- remodel the archive room to reduce the humidity problem

This work will be paid for from the funds raised by the successful Capital Campaign, as will a fire alarm system and new exterior doors for the parish hall and sanctuary. We expect construction to start in January and hope to be completed by Easter.

– *Brownie Flanders*

# Reflection on CHRIST CHURCH

BY DOROTHY MILLER

## “125 Years Strong”

*Reflections of Dorothy Miller*

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Thank you! Thank you to everyone for being an important part in the Celebration of Christ Episcopal Church “125 Years Strong”.

As the year 2019 comes to a close, I reflect about the year-long 125th celebration. Usually, celebrations are a one day event. However, we planned the ongoing event to include the past, the present and the future.

The past: Historical scrapbooks were on display for viewing.

The history of our church was researched and compiled, then printed so each family unit would receive a copy of the historical book as a gift along with a box of notecards featuring the new painting of the church.

After our Rector, Tom O’Dell, researched the Book of Common Prayer, we celebrated Holy Eucharist using the 1892 Book of Common Prayer on Sunday, November 3rd.

The present: In the past, on Sunday mornings, there was Sunday School for the children and youth. Now, on the first Sunday of each month from 9:30–9:50am, before the 10:00am Worship Service, we have First Sunday in the parish hall. Typically, there are 25–30 in attendance ranging in ages from 9–90. Yes, everyone is invited to come to the intergeneration Sunday School now called First Sunday.



Dorothy Miller

The many 125th scheduled events and activities were inspirational, spiritual, educational, enjoyable, special and fun.

Everyone’s support and participation in giving of time and energy in planning, preparing and serving to make this a memorable 125th Celebration is greatly appreciated.

The future: The Columbarium Project will start at the beginning of the new year 2020.

As we look into the future, we work on living into the mission statement written by the Vestry at their February Retreat. “The Mission of Christ Episcopal Church: Christ Episcopal Church lives as a branch of the Episcopal “Jesus Movement” in Northwest Michigan. Our prayerful response to Jesus’ grace inspires our faithful acts of love toward all people.”

*With Prayers and Blessings,  
Dorothy Miller  
Senior Warden*

# Christian Outreach **MINISTRY**

## Community Christmas Project

Charlevoix Community Christmas Project will be held on Friday, December 13th, at Bethany Lutheran Church. This is a community effort to provide a Christmas for those who are less fortunate in our school district. Toys, bikes, hats, mittens, socks, coats, gift certificates are among the items collected for the families. Food boxes are also distributed to families and senior citizens with ingredients to prepare a turkey dinner and a good breakfast for Christmas. This project is totally funded through churches, individuals and business donations.

Christ Episcopal Church helps with this project, by having an Angel Tree. The tree will be set up starting on November 24th. The Angel Tree will allow you the opportunity to choose your angel or angels. The tag on the angel will indicate the age, gender, "wants" of a child. You will purchase gifts for your angel and return it, unwrapped, to CEC by December 8th. The gifts will be delivered to Bethany Lutheran Church for distribution on December 13th.



Angel Tree Decorated in Parish Hall



***A big thank you to Ann Puffpaff for again making our darling angels for the "Angel Tree"! Ann has done this for us for a number of years! We so appreciate your handiwork, Ann!***

***- Judy Colt***

Not only can you contribute to this project by monetary donations, but volunteers are always needed to set up, beginning the week of December 9th. Also, there will be last minute shopping to do for late sign ups, so if you're a shopper, please sign up on the forms in the parish hall or let Judy Colt know if you will be available. Thanks for your joy of sharing.

## Who Says There's No Such Things as Sugar Plum Fairies?

Our Scholarship recipients are nearing a semester break for the Christmas holiday. Amidst cramming for tests and suffering lesser 'shut eye', they're getting a sugar-loaded solace with homemade cookies and caramel puffs that were laced with love and sent to each one by CEC's Outreach team. As the students return to their homes throughout Charlevoix County, and by chance you see any of them, be sure to welcome them back and connect the enduring message of our Savior this Christmas!

Jenna Guthrie, Lauren Harris, Kara Simpson (and sister Cassie Simpson), Hayden Dvoracek Jordan Herman, Kendall McNitt, Macy McPherson, Gabby Snyder, and Megan Streeter!

Our CEC Educational Scholarship Application for 2020 will be on CEC's website. Eligibility remains with graduating high school seniors who are currently attending any Charlevoix County school.

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## Episcopal Diocese of WESTERN MICHIGAN GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN, NOVEMBER 1-2, 2019

Fr. Tom O'Dell, Don Collier, and I left for the Diocesan Convention of Western Michigan in Grand Rapids on Friday November 1st, on slippery, snow covered roads, arriving only a few minutes late for the 10a.m. opening.

The session opened with Morning Prayer followed by introductions and the Bishop's address. The Bishop announced the "coming together" with the Diocese of Eastern Michigan and his acceptance as their Bishop. He spoke of his Sabbatical, the move of the Diocesan Office to Grand Rapids and the activities of the office and staff.

Lunch followed Noonday Prayer and preceded an interesting and entertaining key note address by Dr. Lisa Kimball, Virginia Theological Seminary. Then came the business session, elections, affirmation of appointments, and the budget review.

