

THE *Red* DOOR

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH • CHARLEVOIX, MICHIGAN

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

Every Perfect Gift

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

James 1:17

How do we make a “perfect gift?”

The theme for our stewardship effort this year is “Every Perfect Gift.” The words come from the Letter of James. The writer is saying that, in essence, “Every good gift, every perfect gift, is from above.”

Our gifts are good, moving toward perfection, if their impetus comes from God — from “above.” But just what does making a perfect gift that comes from above look like in real life?

When I was graduating from seminary, a classmate and dear friend approached me one day with a metal bowl in his hands. A simple metal bowl. His eyes were misty.

“Tom,” he said. “This was my late mother’s favorite bowl. Only by giving you this to take with you can I show you that our friendship is indelible and that I go with you as you leave.”

My friend felt that it was necessary to give me something that ripped at his heart in order to signify the depth and power of our relationship.

There are “perfect” gifts and there are perfunctory gifts. Perfunctory gifts don’t cost us



much, nor do they change us. Perfect gifts carry something of ourselves with them. They are the product of an intimate interaction (and perhaps struggle) with God. More often than not, they are sacrificial. In fact, it is in the sacrifice that the true value of the gift emerges.

“Every perfect gift” to be made this year in our stewardship effort will be a gift to God. With it will come part of ourselves and the realization of a deeper and more intimate relationship with “the Father of lights.”

In Christ,

The Rev. Thomas P. O’Dell

Mask REQUIREMENTS

Please Wear a Mask in Church

From your Rector and Vestry . . .

Our diocese and assisting bishop have strongly encouraged parish leaders to require the wearing of masks in church if transmission rates are high.

Charlevoix County is currently listed as an area of the very highest transmission. Thus, masks are now required for all persons in our services, regardless of vaccination status.

We will be following transmission rates closely,

and we hope and pray that they quickly head down.

In the meantime, it is your safety and health that will guide our every action. For now, wearing masks in indoor settings is crucial for your health, for that of your neighbors, and for our nation's efforts to get past this trying time. And if you aren't yet vaccinated, do it now. It's an issue of Christian morality. Do it for the sake of your brothers and sisters. Do it for the sake of all the little children who can't be vaccinated. Do it for the sake of your country.

Bible Study WITH THE RECTOR

at Christ Church

Coming in October . . .

St. Paul's Letter to the Philippians

October 14, 21, 28 and November 4th

10:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall

Prayer List FOR SEPTEMBER

Please Pray for your Brothers and Sisters

Peter Pace
Glen Berger
Deb Stutzman
Doris & Gunnar
Lundteigen
Nan Binns
Peggy Nattermann
Anders McCarthy
Cynthia & Hewitt
Johnston
Luke Albrecht
Lila Nelson
Steve Fowle
Darrah Daly
Remy Hitchcock



Rev. Kathy Kircher	Sandy Loper	Ron
Linda Smith	Art Holzschu	Edie
Carla Gober	Sam Poore'	

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

“Maybe the desert wisdom of the Dakotas can teach us to love anyway, to love what is dying, in the face of death, and not pretend that things are other than they are. The irony and wonder of all of this is that it is the desert’s grimness, its stillness and isolation, that brings us back to love.”

– Kathleen Norris *Dakota:
A Spiritual Geography*

Stretching STEWARDSHIP DOLLARS

Strategies for Tax-Advantaged Giving

Increasing numbers of Christ Episcopal donors are using a variety of different tax-advantaged giving strategies to stretch their stewardship dollars. Here are some of the more popular ones.

Qualified Charitable Distributions from an IRA – If you have reached age 70½ or older and have an IRA (Individual Retirement Account), you can make up to \$100,000 in annual charitable contributions from the IRA to a qualified charity including churches.

These tax-free gifts must be coordinated with your financial custodian/advisor as the funds must be transferred directly from your IRA to the charity. Christ Episcopal Church has an Instruction Sheet for financial custodians with the necessary information to do this on your behalf. Please email Mark Andresky, Treasurer, for this document at markandresky@gmail.com.

