

THE *Red* DOOR

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH • CHARLEVOIX, MICHIGAN

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

The Patience of Unanswered Prayer

Many a craft store features inspirational signs with some variation of the following:

Feeling down? Look up!

Prayer changes things.

If you say your prayers, life is better.

I'm sure you've seen other variations of this positive message about the power of prayer but I think they miss some context. God's time.

On a recent Sunday, we sang the hymn "*Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart.*" George Croly's third verse goes like this:

Teach me to feel that Thou art always nigh;
Teach me the struggles of the soul to bear,
To check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh;
Teach me the patience of unanswered prayer.

Today we begin the season of advent. From now until Christmas, we are in an intentional season of waiting—though we know what lies at the end. This is a relatively short season in our liturgical calendar though I would suggest most of our lives are spent waiting.

Blessed are those who give
without remembering and
take without forgetting.

– Elizabeth Bibesco

We begin our Advent readings today from the Prophet Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

You could very much imagine the craft store of ancient Israel creating a cursive and floral-laden sign with this message: I will fulfill the promise. A true statement but one lacking the context of God's timing. God fulfilled the promise of Jeremiah but it took more than 600 years.

The God of Advent teaches us to wait. We bear struggles. We experience rising doubt. All the while, we learn the patience of unanswered prayer.

Hold on to the promise of God's faithfulness in your everyday prayer list. God is faithful even in the prayers not yet answered to our satisfaction. Let us learn together this advent season, the patience of unanswered prayer.

*Yours in the hope of Advent,
Mark L. Heydlauff
Senior Warden*

*Shame corrodes the very part of us that believes
we are capable of change. – Brene' Brown*

Prayer List FOR DECEMBER

Please Pray for Your Brothers and Sisters

Deb Stutzman	Frank Rathjens
Doris Lundteigen	John Whiteford
The Rev. Peggy Nattermann	Nancy Crunch
	Wit Witucki
The Rev. Kathleen Kircher	Steve Fowle
Linda Smith	Josh Levay
Lea Peak	Kathleen Benon and family
Adele Dilschneider	
Norean Martin	Frank Daly
Bob Jess, Jr.	Bill Meeks
Liane McGhee	Ann Cappel
Penny Loving	Linda Boss



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

Please contact John Fiedorek at

[\[jfiedorek@gmail.com\]\(mailto:jfiedorek@gmail.com\)](mailto:jfiedorek@gmail.com)

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

Bless It

To bless a thing is to fill it with life. Life is expansion and the thing will expand and progress. To bless it is to enfold it warmly in your thought and feeling and consciously desire its fullest and most beautiful expression. To bless is to send forth a power which is of God and therefore omnipotent. To bless is to take an inward stance in relation to something. It is to speak the word of good and then to stand silently while the currents of life flow through the patterns of your thought. To bless is to release the hidden life in everything.

To bless any situation or event is to free it from the bondage of human thoughts and opinions and place it under the direct action of the spirit. To bless our business is to quicken divine activity in it. To bless a person is to see him as a transcendent being, the presence of God – infinite Life. To bless with power and with purpose is to do it out of the consciousness that there is only one power and your word is the activity of that power.

Diocesan CONVENTION

*D*on Collier and Mark Heydlauff represented Christ Church at the primary convention of the Episcopal Diocese of the Great Lakes. The diocese was formed this year with the unification of the former Western and Eastern Michigan diocese. The convention reported on the various ministries of the diocese and also looked at how best to unite operations going forward including the adoption of a new constitution and canons.

Assisting Bishop Skip Addams celebrated the Eucharist and led the renewal of baptismal covenant for all present. He also consecrated the ministry of our canon, Rev. Nurya Love Parish as she continues her work in the northern region of our new diocese.

Over the next year, the Standing Committee will be working with a search committee to identify candidates for bishop to be selected at a future diocesan convention.



Assisting Bishop Skip Addams preparing Eucharist at Convention



Preparing for Eucharist at Convention



Christian OUTREACH

Habitat for Humanity

*N*ovember 6, 2024 a group of CEC Christian Outreach members made lunches for a Habitat for Humanity work crew in Alanson, Michigan. With a little time to visit and nourish the workers we gained some great insights and knowledge of their mission in their community.



Habitat for Humanity workers enjoyed lunch served by Christian Outreach members, Kathy Weber, Margie Kirinovic and Ann Bahr

Happiness is not found in things you possess, but in what you have the courage to release.

– Nathaniel Hawthorne

Christ Episcopal Church Annual Meeting

January 12, 2025 following the 10a.m. service

Lunch to follow in the parish hall

Snow Date - January 19, 2025

All year end reports due to John Fiedorek by December 29, 2024

Episcopal Church Women **ECW**



Amy Russell, President of ECW delivers a check from ECW to Carolyn Klendar at the Charlevoix Food Pantry



ECW President, Amy Russell delivers a check on behalf of Christ Church's ECW to Scott and Celia Kelly for BASES

Kind words will
unlock an iron door.

– Turkish Proverb

Welcome New Officers for ECW

Newly elected officers for Christ Church ECW
Amy Russell; President, Stephanie Peters; Vice
President, Barb Wilson; Secretary, and Betsy Collier,
Funeral Luncheon Coordinator.



