

THE *Red* DOOR

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH • CHARLEVOIX, MICHIGAN

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

Emmanuel

Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel.

– Matthew 1:23

My dear friends in Christ,

I write with Christmas joy to remind you of the most wonderful word in the world. Behind all the joy and hectic hustle and bustle of the holiday season stands the wonderful word Emmanuel.

Though we sometimes forget it, Emmanuel is the word that has made the holidays festive in the first place. We rejoice at Christmas as we share the season of the celebration of this word.

Emmanuel — a Hebrew word which means “God is with us.” This wonderful little word lies at the heart of all the warmth and joy of the Christmas season.

God is with us!

God loves us so much that he sent the Son to enter into our existence — to live and die as



one of us — and to show us that he walks with us and cares for us no matter how deep the despair or the horror of the hurts of our lives.

God is with us in the midst of an unimaginable, isolating pandemic. God is with us through thick and thin, and back again.

Emmanuel.

What a wonderful word! And what an exhilarating reality it conveys. This is the word and the reality we celebrate at Christmas.

Merry Christmas!

The Rev. Thomas P. O'Dell

Christmas Eve Service

Can be watched on Live Stream at 4p.m. on the church website or is available anytime that is convenient.

Prayer List FOR DECEMBER

Please Pray for your Brothers and Sisters

Rev. Kathy Kircher

Elfriede Berger

Lisa Hicklen

Peter Pace

Doris and Gunner
Lundteigen

Cynthia Johnston

Deb Stutzman

Glen Berger

Cort Esenther

Ann Puffpaff



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

The Book of Common Prayer

O God, who created all peoples in your image, we thank you for the wonderful diversity of races and cultures in this world. Enrich our lives by everywidening circles of fellowship, and show us your presence in those who differ most from us, until our knowledge of your love is made perfect in our love for all your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen

– page 840

Our Sister IN CHRIST

SARAHBELLE SIEVERTSON

Sarahbelle Lenore Newcomb Sievertson

*S*arahbelle Lenore Newcomb Sievertson, 93, passed away Friday, November 6, 2020 at the Masonic Pathways in Alma, MI.

Sarah is survived by her son, Ronald T. Sievertson. Sarah is predeceased by her son Roger B. Sievertson.

Sarah was a longtime resident of Charlevoix, MI. She was a lifelong Eastern Star, an artist, active with the garden community, a dachshund lover, a local volunteer and so much more.

The family burial service for Sarah was Tuesday, November 10, 2020 at Atwood Cemetery in Ellsworth, MI. Memorial contributions may be made to the Charlevoix Area Garden Club, P.O. Box 602, Charlevoix, MI 49720.

I first met Sarah in a 'peaceful' moment while attending Christ Church.

Sunday mornings at The Sign of the Peace, Sarah and I would meet in the center aisle as we sat directly across from one another.. in the back pews! Sarah ALWAYS had a ready smile.

She actively volunteered at the Rainbow Shoppe through CEC's Outreach and occasionally she and I swapped shifts. Sarah was there on the first Monday of the month and I continue on the second Wednesday.



Sarahbelle Lenore Newcomb Sievertson

I missed her when she moved away but I haven't forgotten her.

I asked Betsy Collier to lend me her collection of ALL the little Advent Tea Recipes Booklets; a blessing from the work of our ECW. I HOPED there might be a recipe that Sarah contributed. Alas, I think Sarah liked to garden more than cook.

As I looked unsuccessfully for Sarah's name in each little catalog, I DID come across several recipes from Monsie Cameron which reminded me that CEC had hoped to memorialize her this past June, 2020. Then the Pandemic prevented us from being together to celebrate HER life too.

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Our Sister **IN CHRIST**

SARAHBELLE SIEVERSTON

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Perhaps if all of you reading this have some, many or all of the recipe booklets, pull them out, leaf through the pages and look at the names of the church members who underscore the buffet of culinary delights. Let these 'signature dishes' animate your memories without abandon.. of times when we

worshipped, engaged in service, or just cooked alongside those who are no longer in our midst.. or are they?

In the knowledge of eternal life through Jesus Christ, Amen.

– Pam Sroufe

Did You **KNOW?**



Bishop Michael Curry

Did you know – *The Way of Love* by Bishop Michael Curry can be listened to on your favorite podcast. Tune in each week and enjoy his latest episode, you'll be amazed.

**STAY CALM
and
WASH YOUR HANDS**

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

It's the Holidays! It's the Pandemic!