Donations of Appreciated Securities – Thanks to robust market conditions in recent years, many parishioners own highly-appreciated securities (e.g. individual stocks, mutual funds, etc.). Rather than sell these securities and pay tax, parishioners can donate these securities to Christ Episcopal Church and other qualified charities and potentially receive a tax deduction for the full appreciated value of the security. These transfers of



Mark Andresky

securities must be coordinated between your financial custodian/advisor and Christ Episcopal's brokerage account at Edward Jones. Please contact Mark Andresky, Treasurer, to determine if your security is eligible for donation and to obtain an instruction sheet with all the necessary information your custodian/advisor will need to accomplish a transfer for you.

Donor-Advised Funds – The “Tax Cuts and Jobs Acts of 2017” increased the itemized deduction for most Americans to \$12,000 (\$24,000 for married couples filing jointly), reducing the ability of most Americans to

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Stretching STEWARDSHIP DOLLARS

(Continued from Page 4)

itemize their charitable contributions and receive a tax deduction for them.

If you are expecting a high taxable income year, you can consider setting up a Donor-Advised Fund with a large financial custodian (e.g. Charles Schwab) or Foundation like the Charlevoix County Community Foundation and make a substantial tax-deductible contribution in excess of your standard deduction.

You can then direct gifts from that fund in future years to qualified charities including churches.

This allows you to maximize your charitable tax deduction by essentially pre-paying future charitable giving.

2021-Only Charitable Tax Deduction – For the 2021 tax year only, individuals can deduct up to \$300 (\$600 for married couples filing jointly) for cash contributions to qualified charities while taking the standard deduction.

While I am always glad to answer general questions about any of these options, I encourage you to seek further guidance from your financial, tax, and accounting advisors to determine if these strategies are suitable for your situation.

– *Mark Andresky, Treasurer*

*Submit an
Article
for the Next
Red Door!*

by 5p.m. September 20

susankflanders@gmail.com



Esther Carey received a visit from Fr. Tom O'Dell

Stewardship CAMPAIGN WRAP UP

Dear Friends,

This year's stewardship campaign, "Every Perfect Gift," is coming to a close, and we trust that you have used this time to reflect on the many ways God has blessed you, your family, and Christ Church over this most challenging year.

We also hope that you've been inspired to recommit your financial support and your time and talents to further the mission of Christ Church here in Charlevoix and around the world.

If you haven't already submitted your pledge card, please bring it, along with your time and talents form, to church on Sunday, September 19. During worship Father Tom will bless our combined offering of love. And to celebrate, a delicious lunch will be provided outdoors, a safe setting to enjoy our fellowship.



Susan Flanders and Nancy Porter,
2022 Stewardship co-chairs

Thank you for your generosity. It has been our honor to serve as co-chairs of the 2022 Stewardship Campaign.

In Christ,

Susan Flanders and Nancy Porter

Book of Common Prayer

Almighty God, we thank you for making the earth fruitful, so that it might produce what is needed for life; Bless those who work in the fields; give us seasonable weather and grant that we may all share the fruits of the earth, rejoicing in your goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

– *Book of Common Prayer*
page 824

Taylor SERIES

at Christ Church



David and Penny Loving enjoy chocolate cake following Phil's organ concert



Bob & Chris Barrett visit with Dick & Linda Southby on August 11 following Phil's concert



Phil and Judy Pratt after Phil's organ concert on August 11



Jack Denison, Jeff Porter, Brownie Flanders and Mark Andresky serve prosecco and sparkling water during reception following Phil's organ concert

Taylor SERIES

at Christ Church



Wendy Perrett, Betty Stephen, Nancy Porter and Marsha Hall serve delicious cakes to guests following organ concert given by Phil Pratt



Mark Heydlauff and George Perrett select a yummy piece of cake during Phil's reception

Whatever you are, be a good one.
— Abraham Lincoln

“Christ has no body now but yours. No hands, no feet on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes through which he looks compassion on this world. Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good. Yours are the hands through which he blesses all the world. Yours are the hands, yours are the feet, yours are the eyes, you are his body. Christ has no body now on earth but yours.”

— St. Teresa of Avile, d. 1582

It's Harvest TIME

At Stutzman's Farm



Deb Stutzman served ice cold drinks to the wheat harvesters!



Gary Stutzman made this thrasher for the cut wheat



Gary Stutzman is thrashing wheat grown on his farm to be made into communion bread.