Episcopal Church Women **ECW**



**Safe Haven Ministries accepts a check from Amy Russell on behalf of ECW.
Photo L to R - Kay Anderson, Jan Boss, Amy Russell, Chris Gengle, Kay Wasilewski, and Chuck Center**



Amy Russell stands in front of the parish hall doors with Mike Way and delivers a check for the Charlevoix Ministerial Association from ECW



Amy Russell delivers a check from ECW to Gail Kloss, Executive Director of Women's Resource Center. They stand in front of the new Women's Resource Center building which will open in February 2025

Construction UPDATE

Stained Glass Project



The stained glass windows are being installed around the sanctuary.
The men will resume their work in the Spring. They have done marvelous work!

*To build a strong team you must
See someone else's strength as a compliment to your weakness
not a threat to your position or authority*



Phil Pratt Organ Concert

AT CHRIST CHURCH

October 22, 2024



CEC was filled with guests at Phil Pratt's Organ Concert



Barb Wilson and Mark Heydlauff present Judy and Phil Pratt with a gift certificate during Phil's organ concert on October 22, 2024



Phill Pratt at Organ Concert 2024



Harvest Dinner 2024

*What lies behind you and What lies in front of you,
Pales in comparison to what Lies inside of you.*

– Ralph Waldo Emerson



The Taylor Series at Christ Episcopal Church invites you to a concert of Great Lakes Chamber Orchestra String Ensemble on



Saturday, December 14th at 4:00 p.m.
200 State Street, Charlevoix. A reception will follow the concert.
www.christepiscopalchurch.net

This concert is sponsored by the Taylor Series at no cost.

PN-40494856

Submit an Article for the Next

Red Door!

by 5p.m. December 19

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.

Ministry Schedule **DECEMBER**

2024

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>
OT Lesson & Psalms	Dan Sytsma-Reed	Tricia Drenth	Steve Hall	Barb Wilson	Roger Peak
The Epistle	Liane McGhee	Mark Andresky	Stephanie Peters	Nancy Porter	Gary Stutzman
Prayers	Stephanie Peters	Barb Wilson	Linda Wertz	Dan Sytsma Reed	Susan Flanders
Ushers	Jeff & Nancy Porter	Don Collier David Loving	Marsha Hall Ellie Nicol	Mark Andresky Jeff Porter	Don & Betsy Collier
Greeters	George & Wendy Perrett	John Fiedorek Jeff Porter	Emily Myers Marge Kirinovic	Don & Betsy Collier	Marsha Hall Sharon Witucki
Intinction	Morning Prayer	John Fiedorek	Morning Prayer	Morning Prayer	Morning Prayer
LEM (Chalice)	Morning Prayer	Brownie Flanders	Morning Prayer	Morning Prayer	Morning Prayer
Acolyte	Rick Wertz	Brownie Flanders	Roger Peak	Rick Wertz	Brownie Flanders
Altar Guild	Betsy Collier Rachel Sytsma Reed	Deb Stutzman Nancy Porter	Susan Flanders Dorothy Miller	Nancy Porter Ann Bahr	Linda Wertz Peggy Nattermann
Coffee Hour Hosts	Marsha Hall Amy Russell Emily Myers	Susan & Brownie Flanders	Nancy & Jeff Porter	David Loving Shirley Gibson Ellie Nicol	Kathy & Jack Peters Ann Bahr Stephanie Peters
Vestry Duty	Linda Wertz	Susan Flanders	Jeff Porter	Marge Kirinovic	Deb Stutzman



Christmas Eve Ministry Schedule

**Tuesday,
December
24th,
2024
at 4p.m.**

Celebrant	Rev. Peggy Nattermann
Homily	Rick Wertz
OT Lesson & Psalms	Steve Hall
The Epistle	Roger Peak
Prayers of the People	John Fiedorek
Acolyte	Brownie Flanders
Chalice	Brownie Flanders
Intinction	Dorothy Miller
Altar Guild	Susan Flanders & Linda Wertz
Ushers	Marge Kirinovic & Marsha Hall
Hosts for Reception	Betsy & Don Collier
Vestry Duty	Linda Wertz
Greeters	Mark Andresky & Don Collier

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

Click on sermon and listen to the desired week

Ministry Schedule **JANUARY**

2025

Ministry	<i>Sunday January 5</i>	<i>Sunday January 12</i>	<i>Sunday January 19</i>	<i>Sunday January 26</i>
OT Lesson & Psalms The Epistle	Mark Andresky	Dan Sytsma Reed	Gary Stutzman	Roger Peak
Prayers	Tom Kirinovic	Barb Wilson	Mark Andresky	Susan Flanders
Ushers	Rick Wertz Susan Flander	Sharon Witucki John Fiedorek	Don Collier Sharon Witucki	Don Collier Susan Flanders
Intinction	Morning Prayer	Rick Wertz	Betsy Collier	Brownie Flanders
(LEM) Chalice	Morning Prayer	Betsy Collier	Rick Wertz	Dorothy Miller
Acolyte	Dorothy Miller	Roger Peak	Rick Wertz	Roger Peak
Altar Guild	Marge Kirinovic Peggy Nattermann	Betsy Collier Rachel Sytsma Reed	Deb Stutzman Dorothy Miller	Betsy Collier Ann Bahr
Coffee Hour & Fellowship	Susan & Brownie Flanders	CEC	Barb Wilson Sharon Witucki	Amy Russell Margie Kirinovic
Vestry Duty	Susan Flanders	Marge Kirinovic	Dorothy Miller	Betsy Collier

Ordinary Life

“In ordinary life, we hardly realize that we receive a great deal more than we give, and that it is only with gratitude that life becomes rich.” – *Dietrich Bonhoeffer*

Advent

ALMIGHTY God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious Majesty, to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, now and ever. Amen.

– *Traditional Collect for the First Sunday of Advent, Book of Common Prayer*

