

THE *Red* DOOR

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH • CHARLEVOIX, MICHIGAN

200 State Street • PO Box 385 • Charlevoix Michigan 49720 • 231-547-6322 • ChristEpiscopalChurch.net

An Unexpected Journey

*M*y journey to the open red doors of CEC was stilted and unexpected. An understatement of huge proportion. It began after a polite but firm 'no' from her childhood church that our youngest daughter and her fiancé were married at CEC in 2008 by Fr. John David. It was prayerful, joyous and gave everyone treasured lifelong memories. The church community surrounded us with welcoming friendship and yet I felt drawn to CEC in much deeper and more profound ways I couldn't explain. Not even to myself.

Time went on and my work schedule had me in my office on Sundays. I never lost my faith or my love of God but it wasn't until I retired in 2015 that I felt that quiet but firm tug to come visit CEC once again. Funny how when we stop asking God for things and listen to what He wants from and for us, God helps us find a path we might not have found ourselves. Clearly not by accident, I ran into Rick Wertz at Glens one afternoon a few months after my retirement. Odds on bet Rick never knew he was God's messenger that day. After a few minutes I asked him how everyone was at church. He assured me I would be welcome to come and find out for myself.

I was raised in a church where people didn't really mingle. Lots of nods, tempered smiles, hushed tones and somber services. I was honestly scared to just show up randomly at CEC on a Sunday morning. But show up I did and Messenger Rick was an usher that morning. Don't you love it when God makes it easy on us? There were some familiar faces too, all smiling, all genuine, all making me feel welcome.

In retrospect, it took me longer than it needed to, to feel the peace, the friendship, the true love of God as it radiates from the CEC community. Everyone, and I mean everyone, welcomed me with open arms. Literally! I was asked to join committees, help with spring planting (brown thumb and all), come to meetings and work on outreach programs. I admit in a religious setting such inclusion was foreign to me. But slowly, and with the encouragement of so many of you, I began to believe that CEC is where I belonged. Thanks in great part to the ever-patient Fr. Tom and so many of you who helped



Stained glass windows in CEC's narthex

me find my way and in my own time. Today? CEC feels like home. Like a cozy blanket in front of a fire on a cold day. This community of such special humans makes me feel like I really am good enough to be a part of this wonderful church.

When asked about faith filled generosity it is an easy answer for me. This faith filled CEC community defines faith filled generosity. It's inclusive, giving, patient... especially with those like me who need it most. And they're always thanking God for His goodness. What a great reminder especially in such a strange and unforgiving world today.

It sounds like an overused phrase when people utter something is 'life changing'. But I will tell you this. Belonging to CEC has been and continues to be life changing for me. It's family. It's giving. It's caring. It's humble. And it always ends with the faith filled and generous love of God.

Gratefully,
Kathy Boyer – Stewardship

From FATHER TOM

We Need to Read *The Bluest Eye*

Nobel Prize winning author Toni Morrison died a year ago — on August 5, 2019. For most of the succeeding months our nation has been involved in some soul searching over matters of race in America.

It's time to step away from the hyper-partisan hyperbole that has arisen and explore the issues in a human context — and in a Christian context.

We'll do that by reading and discussing Morrison's first novel, *The Bluest Eye*.

Pecola Breedlove, a young black girl, prays every day for beauty. Mocked by other children for the dark skin, curly hair, and brown eyes that set her apart, she yearns for normalcy, for the blond hair and blue eyes that she believes will allow her to finally fit in. Yet as her dream grows more fervent, her life slowly starts to disintegrate in the face of adversity and strife. A powerful examination of our obsession with beauty and conformity, Toni Morrison's virtuosic first novel asks powerful questions about race, class, and gender with the subtlety and grace that have always characterized her writing.

The Bluest Eye is not a comfortable read, but it is a beautiful, necessary read. And it is increasingly timely in a period when America's unreconciled legacy of racism is haunting the nation. Toni Morrison's novel enlightens readers about the challenges plaguing Blacks in America, what oppression looks and feels like, and what it creates, while evincing the commonalities among all people.