It's Harvest TIME

at Stutzman's Farm



Liz & Frank Malone harvest wheat at Stutzman's farm



Franke Malone and Nancy Porter cut wheat from straw. They participated in an extremely labor intensive project and had a great time.

What a beautiful day it was to harvest our wheat. The weather was perfect and the fellowship with fellow parishioners and friends was so special. Everyone had a part in the harvesting; some were cutting and others gathered the wheat into small bundles. Once the wheat was gathered it was brought to another group who were tasked with separating the wheat heads from the straw and depositing the heads into a thrashing barrel that Gary had made that morning. Once in the barrel the cranking began, spinning the chains that would thrash the wheat, separating the chafe from the wheat heads. The wheat now

needed to be winnowed which is a process of using air to blow the chafe away, leaving the wheat berries that would be ground into whole wheat flour. We tried using fans but did not get the best results.

The next day Gary contacted John Shupp, an Amish farmer in Brutus, who graciously offered to use his equipment to finish the winnowing process for us. So off to Brutus we went with the wheat. What an amazing experience, not only getting the wheat cleaned but meeting the families living there and experiencing, on

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It's Harvest TIME

at Stutzman's Farm

Continued from Page Ten

a small scale a different culture. We took the wheat home where I ground it into flour. Most of the wheat flour from our harvesting was taken to Ann Bahr to be used in our communion bread.

Early the next week a local farmer came and combined the rest of the wheat field with his equipment, which gathered the wheat and thrashed it, taking about thirty minutes. Gary and I transported that wheat to Traverse City

to be milled at Culinary Oils. They estimated we would have approximately fifty bushels of flour. Besides making the culinary oils they work with churches to mill their grains.

All in all, it has been a wonderful experience from watching the wheat grow after planting to learning the whole process of harvesting the wheat and finally having flour. It certainly is labor intensive and it makes me wonder how on earth our forefathers did all of this by hand. I am in awe!

– Deb Stutzman



Mark and Barb Olson had a great time cutting wheat at Stutzman's farm



Susan Flanders and Jim Shannon harvest wheat at Stutzman's farm

Christian OUTREACH

Every Little Gift

CEC is continuing **Every Little Gift** with its renewed Outreach efforts now underway. **Rayder Den** at Charlevoix Middle/High School as well as the **Community Food Pantry** in Charlevoix are the beneficiaries of cash donations. Sunday worshippers are offering in exchange for fresh produce from the Stutzman farm. Thank You to Deb & Gary for their purposeful planning as they plant, nurture and harvest everyday table food.

More information will be coming about the needs for a student clothes closet at Charlevoix Elementary School. Gently used & new clothing, particularly underclothing & socks as well as cold weather outerwear, especially in small sizes for young children, are being accepted. Contact the Sroufes to help with this need.

Green Thumb GARDENERS

AT CHRIST CHURCH

Garden cleanup for 2021 is October 7 at 10a.m. Please wear garden gloves, bring clippers and shovels. We will be separating some of our over grown lilies. These

lilies will be available for you to take home and replant in our own garden. As you all know... many hands make light work.



Farewell MASSONS

Goodbye with Blessings and Prayers...

Patti and John Masson

Luke 16:10 *Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much.*

*I*t's the little things that count.

I want to sing, 'Five foot two, eyes of blue but oh, what five foot two can do! Has anybody seen our gal?' **Patti Masson** measures four foot ten and has green eyes. So I'll have to come up with a new song. In the meantime, let's count ALL the 'little things' that go with Patti (and John) as they venture away from Christ Episcopal to a new home in Sault Saint Marie.

Nancy Porter would tell us how she counted on Patti's help to prep bake for ECW's Advent Teas,

Deb Stutzman was an eager painter under Patti's artful instruction; offering classes at her home studio AND even at a First Sunday session when she helped church members watercolor "*the Ways of Love*".

Patti truly LOVED being an Education Scholarship 'minister'; having nearly completed 2 consecutive three year terms.