At 10a.m., Saturday, November 2nd, we attended the convention Eucharist which was held at Thornapple Covenant Church and returned to Charlevoix in time to enjoy the University of Michigan, Men's Glee Club concert.

– *Brownie Flanders, Delegate*

## *United Thank Offering*

*I*n excerpts of Theology of Thankfulness, there cannot be proper worship without sincere thanksgiving; nor can there be proper living without thanksgiving at the center of that life. The work of the United Thank Offering emerges as an extension of that thankfulness. The United Thank Offering is not merely taking up a collection, it is asking us to continue what we've begun at the altar in the giving up of ourselves to "become his body in this world." UTO is inviting people to continue to offer themselves to the mission of the Church. It is inviting us to "expand the circle of thankful people."

The act of giving thanks, whether one places a coin in the Blue Box or is lifting one's heart to the Lord in worship, requires one to remember. Remembrance is at the heart of thankfulness. Jesus' command to "Do this in remembrance of me" draws attention to what God is doing now and will continue to do. Giving and gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today and creates a vision for tomorrow.

In giving thanks, you do thanks, give thanks, give things, give thoughts and give love. Gratitude becomes the gift, creating a cycle

of giving and receiving, the endless waterfall. Filling up and spilling over. No matter how we do it, we can always give thanks, because we can always pray. Our prayers, especially those of thanksgiving, become a way of life. The outward and visible sign of our thankfulness is the Blue Box into which coins are placed to accompany our prayers of thanksgiving.

The mission projects the UTO funds, are the result of unnumbered prayers of thanksgiving offered daily by unnumbered people throughout the whole church. We look at mission projects through a UTO grant and we can imagine all those invisible prayers that have been offered from grateful hearts.

Thank you for your many prayers of thanksgiving by using your blue box as a visible sign of that thanks. As we ready ourselves for the Thanksgiving holiday, let us continue to joyfully give thanks to God for our many blessings.

*Blessings to all,  
Anne Stanley*

## *Sunday Sermons*

Did you know that each Sunday the sermons at Christ Church are recorded?  
To listen to the Sunday's sermon, visit the church's website at:

[ChristEpiscopalChurch.net](http://ChristEpiscopalChurch.net)

*Click on sermon and listen to the desired week*

# Taylor SERIES

AT CHRIST CHURCH



## *Gospel Choir*

*from*

**St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Flint, Michigan**

*to perform at Christ Episcopal Church,  
200 State Street Charlevoix, Michigan*

**December 14, 2019**

**4p.m.**

Sponsored by Taylor Series

*Reception to follow in parish hall. Open to the community.*

**NO COST**

# Taylor SERIES

AT CHRIST CHURCH

## The University of Michigan Men's Glee Club



Men's Glee club practiced - You are Enough- prior to their 5p.m. performance on November 2nd.



Professor Mark Stover,  
Music Director of  
Men's Glee Club

Glee Club enter parish hall to perform in CEC sanctuary performance on November 2nd.



Glee Club members enjoy reception following their concert on November 2nd.

On November 2nd the Taylor Series hosted the Men's Glee Club from the University of Michigan. Our sanctuary was filled with 99 club members and 195 guests from the community. Standing room only. The Glee Club's 2019 theme was "You Are Enough". Their hope was that we leave encouraged and strengthened for life's journey through the message of their music and passion for singing. They were honored to performed at Christ Church and enjoyed our hospitality. It was a great evening.

# Worship & MUSIC

## Anthems for December 2019

### December 1

*Swing Low, Sweet Chariot*  
(Worship & Rejoice, page 520)

### December 8

*He Leadeth Me*  
(Worship & Rejoice, page 499)

### December 15

*The King of Glory Comes*  
(Worship & Rejoice, page 159)

### December 22

*Soon and Very Soon*  
(Worship & Rejoice, page 523)

### December 29

*Mary, Did you Know?*  
(Worship & Rejoice, page 192)

*Now is our time to go.  
To go into the world to share the  
good news of God and Jesus Christ.*

## First Sunday on December 1st

at 9:30a.m. in the parish hall.

*T*his study beckons you to keep reorienting your life to Jesus, to fall in the *Ways of Love*, again and again and again.

Whether your reflections and actions take place in the pews amidst stained glass and candles, or takes place out into the wider world, God is wherever he puts us to do His will. Join us on December 1st and talk with others about where you've been and what a difference it made!

## Worship & Rejoice

*W*e continue to explore and share our spiritual journey and growth as a community the First Sunday of every month. Please join us on January 5, 2020 to begin a New Year with your brothers and sister in Christ. All ages are welcome and encouraged to join this monthly gathering! You will be surprised, challenged and perhaps even delighted what you take away!