Our Zoom discussions will take place at 10 a.m. on three Wednesdays:

October 21
October 28
November 4

Be in touch with me (buraaga@gmail.com) if you'd like to join the discussions and I'll send you a link. You can get a copy of *The Bluest Eye* at a local bookstore or online, including an audible version read by Toni Morrison herself. It's also available at all libraries.

Grace & Peace,



The Rev. Thomas P. O'Dell

You may delay, but time will not.

— Ben Franklin

Altar Flowers DONATIONS



Dear parishioners, On October 4, 2020 we will begin to *Live Stream* our services inside the church. We are in need of flowers to grace our altar. Should you wish to donate, please see dates available. As a friendly reminder, make your \$50.00 donation to Christ Episcopal Church, indicate "Altar Flowers" on memo line and mail to Christ Episcopal Church, P.O. Box 385, Charlevoix, MI 49720. You can include a note indicating reason for placing on the altar. Flowers can be retrieved by calling Linda Wertz at 231-547-8980.

In honor of: _____

In memory of: _____

DATES AVAILABLE:

October 18, 2020

October 25, 2020

November 1, 2020

November 8, 2020

November 15, 2020

November 22, 2020

Prayer List FOR OCTOBER

Please Pray for your Brothers and Sisters

Rev. Kathy Kircher

Dr. John Lignell

Peter Pace

Glen Berger

Lisa Hicklen

Deb Stutzman

Linda Southby

Cynthia Johnston

Steve Weir

Cort Esenther

Ron Grulke

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

Please contact

John Fiedorek at

jfiedorek@gmail.com

*to add the names of friends
and family
to our Prayer List*



Announcement ABOUT SERVICES

FROM THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESES OF MICHIGAN

The State of Michigan remains under the Governor's Executive Order limiting indoor gatherings to no more than 10 people, and outdoor gatherings to no more than 100 people. While churches are not held to this order by the State, our four dioceses are strongly recommending that our churches adhere to this further temporary guidance.

We expect the recommendation to end when the governor's Executive Order is rescinded. When that happens, you will receive a notice by email.

Our summer services at Depot Beach have come to an end. Beginning with our service on Sunday, October 4th services from Christ Church will be available online. Check your email inbox for updates.

Outdoor Service AT DEPOT BEACH

DURING SEPTEMBER 2020

*During the Pandemic
of 2020*

Not Rain... Not Wind...

Not Cold Weather,

Will Keep

Liza Rafael and Linda O'Dell

from

CEC Worship Services

at Depot Beach!



The Little Church THAT COULD

Adapted from: The Little Engine That Could

“Chug, chug, chug, puff, puff, puff, ring, ring, ring.” The sweet little church on the corner of State and Clinton was a happy little church. Its engines were mighty, its cars loaded, windows were beautiful, flowers outside were stunning and its red doors were always open to everyone who walked by. Inside, the pews were filled with parishioners and visitors alike. Some wore jeans, some wore ties, some were quiet and some were loud. Most however; were just happy to be inside the little church on Sunday mornings to listen to the music, sing hymns of praise and listen to the word of God. But that wasn’t all the little church provided. In the caboose of the church, the parish hall welcomed all who came with hugs, goodies and conversation.

The little church offered all of these things to anyone who entered but then ... everything stopped. The doors were locked. The music silenced. Sermons came to a screeching halt. Covid19 reared its ugliness and the little church’s engine and all of its cars were left quietly on the tracks. No chugging was heard, no puffing out loud, no bells were ringing.

The little church’s doors may have been locked but the word of God was never halted. The sermons were on-line, messages were sent and phone calls made to make sure that everyone in the cars behind the engine were okay. Months passed. The head engineer at the diocese said the little church couldn’t open its doors. It must stay closed so its parishioners stay safe.