No matter our current reality, here's what we're taught about helping to feed really hungry people:

The Feeding of the 4,000

This story, which appears only in Mark and Matthew, is also known as the miracle of the seven loaves and fish, as the Gospel of Matthew refers to seven loaves and two fish used by Jesus to feed a multitude.[5] According to the Gospels, a large crowd had gathered and was following Jesus. Jesus called his disciples to him and said:

"I have compassion for these people; they have already been with me three days and have nothing to eat. I do not want to send them away hungry, or they may collapse on the way."

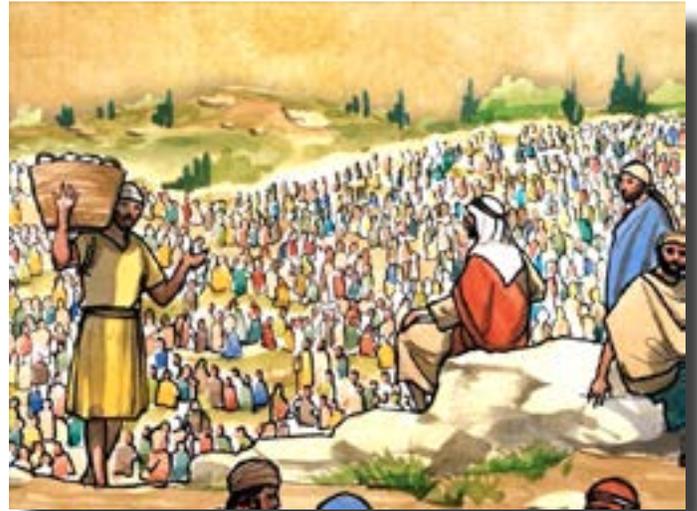
His disciples answered:

"Where could we get enough bread in this remote place to feed such a crowd?"

"How many loaves do you have?" Jesus asked.

"Seven," they replied, "and two fish."

Jesus told the crowd to sit down on the ground. Then he took the seven loaves and the fish, and when he had given thanks, he broke them and gave them to the



disciples, and they in turn to the people. They all ate and were satisfied. Afterwards, the disciples picked up seven basketfuls of broken pieces that were leftover. The number of those who ate was four thousand men, besides women and children.

In-person learning for school-aged children (and college students as well), is being restricted again due to the surge in Covid-19. However, issues about food insecurity are NOT 'restricted'. Hence, the National School Lunch Program operating on behalf of local pre-K-12 schools will prepare take-out meals for pick-up at designated school buildings during the school week.

ADDITIONALLY, Manna Food Project, Rayder Den; both of which are 2020 Outreach

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Christian OUTREACH

DURING COVID-19

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Partners, and the local SAFE HAVEN ministry (which also offers food programs), are working TOGETHER. They supply and/or pack non-perishable food items into bags, similar to BACKPACKS-4-KIDS that Manna provides and the Rayder Den weekend food bags that supplement weekend meal needs. Pick-up occurs at the designated sites. Safety in

handling items is a MUST to help assure safety to all persons!

Social Media suggests that Community Food Pantries remain open for residents to get food as well.

Have compassion for these people...do not send them away hungry.

Christmas Project 2020

Every year, the Charlevoix Community Christmas Project brings together families and citizens with spare resources to provide toys and essentials to hundreds of area children! In years past, the Project typically served between 300-400 local children, said Rebecca Jeakle, Christmas Project board member and co-chair.

Facing the pandemic this year, Christmas Project will still take place, but with a slightly different format. In years past, CEC has supported this outreach mission by having an "angel tree" in our parish hall. This has given everyone the opportunity to choose an angel to adopt with a list of their "wants and needs". Since we won't be having "in church services" to allow us to do that plus the fact that we do not want to ask you to go shopping, at this time, with the pandemic



escalating. Instead, we are asking that you each consider making a monetary donation to Christmas Project and a team will do the shopping for you! CEC has adopted 30 angels in previous years and we are hoping to collect enough in donations from all of you to provide gifts for 30 angels this year!

Distribution day is December 18th, so we ask that you send in your donation as soon as possible to allow time for shopping! You may ask what amount – believe us, any amount, big or small is welcomed!! Maybe think what you have spent on gifts for your angel in the past! **Please make your checks payable to Christmas Project and send to the church, CEC, PO Box 385, Charlevoix, MI 49720.** The Christian Outreach Team thanks you from the bottom of our hearts!!!