As a Christian Outreach proponent, she (& John) helped at Manna in CEC's 'start up' year of traveling to Harbor Springs to pack food for distribution. Patti was affectionately dubbed 'the bag lady'. John would inspire a chorus of 'Sweet Violets' while our church team paraded past boxes of non-perishable items, dropping one or two from each box into a grocery sack, before the whole loop started all over again until 2 hours worth of Manna boxes were stacked and stood ready for loading and delivery to northern Michigan elementary schools.



John and Patti Masson

Patti sold out the card decks when fundraising for *Dare to Care* 2 years in a row.

She was a regular volunteer at *the Rainbow Shoppe* and it'll be a big space for Judy Colt to fill as she hands off Patti's name badge from the board that displays all the clerks' buttons.

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Farewell MASSONS

Goodbye with Blessings and Prayers...

Patti and John Masson

Continued from Page Thirteen

At Fellowship following Sunday worship, Patti's desserts with whipped topping were a staple and made all the better served with coffee made by John. Always smiling and upbeat, Patti enjoyed her *Lunch Bunch* dates and she made certain CEC members received an impeccably written card and blessing with each birthday and/or wedding anniversary that CEC celebrated!

John provided 'handyman' skills at CEC for several years. How he 'escaped' being Junior Warden; a Vestry position that entails oversight of our building's needs is still a mystery

despite his having faithfully served a term on our Vestry.

John probably felt most fulfilled serving as an acolyte as he lobbied for a stand-in at the Fellowship coffee bar in order to trade kitchen apron for a white robe.

Small choices add up over time. A shift of a few degrees in one's attitude and actions extended over five, 10, or 15 years makes one a different person than could have been.

Truly, the little things you have are there to prepare you for bigger things. The key is to trust God while possessing the little things.



Sault Saint Marie, Michigan

Sparkle and Shine



Anne Stanley, ECW President and Rachel Sytsma Reed, Chairperson of Sparkle & Shine sort through donations to fundraiser.

CEC's WANTED ADS Section:

SASSD: *Sparkle and Shine* Seeks Donations. Fundraising-minded group of women looking for impressive items for socially-responsible shopping. Prospective buyers at the **May 28, 2022** event will compete for rare finds, beautiful treasures. Best if donated items are likely to lead to vocal emanations of joy and excitement, jaws agape with surprise as arms

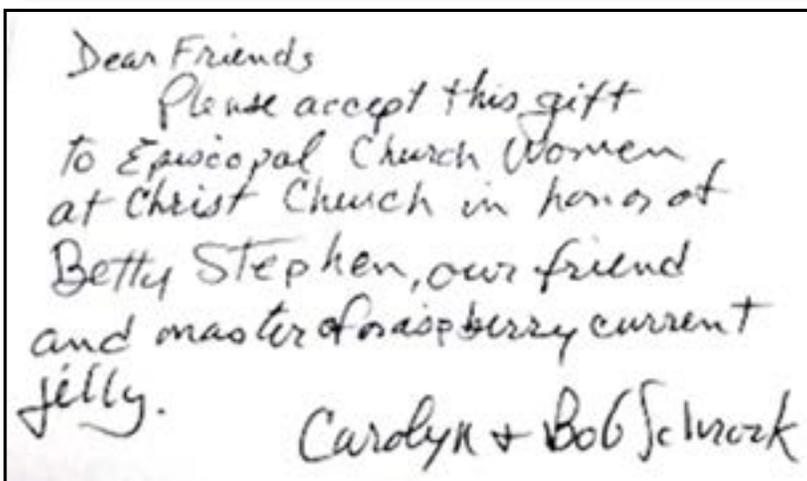
of fellow shoppers are grabbed in glee. Open (but not limited) to: unique objects d'art, sets of fine china, crystal, silver, original art, vintage/antique linens, fine/antique or modern furniture, high-end jewelry (provenance appreciated), fine costume jewelry. Think: Fabulous! Able to donate?