Would the little church ever get over the mountain that lay in front of them?

Finally, the parishioners began to “chug” once again. “What if we met outside? Could we have services if we wore masks and sat 6 feet apart from one another?” They asked the diocese and they said, “Yes.” They asked the minister and he said, “Yes.” Chug, chug, chug. Puff, puff, puff.” Conductor Margie got busy securing a beautiful pavilion at the beach. Every Sunday during the summer, ***The Little Church That Could***, met on the shores of Lake Charlevoix. Music was played, songs were sung, praises were lifted up and all of the parishioners could feel the Lord making them whole again. Their spirits were soaring even though they had to wear masks, sit 6 feet apart and not grab a hug or two! They began to say, “I think we can, I think we can, I think we can.” They had crested the mountain and were now able to see the track in front of them.

And, although the little church wasn’t quite all the way on its track, the engine and all of its cars were once again chugging and puffing along saying, “We knew we could, We knew we could, We knew we could.”

– Anne Stanley

Thank you Heavenly Father for bringing us over the mountain. Watch over us as we inch along the tracks laid before us and once again find the red doors of ***The Little Church That Could, open once again.***

Outdoor Rummage Sale - A Great Success



Kathy Boyer, Anne Stanley, Chris Nyland, Christine Benson, Marge Kirinovic, Tom Kirinovic and Mark Stanley opened ECW's rummage sale @ 8a.m. on September 10th and began selling items right away!



Shoppers look over formerly loved items during the rummage sale benefiting ECW

All the weeks of sorting and marking were behind us and the tables of glassware, bedding, toys, and clothing were ready for customers. But as we gathered to host the church rummage sale, we all asked in one way or another, "Was all this work worth it?"

Tables were set up outside the church on Wednesday night so that we could put everything out early Thursday morning. Donning our masks, making sure that hand sanitizers were on every table, and posting signs around the area that masks must be worn, the sale began.

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Episcopal Church Women **ECW** AT CHRIST CHURCH

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Despite the chill in the air, we had a great showing and although we had priced things “to sell,” most customers gave more money than what was marked. By the end of the first day, we were able to consolidate a few tables and get ready for Friday morning.

Friday was a warmer day and much nicer to be outside. We continued to sell until 3 p.m. Rain was predicted for Saturday, so we boxed everything up and made an appointment to bring the leftovers to the Rainbow Thrift Shoppe on Tuesday. Several items were also taken to the Bergmann Center and the Good Samaritan Family Services.

Thanks to everyone who went over and above to get the boxes out of the church and delivered to such worthy places. Many hands did make for

lighter work. A huge thanks go out to: Kathy Boyer, Betsy Collier, Sharon “Wit” Witucki, Lisa French, Deb Esenther, Leah Peak, Ann Bahr, Barb and Mark Olson, Anne and Mark Stanley, Tom Kirinovic, Christine Benson, Chris Nyland, Judy Colt, Penny and David Loving, Linda Wertz.

And a special thanks to everyone for bringing your treasures for us to sell. We raised a little over \$800, and Episcopal Church Women will put that to good use in its endeavors to reach out to those in need.

— Marge Kirinovic,
Chairperson

“Often love is offered to you, but you do not recognize it. You discard it because you are fixed on receiving it from the same person to whom you gave it.”

— Henri J.M. Nouwen,
The Inner Voice of Love



Linda Wertz works at ECW's rummage sale on September 10th



Betty Collier, Lisa French, Marge Kirinovic, Christine Benson and Anne Stranley model items available at the ECW rummage sale

Christian OUTREACH

DURING COVID-19

Christian Outreach Continues Its Frontline Ministry with the Rayder Den

On September 8, Marge and Tom Kirinovic picked up the first order of non-perishable food from Oleson's for the Rayder Den at Charlevoix Middle/High School.

Since social distancing protocols at the school cannot accommodate students shopping for themselves at this time, Rayder Den board members, including Marc Sroufe, packed the first of many 'take-out' grocery bags for students to pick up on Fridays.