Christian OUTREACH

DURING COVID-19

Dear Christ Episcopal Church -
Thank you so much for your gift of \$500 toward our men's Shelter - this year we are facing so many challenges and need purchases as necessary.
Thank you again for partnering with us in this ministry!
Joe Base



Bay Area Substance Education
208 West Lincoln • Charlevoix, MI 49720



BASES Recovery Center
208 West Lincoln
Charlevoix, MI 49720

(231) 547-1144

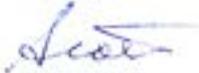
October 20, 2020

Christ Episcopal Church
200 State Street
Charlevoix, MI 49720

Dear Members,

Thank you for your donation of 500.00 we received on October 20, 2020. Your generous contribution will help maintain our Recovery Center activities. By sharing your gifts we are able to help those in need of services. Thank you very much for helping us help them.

Sincerely,


D. Scott Kelly
Executive Director

BASES non-profit tax ID #: 38-3159363
No goods or services were received or exchanged for the donation listed above.

Thank you for giving!

United Thank Offering December 2020

The United Thank Offering (UTO) is a ministry of The Episcopal Church for the mission of the whole church. Through UTO, individuals are invited to embrace and deepen a personal daily spiritual discipline of gratitude. UTO encourages people to notice the good things that happen each day, give thanks to God for those blessings and make an offering for each blessing using a UTO Blue Box. UTO is entrusted to receive the offerings, and to distribute the 100% of what is collected to support innovative mission and ministry throughout The Episcopal Church and Provinces of the Anglican Communion.

I don't know about you ... but I've had to dig deep during the past few months to embrace gratitude and drop coins in my mite box to show thanks; however, when I get up in the morning, walk to the kitchen and see the little blue box nestled on the window sill, I try with all my "mite" to thank the Lord for another day full of sunshine and for the hot cup of coffee I'm about to drink!

Even thankfulness for a hot cup of coffee is worth a "coin drop" into the box because I know that after drinking the coffee, I'm ready to:

- *call people to see how their day is going,
- *take Charlee for a walk,
- *FaceTime with my grandkids
- *write out "thinking of you" cards
- *check on a neighbor
- *work on crafts/sew to be ready for our next Christmas bazaar

...And before I know it, I've not only dropped a few coins in the box, I've checked off many reasons for being thankful and grateful.

Your homework: Acknowledge the small, daily things you are thankful for, drop coins into your mite box and feel the warmth of gratitude.

Happy Thanksgiving!
– Anne Stanley

True Happiness, True Liberation and Salvation

come from our clinging first to Christ and only secondarily
to the external trappings of our life.

United Thank OFFERING

AT CHRIST CHURCH

We've all been under a "state-of-shock" this past year and in retrospect, perhaps forgetting to practice thankfulness.

Here's a little guide to help all of us practice being thankful (while dropping coins in your mite box for each blessing!)

– Anne Stanley
President, ECW

Hope



The first week of Advent we are encouraged to focus on hope. Reflect on times in your life where you are grateful for your experience of hope. Be sure to consider times when you offered hope to others.

Peace



The second week of Advent focuses on peace. What people, places or things bring you peace? Give thanks for them and perhaps send a note to the peaceful people in your life thanking them.

Joy



The third week of Advent is about joy. Consider moments in your life when you experienced joy, perhaps by decades of your life. Spend time this week giving thanks for these moments of joy spread throughout your life.

Love



We end Advent with a final week to focus on love. Gratitude is one way that we express love, as it acknowledges love that we have received and cannot repay. This week we encourage you to think about all of the ways you receive and give love.

♥ Anne



Esther Carey turning 99 years young!

Happy Birthday
Esther!!

BookSTUDY

WITH FATHER TOM

A Christmas Carol

*A*re you looking for a way to make Advent and Christmas special this year? Here it is!

Join me as we read and discuss Charles Dickens' beloved *A Christmas Carol* — an easy and delightful read.

We'll discuss this Christmas classic in three Zoom sessions at 4:00 p.m. — on **Wednesdays December 2, 9 & 16**. We'll weave readings from the Bible into our times together in order to deepen the connection to our lives.

When he published *A Christmas Carol* in 1843, Dickens expressed his wish, "*May it haunt their houses pleasantly.*"

Allow *A Christmas Carol* to pleasantly "haunt" and transform your house and your heart in the upcoming sacred season.

Be in touch via email (buraaga@gmail.com) or phone (402 980-2480) if you're interested.

This Christmas, allow the transformational story of Ebenezer Scrooge to transform your life while inspiring change in the lives of those around you. There's no better tool for making that happen than with *A Christmas Carol*.

In Christ,

Tom
Tom



Following the diocesan guidelines Fr. Tom O'Dell places copies of our Advent study guide on table outside the parish hall doors for parishioners to pick up.