– Lisa French

# Ministry Schedule **DECEMBER**

2019

Ministry	<i>Sunday December 1</i>	<i>Sunday December 8</i>	<i>Sunday December 15</i>	<i>Sunday December 22</i>	<i>Sunday December 29</i>
<b>OT Lesson &amp; Psalms</b>	<b>Rick Wertz</b>	<b>George Perrett</b>	<b>John Fiedorek</b>	<b>Nancy Porter</b>	<b>Lea Peak</b>
<b>The Epistle</b>	<b>Steve Hall</b>	<b>Roger Peak</b>	<b>Tom Kirinovic</b>	<b>Gary Stutzman</b>	<b>John Masson</b>
<b>Prayers</b>	<b>Rachel Sytsma Reed</b>	<b>Deb Stutzman</b>	<b>Mark Andresky</b>	<b>Sharon Witucki</b>	<b>Ruth Willis</b>
<b>Ushers</b>	<b>George &amp; Wendy Perrett</b>	<b>Rick Wertz Ruth Willis</b>	<b>Jeff &amp; Nancy Porter</b>	<b>Brownie &amp; Susan Flanders</b>	<b>Peter Pace Sharon Witucki</b>
<b>Greeters</b>	<b>Chris &amp; Christine Benson</b>	<b>Brownie &amp; Susan Flanders</b>	<b>Judy Colt Wendy Perrett</b>	<b>Ruth Willis Marsha Hall</b>	<b>John Fiedorek Patti Masson</b>
<b>Intinction</b>	<b>Lea Peak</b>	<b>Betsy Collier</b>	<b>Rick Wertz</b>	<b>John Fiedorek</b>	<b>Brownie Flanders</b>
<b>LEM (Chalice)</b>	<b>Brownie Flanders</b>	<b>Frank Rathjens</b>	<b>Dorothy Miller</b>	<b>Lea Peak</b>	<b>Rick Wertz</b>
<b>Acolyte</b>	<b>Brownie Flanders Lena Sytsma Reed (Crucifer)</b>	<b>Frank Rathjens</b>	<b>Dorothy Miller John Masson (Crucifer)</b>	<b>Roger Peak</b>	<b>Rick Wertz</b>
<b>Altar Guild</b>	<b>Ann Bahr Susan Flanders</b>	<b>Dorothy Miller Marge Kirinovic</b>	<b>Deb Stutzman Linda Wertz</b>	<b>Nancy Porter Lisa French</b>	<b>Betsy Collier Susan Flanders</b>
<b>Coffee Hour Hosts</b>	<b>Susan &amp; Brownie Flanders</b>	<b>Patti Masson Wendy Perrett Ann Puffpaff</b>	<b>Taylor Series Committee</b>	<b>Deb Esenther Linda Wertz</b>	<b>Sharon Witucki Peter Pace David &amp; Penny Loving</b>
<b>Vestry Duty</b>	<b>Dorothy Miller</b>	<b>Mark Heydlauff</b>	<b>Chris Benson</b>	<b>Deb Stutzman</b>	<b>Lisa French</b>

# Ministry Schedule **JANUARY**

2020

Ministry	<i>Sunday January 5</i>	<i>Sunday January 12</i>	<i>Sunday January 19</i>	<i>Sunday January 26</i>
<b>OT Lesson &amp; Psalms</b>	<b>John Lignell</b>	<b>Kim Baker</b>	<b>Lisa French</b>	<b>John Masson</b>
<b>The Epistle</b>	<b>Roger Peak</b>	<b>Ruth Willis</b>	<b>Mark Andresky</b>	<b>Bill French</b>
<b>Prayers</b>	<b>Susan Flanders</b>	<b>Linda Wertz</b>	<b>Mark Heydlauff</b>	<b>Betty Stephen</b>
<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Mark Andresky Chris Nyland</b>	<b>John Fiedorek Don Binns</b>	<b>Tom &amp; Marge Kirinovic</b>	<b>Don &amp; Betsy Collier</b>
<b>Greeters</b>	<b>Tom &amp; Marge Kirinovic</b>	<b>Peter Pace Sharon Witucki</b>	<b>Betty Stephen Patti Masson</b>	<b>Judy Colt Ruth Willis</b>
<b>Intinction</b>	<b>Lea Peak</b>	<b>John Fiedorek</b>	<b>Bill French</b>	<b>Brownie Flanders</b>
<b>LEM (Chalice)</b>	<b>Rick Wertz</b>	<b>Brownie Flanders</b>	<b>Dorothy Miller</b>	<b>Betsy Collier</b>
<b>Acolyte</b>	<b>Frank Rathjens</b>	<b>Brownie Flanders Lena Sytsma Reed (Crucifer)</b>	<b>Dorothy Miller John Masson (Crucifer)</b>	<b>Roger Peak</b>
<b>Altar Guild</b>	<b>Betsy Collier Lisa French</b>	<b>Dorothy Miller Nancy Porter</b>	<b>Marge Kirinovic Deb Stutzman</b>	<b>Linda Wertz Ann Bahr</b>
<b>Coffee Hour Hosts</b>	<b>Jeff &amp; Nancy Porter</b>	<b>Marge Kirinovic Anne Stanley</b>	<b>Fellowship Team</b>	<b>Nancy &amp; Jeff Porter</b>
<b>Vestry Duty</b>	<b>Linda Wertz</b>	<b>Anne Stanley</b>	<b>John Masson</b>	<b>Lisa French</b>