Our volunteers and contributors all agree that it feels good to be active with this ministry again!

"We are not to simply bandage the wounds of victims beneath the wheels of injustice, we are to drive a spoke into the wheel itself." – Dietrich Bonhoeffer



Marc Sroufe, member of Christ Episcopal Church, Charlevoix and Anne Kelly, member of St. Mary's Catholic Church, Charlevoix

Green Thumb GARDENERS

AT CHRIST CHURCH

The Green Thumb Gardeners of Christ Episcopal Church will clean and put the gardens to bed for the 2020 season on October 15 at 10a.m. Mask required along with social distancing. Any and all Green Thumb Gardener's willing and able to help will be

appreciated. This will not take long and all help is appreciated. Please bring clippers, rakes and any tools that you think will work for this project. Thanking you all in advance.

– Susan Flanders

Our Sister **IN CHRIST**

MARGARET SELIGMAN



Margaret Seligman

It's Just Our Luck!

After many years of worship, ministry, singing, stewardship, and fellowship at Christ Episcopal Church, Margaret Seligman is retiring from our midst and moving to southeast Michigan.

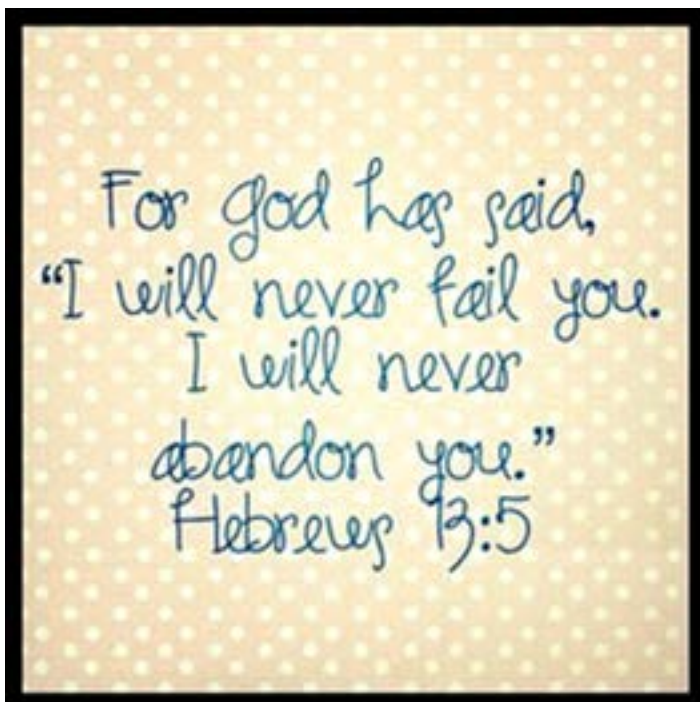
When Margaret and Richard Seligman moved to Charlevoix, they began looking for a church home. Lucky for them, friends Elfrieda and Henry Berger guided the Seligmans to Christ Church. Among the people they met were fellow Lutherans, Nannette and Don Binns. That was thirteen years ago.

Hmm? Is 13 a lucky number?

Numerology draws positive spiritual correlations from it! Number 13 represents the combined energy of the numbers 1 and 3. It is a number with strong symbolism and great power. Number 1 has a vibration of new ideas, new beginnings, progress, and individuality, and number 3 symbolizes passion, motivation, optimism, self-expression, and inspiration. Sounds like Margaret, doesn't it? Combining the energies from both numbers captures tradition, organization, and hard work—none of which escapes Margaret!

Readers will recall that Apollo 13 was the third manned spacecraft prepped for a

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Our Sister IN CHRIST

MARGARET SELIGMAN

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moon mission. It was launched at 13:13 CST in April 1970. While the original mission was ultimately scrapped when the spacecraft commander radioed, "Houston, we have a problem", our nation loved the crew 'to the moon and back'! Similarly, Margaret, is 'loved to the moon and back,' even though she is only traveling a fraction of the miles away.