Book **STUDY**

WITH FATHER TOM

A Christmas Carol

Book study available to participants on Zoom



George Perrett secures a copy of "A Christmas Carol" outside the parish hall on November 18, 2020



Mark Stanley and Tom O'Dell visit outside CEC's parish hall before Mark secures his book for the upcoming Advent book study



Nancy Porter secured her book for CEC Advent study on November 18 and was greeted by Fr. Tom O'Dell

Reading Schedule

December 2
December 9
December 16

Introduction & Stave 1
Staves 2 & 3
Staves 4 & 5

Advent & Christmas **FLOWERS**

DONATIONS

Dear Christ Church,
Although our life together is much different this year we will continue to proclaim and celebrate the good news of Advent and Christmas. One of the ways is to place wreaths on the exterior doors of the church. This small act shows the world we are observing the coming of Christ with blue bows for Advent, then changed to red bows for Christmas.

The decorations inside the church will be scaled back with a few beautiful fresh poinsettias.

If you are interested in donating to purchase these items, please mail a check to:

Christ Episcopal Church
PO Box 385
Charlevoix Mi. 49720

Please indicate "Christmas Flowers" on the memo line.

*– Thank you and God Bless you.
Linda Wertz*

*Submit an Article
for the Next
Red Door!*

by 5p.m. December 16

susankflanders@gmail.com



Advent wreaths on CEC's sanctuary doors



CEC planter box dressed for winter

Vestry HIGHLIGHTS

FROM NOVEMBER 6, 2020

The Vestry discussed chapter 15 of St. Paul's Letter to the Corinthians.

- Minutes of the October 19th meeting were approved.
- Treasurer's Report: not received at this early meeting date.
- Wardens' Reports - The Feast; the Diocesan magazine is available at the church for members not already receiving copies mailed to their homes. An online version is also available if members sign onto the Diocesan webpage edwm.org. (Search: The Feast).

Two new egress window covers have been installed. Thank you, Mark Stanley.

Mark Heydlauff is conferring with McBride Construction about church door replacements.

Informational:

- The Nominating Committee provided a slate of 4 member names for election at the Annual Meeting; M. Heydlauff to complete a 2 year term of vacancy, 3 year terms: K. Boyer, D. Collier, M. Hall.
- Thank You to D. Collier and B. Flanders for attendance at Diocesan Conference by Zoom. Bishop Michael Curry, as keynote, reminded the gathering of *The Way of Love* and asks that the faithful not be instruments of national polarization.

Discussion:

- Thank You's to the following members for their thought - filled messages about Stewardship: David Loving, Dorothy Miller, Betty Stephen, Mark Andresky, Mark Heydlauff, Lisa French, Pam Sroufe and Nancy Porter
- Thank You to Phil Pratt for 6 years of Music Ministry; and continuing.
- Review of Live Streaming – while not a substitute for in-person worship, the technology provides access to Sunday services. An audio malfunction has been addressed.
- Vestry telephoned CEC members to seek feedback on re-opening the church for worship in view of safety protocols for Covid. Since the time of calls having been made, a surge of virus has occurred and Vestry is supporting a delay to open, including Advent and Christmas.
- Annual Meeting Date – hopeful it will occur virtually following a Sunday worship service. Commission reports should be sent to jfiedorek@gmail.com through December.

The next Vestry meeting will occur after the New Year to review proposed budget.

"There is within you a lamb and a lion. Spiritual maturity is the ability to let lamb and lion lie down together."

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

Ministry Schedule **DECEMBER**

2020

Ministry	<i>Sunday December 6</i>	<i>Sunday December 13</i>	<i>Sunday December 20</i>	<i>Sunday December 27</i>
OT Lesson & Psalms The Epistle Prayers of the People	Steve Hall	Mark Heydlauff	Kim Baker	Lea Peak
Altar Guild	Deb Stutzman	Susan Flanders	Linda Wertz	Ann Bahr



Christmas Eve Service

Available on Live Stream at 4p.m. or can be viewed on Christ Episcopal Church website when convenient

OT Lesson & Psalms
The Epistle
Prayers of the People

Tom Kirinovic

Altar Guild

Betsy Collier

Ministry Schedule **JANUARY**

2021

Ministry	<i>Sunday January 3</i>	<i>Sunday January 10</i>	<i>Sunday January 17</i>	<i>Sunday January 24</i>	<i>Sunday January 31</i>
OT Lesson & Psalms The Epistle Prayers of the People	Rick Wertz	John Fiedorek	Roger Peak	Mark Andresky	Tom Kirinovic
Altar Guild	Marge Kirinovic	Lisa French	Betsy Collier	Susan Flanders	Dorothy Miller