Call Rachel: 616.460.9392

Episcopal Church Women **ECW** AT CHRIST CHURCH

Yes! After a pandemic-induced hiatus, we are back to planning for a very exciting *Sparkle and Shine*. The event will be held **May 28, 2022**, with a new “Preview” event on the evening of the 27th. Proceeds will be split evenly between *Habitat for Humanity* and *Episcopal Church Women (ECW)*. We raised more than \$5000 at our last event, and we would love your help in setting a new fundraising record to help our neighbors and support CEC through the fantastic work of the ECW. Please consider donating your high-end items to *Sparkle and Shine*. If you are a summer CEC family member, we would be thrilled to help you lighten your load before your journeys south. If you need assistance getting items from your home, please call Rachel Sytsma-Reed at 616.460.9392 and we'll be happy to do that work for you! We realize there are many outlets for donations in northern MI, so we are very touched when you think of *Sparkle and Shine*. We are proud of our donations-driven fundraiser because of the good work it supports not only in the CEC family but

in the larger community. So many people who are not CEC members or even church-goers come into CEC during *Sparkle and Shine*, drawn by the opportunity to “shop for a cause.” Your generous donations make it possible for CEC to provide money to the non-church community in need as well as to introduce our CEC family to folks who either do not go to our church or do not participate in religious services. We are so proud of the important work CEC does for others. Reaching out to those in need was central to the teachings of Jesus; *Sparkle and Shine* allows us a direct opportunity to extend the love and generosity of Christ to neighbors, regardless of their religious affiliations. Please help us succeed in this mission-driven endeavor if you are able to donate items for the sale. And, of course, we'd love to invite you to save the date for a fantastic shopping experience next May – where shopping for a cause truly matters to those around us. Thank you for all you do to support the community work of CEC!



Dear Friends
Please accept this gift
to Episcopal Church Women
at Christ Church in honor of
Betty Stephen, our friend
and master of raspberry current
jelly.
Carolyn + Bob Schrock

*ECW received
a monetary gift from
Carolyn & Bob
Schrock
in honor of
Betty Stephen*

Vestry HIGHLIGHTS

MEETING AUGUST 18, 2021

August 18 Highlights of Regularly Scheduled Vestry Meeting, CEC 4 pm.

Meeting opened with prayer by Father Tom.

Vestry discussed the directives Paul writes in his Letter to the Ephesians, including the historical misuse of passages such as “Slaves Obey Your Master...Master Obey Your Slaves”

■ **Minutes** of the June 2021 meeting were approved.

■ **Treasurer’s Report:** Accepted

July Actual

Income: \$17,825.00
Expense: \$9,481.34
Net Income: \$8,343.66

July Budget

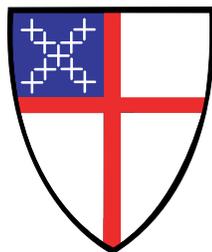
Income: \$10,670.00
Expense: \$11,084.96
Net Income: (\$414.96)

YTD Actual

Income: \$102,327.09
Expense: \$81,054.97
Net Income: \$21,272.12

YTD Budget

Income: \$88,812.00
Expense: \$86,081.20
Net Income: \$2,730.80



Warden’s Report

- Thank You Phil Pratt for the Live Concert earlier in August.
- Fr. Tom made arrangements for supply clergy while he was away earlier this month.
- Windows throughout the church HAVE BEEN cleaned.
- Exterior closet roof IS reshingled.
- Consequential leaks onto the small stairwell carpeting leading to and from the Undercroft warranted carpet cleaning.
- Closers on the State/Clinton Street doors are being maintained.
- An exterior AC wire was damaged preventing functioning in the Sanctuary. It’s been repaired.

Information

- CEC’s 2021-22 Stewardship Plan “*Every Perfect Gift*” is underway. Thanks to Susan Flanders and Nancy Porter for leadership.
- Letter from the Senior Warden was mailed to members’ homes earlier in the month, followed quickly by pledge packets. If members have not received a packet, please contact Susan Flanders, susankflanders@gmail.com or 231-675-8942. In-gathering will occur later in September.

Vestry HIGHLIGHTS

MEETING AUGUST 18, 2021

- In-gathering will occur later in September. Assisting with this year's plans are: Kathy Boyer, Deb Stutzman, Mark Heydlauff, Charlie Valier, and Liz Malone.
- Wheat grown at the Stutzman's farm has been harvested with help from CEC members, and some already ground and readied for baking Communion Bread.
- Volunteers are needed to: tally Oleson's receipts for reimbursement to ECW, as well as writing birthday and anniversary greetings to church members.