In Italy, where Margaret frequently visited, 13

is considered an incredibly lucky number. The expression, 'fare tredici' (to do 13), means 'hit the jackpot'! We all want Margaret 'to do 13' and enjoy good fortune as she leaves Charlevoix and settles into a newly created life!

The number 13 announces the ending of old cycles and the beginning of new ones. It encourages one to be patient and to think positive! Of greater importance is this Scripture from Hebrews 13:5: "For God has said, "I will never fail you; I will never abandon you."

Taylor SERIES

AT CHRIST CHURCH

***The Taylor Series Committee
wishes to thank the Taylor Family
for the financial help in making
the Live Stream equipment
possible and available on the church website.
Without their help and generosity
this would not be possible.***

Worship & MUSIC

New Organ Concert Online!

Every year since Judy and I joined the church in 2014, I have given an organ concert. I was scheduled to give one this past August, but it was canceled along with all other in-person events. I decided instead to try my hand at giving an online concert. The concert is now available on the front page of the Church website where it says in red to “[Click Here to Watch the Phil Pratt Video](#)” OR, by clicking this [link](#) to go directly to the concert.



Phil Pratt, CEC's accomplished organist

The following is the concert program:

Christ Episcopal Church Online Organ Concert

Philip Pratt

2020

Toccata in D Minor	Johann Sebastian Bach
Fanfare for the Common Man	Aaron Copeland
Dance With the Saints	Colin Mawby
Londonderry Air	Traditional, arr. J. Stuart Archer
Sortie in E Flat.....	Louis Lefebure-Wely
Fanfare	Jacques Lemmens
Lord of the Dance	Shaker Melody; adapt. Sydney Carter
I Vow to Thee, My Country	Gustav Holst
Arrival of the Queen of Sheba	George Frideric Handel
Civil War Medley	Philip Pratt
Ashokan Farewell	Jay Unger
In the Hall of the Mountain King	Edvard Grieg
Festival Toccata.....	Percy Fletcher

Vestry MEMBERS

AT CHRIST CHURCH FOR 2020



Front row: Fr. Tom O'Dell, Dorothy Miller, Senior Warden; Betty Stephen, Marge Kirinovic, Junior Warden
Middle row: Anne Stanley, Linda Wertz, Pam Sroufe, Clerk to the Vestry Back row: David Loving, Lisa French, Mark Andresky, Treasurer to CEC
Vestry member missing: John Masson

Pledge IN-GATHERING

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15TH

Our Pledge In-gathering is on Sunday, November 15th

You will soon receive your pledge card for 2021 in the mail.
Please mail your pledge card to the church prior to the 15th.

Vestry HIGHLIGHTS

FROM SEPTEMBER 19, 2020

Vestry's study of First Corinthians continues with this advise from Paul; be free from worry and live authentically.

- Minutes of the August meeting were approved.
- Treasurer's Report: Approved

YTD Actual

Income: \$110,159.56
Expense: \$97,222.72
Net Income: \$12,936.84

YTD Budget

Income: \$124,366.40
Expense: \$116,235.32
Net Income: \$8,131.08

- Warden's Report: Reflected that amidst the challenges the Pandemic has placed upon CEC, we have safely gathered at Depot Beach for 12 Sundays. Thanks to the Worship and Music Commission for their unfailing support to bring us together each Sunday. The Holy Spirit helps our members and visitors deepen and strengthen their trust throughout this 'new normal' of activity.
- Junior Warden is seeking snow removal commitment and has identified 2 exterior items for repair.

Informational:

- The Columbarium project has expended \$140,000 (encompassing construction bid well as cost of niches and installation). A final invoice from the construction company is expected.
- ECW held a rummage sale and netted \$800.00 under Marge Kirinovic's leadership. Thank You!
- Stewardship leaders D. Loving, D. Miller and B. Stephen are making final preparations to mail materials to CEC members.
- Christian Outreach 'gloved and masked' hands-on support to Rayder Den has re-activated the weekly PACKING of

non-perishable food to students at Charlevoix Middle/High School.

- Thank You Susan Flanders for seeing through the installation of technology to Live Stream worship services and programs from CEC. Vestry is very hopeful that the inaugural streaming will be Oct. 4. All safety protocols will be observed with members who have assigned roles to fulfill in the worship service. No Communion will be offered during worship, excepting the Eucharistic prayer. As a backup to any Live Stream interruption, Father Tom will likely offer a YouTube download.
- Blessing of the Animals will NOT OCCUR.
- *The Bluest Eye* by Toni Morrison will be read and studied by those wishing to participate by ZOOM in October. (See Dates of Importance for meeting dates and times.) Participants must independently acquire copies of books.
- Nominations for Vestry are being sought by M. Kirinovic, J. Masson and D. Miller.
- *The Feast*, a publication of the Episcopal Diocese, has a feature about Bridges to Connection. A. Stanley sent a picture of Charlevoix's bascule bridge to the publishers as evidence that CEC remains connected to the Jesus Movement in Northwest Michigan.

Dates of Importance:

- October 21, 28 and 11/4 *Bluest Eye* by Toni Morrison book study via ZOOM. Contact Father Tom to indicate interest in participation and arrange for link to be emailed.
- October 9-15 Father Tom is Away. A digital message will be available for download on Sunday, 10/11. Watch for notice by email.
- October 16-Next Vestry meeting. 9 am with social distancing and masks at CEC.

Next Vestry Meetings:
October 16 @ 9a.m. • November 6 @ 9a.m.

Ministry Schedule **OCTOBER**

2020

Ministry	<i>Sunday October 4</i>	<i>Sunday October 11</i>	<i>Sunday October 18</i>	<i>Sunday October 25</i>
OT Lesson & Psalms	Chris Barrett	Roger Peak	Mark Heydlauff	Steve Hall
The Epistle	Bob Barrett	John Masson	Kim Baker	Mark Andresky
Prayers	Lea Peak	Chris Nyland	Lisa French	Deb Stutzman
Acolyte	Brownie Flanders	Rick Wertz	John Masson	Roger Peak
Altar Guild	Betsy Collier	Susan Flanders	Linda Wertz	Ann Bahr
Vestry Duty	David Loving	Dorothy Miller	John Masson	Marge Kirinovic

*“There are two extremes to avoid:
being completely absorbed in your pain
and being distracted by so many things that you
stay far away from the wound you want to heal.”*

*– Henri J.M. Nouwen,
The Inner Voice of Love*

Ministry Schedule **NOVEMBER**

2020

Ministry	<i>Sunday November 1</i>	<i>Sunday November 8</i>	<i>Sunday November 15</i>	<i>Sunday November 22</i>	<i>Sunday November 29</i>
OT Lesson & Psalms	Bill French	Rick Wertz	Deb Stutzman	Lisa French	Mark Andresky
The Epistle	Chris Nyland	John Fiedorek	George Perrett	Ruth Willis	Lea Peak
Prayers	Susan Flanders	Sharon Witucki	Betty Stephen	Kim Baker	Gary Stutzman
Acolyte	Brownie Flanders	John Masson	Dorothy Miller	Roger Peak	Rick Wertz
Altar Guild	Dorothy Miller	Marge Kirinovic	Lisa French	Betsy Collier	Ann Bahr
Vestry Duty	Lisa French	Betty Stephen	Anne Stanley	Linda Wertz	David Loving

*Deadline for the Next
Red Door!*

by 5p.m. October 24 susankflanders@gmail.com

**If you see an error in this month's issue, please let us know!
We will correct it or print a correction in the next issue of the *Red Door*.**

(We try to be as accurate as possible.... the Red Door Production Team)