Discussion

- Vestry discussed the Diocesan Directive Phase 3 Plan for Re-Entry for Great Lakes Episcopalians. Specifically, to track the Covid Transmission Risk Level according to the Center for Disease Control and for Parish Leadership to require masking indoors regardless of vaccination status when risk presents as high/extreme high (as it is in Charlevoix County as of 8/17/21.)

Decision

- By Consensus, the Vestry supported masking indoors during high /extreme high risk.
- Choir will continue as will Communion with Bread.
- Parish Hall will continue as a dedicated area during Worship for those who desire social distancing.
- Encouragement to vaccinate, as one is able continues.
- Motion to nominate D. Collier, and B. Flanders as 2021 Delegates to the Diocesan Convention, Fall 2021 in Lansing, MI. – Carried.

Dates to Remember

- 9/15 Next Regularly Scheduled Vestry Meeting; 4 pm.

The Book of Common Prayer

Almighty God, whose loving hand hath given us all that we possess: Grant us grace that we may honor thee with our substance, and, remembering the account which we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of thy bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

– page 840

Ministry Schedule **SEPTEMBER**

2021

Ministry	<i>Sunday September 5</i>	<i>Sunday September 12</i>	<i>Sunday September 19</i>	<i>Sunday September 26</i>
OT Lesson & Psalms	Phil Pratt	Lisa French	Mark Heydlauff	Steve Hall
The Epistle	Gary Stutzman	Bill French	Ruth Willis	Lea Peak
Prayers	Sheila Garner	Chris Barrett	Betty Stephen	Tom Garner
Ushers	Brownie Flanders Susan Flanders	Marge Kirinovic Chris Nyland	Jeff Porter Nancy Porter	Don Collier Marsha Hall
Greeters	Marsha Hall Patti Masson	Peter Pace Sharon Witucki	Judy Colt Deb Esenther	Mark Andresky John Fiedorek
Crucifer	Roger Peak	Brownie Flanders	Rick Wertz	Brownie Flanders
Altar Guild	Nancy Porter Lisa French	Linda Wertz Ann Bahr	Deb Stutzman Dorothy Miller	Susan Flanders Marge Kirinovic
Vestry Duty	David Loving	Anne Stanley	Linda Wertz	Betty Stephen

Dakota: A Spiritual Geography

“St. Hilary, a fourth-century bishop (and patron saint against snake bites) once wrote, ‘Everything that seems empty is full of the angels of God.’ The magnificent sky above the Plains sometimes seems to sing this truth; angels seem possible in the wind-filled expanse.”

– Kathleen Norris

Ministry Schedule **OCTOBER**

2021

Ministry	<i>Sunday October 3</i>	<i>Sunday October 10</i>	<i>Sunday October 17</i>	<i>Sunday October 24</i>	<i>Sunday October 31</i>
OT Lesson & Psalms	Chris Barrett	Phil Pratt	Mark Heydlauff	Bill French	Lea Peak
The Epistle	Bob Barrett	Lisa French	Steve Hall	Roger Peak	Deb Stutzman
Prayers	John Fiedorek	Mark Andresky	Deb Stutzman	Ruth Willis	Nancy Porter
Ushers	Marsha Hall Rick Wertz	Chris Nyland John Fiedorek	Peter Pace Sharon Witucki	George Perrett Wendy Perrett	Don Collier Ruth Willis
Greeters	David Loving Penny Loving	Jeff Porter Nancy Porter	Deb Esenther Chris Nyland	Betty Stephen Don Collier	Marge Kirinovic Tom Kirinovic
Crucifer	Brownie Flanders	Rick Wertz	Roger Peak	Brownie Flanders	Rick Wertz
Altar Guild	Betsy Collier Dorothy Miller	Ann Bahr Lisa French	Nancy Porter Dorothy Miller	Marge Kirinovic Deb Stutzman	Susan Flanders Linda Wertz
Vestry Duty	Kathy Boyer	Mark Heydlauff	Marsha Hall	Lisa French	Don Collier

Think and Imagine a World When Love is the Way

... Because when love is the way, we actually treat each other like we are actually family. When love is the way, we know that God is the source of us all. And we are brothers and sisters, children of God. My brothers and sisters, that's a new Heaven, a new Earth, a new world, a new human family."

– Presiding Bishop Michael Curry
at wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan