

THE *Red* DOOR

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH • CHARLEVOIX, MICHIGAN

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

Reflections from the Reverend

*D*ear Christ Church,

I cannot believe it is October! I want to take this time to offer some personal reflections and news about my time in Charlevoix, what's going on at Christ Church, and what is going on in the diocese.

First, on a personal level, I am so excited to be staying in Charlevoix longer for this trip, as my last Sunday will be October 25! I was originally going to have my final Sunday on September 13, but with some of the events we have going on this month, it felt better for me to stay. This is especially exciting for me because I will get to experience so many events I typically miss!

This month we are starting strong with one of my favorite services of the year: the Blessing of the Animals! This is a church tradition that honors the feast day of St. Francis, the patron saint of animals, the environment, and ecology. My 3 cats will not be attending, because one of the big perks of being a Priest's Kitty is that they can be blessed at home, but they will be with us in spirit, and will certainly interrogate me after the service when I go home smelling like all of your pets! I hope you will come back on **Sunday, October 4 at 4:00 PM for the Blessing of the Animals**, which promises to be a time of worship and joy!

Next, I am very excited to say that we will have a **United Thank Offering Ingathering as part of our Sunday, October 11 10:00 AM worship service!** For the past 5 or so years, I began working with UTO on a

variety of projects, and I absolutely love and support this organization. Through working with UTO, my prayer life changed, as I was spending so much more time focused on gratitude. On Sunday, October 11, we will host a UTO Ingathering. We have UTO Blue Boxes in the Parish Hall, where you can begin gathering up your coins. On our Ingathering Sunday, we will also have blue envelopes available in church. For Ingathering, when the offering plate is passed, you can either put your Blue Box in the plate, or a donation in one of the blue envelopes we will provide. Please note: On October 11, if you put money into the place that is meant to go to the general ministry of Christ Church, put it in the offering plate loose or in a white envelope. If you would like to give money to UTO, please put it in a blue envelope. That is how we will differentiate the two to make sure your generosity goes where you intend. ALL the money raised from Blue Boxes and blue envelopes on Ingathering will be given away as grants for mission work. Every dime! So offer what you can on October 11, as we show our support for the incredible mission and ministry of UTO.

Christ Church will send me, your priest, and at least 2 delegates to our annual **Episcopal Diocese of the Great Lakes Diocesan Convention in Muskegon on October 23 and 24**. The annual diocesan convention is the primary legislative and governing meeting where clergy and elected lay delegates from every congregation gather to worship, vote on budgets and other resolutions, conduct any necessary elections, and

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Reflections from **THE REVEREND** **FOR OCTOBER**

Continued from Page One

set the ministry priorities for the diocese. This year our convention will do something historic: we will vote for the first bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of the Great Lakes! Since we are a newly formed diocese (composed of what are now called the legacy Diocese of Eastern Michigan and legacy Diocese of Western Michigan) this will be the first time a bishop is called for our diocese. I encourage you to please pray for those of us who are going and our bishop candidates. You are invited to visit the diocesan website: greatlakesepiscopal.org to learn more about our 4 bishop candidates who will stand for election (including recordings of their Meet and Greets across the diocese), plus lots of other great information about this annual convention, our diocese, and more.

And last but not never least, Sunday, October 25 will mark two things: first, it will be my last Sunday at Christ Church before I head South, but do not remind me! Additionally and more importantly, **Sunday, October 25 will kick off our annual stewardship season!** We will spend 5 weeks praying together as a church, as we ask God to help us discern how we would like to serve God and support Christ Church through our time,

talent, and treasure. Our theme for this year's stewardship season, which will guide our prayer and contemplation, is a hymn recommended to me by our very own amazing Minister of Music Phil Pratt: "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross!" I look forward to praying alongside you during this time, as we each are called in our own way to give to Christ Church.

In closing, when I depart from Charlevoix at the end of October, I will be only a week and a half short of being here for six whole months! These months have been so important to me, and will remain important to me, as it will be the longest continual time I have spent here! Not to mention, this extended stay has allowed me to see another side of Charlevoix the Beautiful: autumn, my favorite season! I am so grateful for each of you this summer and fall, and all the precious times we have spent together as a church. I continue to pray in gratitude for our past and with hope for our future. Christ Church is an abundant gift in a world of scarcity and a warm house of worship in a world that can feel cold. We keep our Red Doors open to the Spirit and to Charlevoix as we try to follow in the way of Christ.

*With gratitude,
The Rev. Erin Jean Warde*

Episcopal Church Women's Prayer

Almighty God, we pray that You will bless our work in mission and ministry in the world. Help us pray fervently, labor diligently and give liberally to make known the power of your love given through your Son Jesus Christ. Let us not forget the lessons from the past nor fear the challenges of the future. Anoint us with your grace and shine in our hearts as we reflect your light throughout the world. Amen

Prayer List FOR OCTOBER

Please Pray for Your Brothers and Sisters

Deb Stutzman	Sue & Darrell
Doris Lundteigen	Potter
The Rev. Peggy	Carol Morris
Nattermann	Ed Bahr
Lea Peak	Kathleen Benson
Adele Dilschneider	& Family
Norean Martin	Betsy Puritan
Liane McGhee	Josh Levay
Blake Kirinovic	Darragh Daly
Frank Rathjens	James Denison
John Whiteford	Matt Hosmer
Nancy Grunch	Kris Jones
George Perrett	Terri George
Cissy Walker	Jan Hayes
Jackie Hayes	Mike Whitehead
Charlie Valier	Penny Loving
	Jeri Crandell



Tyanna Addison	Bob Pratt	Don Peck
Karen & John	Laura Goldsmith	Linda & Jim
Cantine		Boss

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

Submit an Article for the Next
Red Door!

by 5p.m. October 20, 2026

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.

Episcopal Church Women **ECW** AT CHRIST CHURCH

Country Market

October is here and so are the beautiful Fall colors, the Charlevoix Applefest and our own church Country Market. If you have not signed up to help with the market event, please do so, the sign-up sheets are in the parish hall.

I want to personally thank Betty Stephen for hosting a fun Country Market workshop at her home on "Heavenly Hill" September 24th. All who attended, I am sure would agree, it was a fun few hours work and the lunch provided by Betty, delicious.

We will be setting up at the church in the parish hall on Friday the 9th from 9 till around noon. The Country Market will be held Saturday the 10th from 9:00 - 3:00 along with a chili lunch being served from 11:00 - 2:00.

We have so many talented people in our congregation so please think about what you can donate for the sale. Your donated item or items will make a nice holiday gift for someone. Any unsold items will be returned upon request to the donor. This is the last ECW event of the year so please consider joining in on the fun with your donation for sale or your time in setting up.

Contact information for concerns or questions:

Christine Benson
(269) 568-0664
email: ccbenson77@gmail.com



**Country Market workshop at Betty Stephen's home
on September 24, 2026**

Whatever you are, be a good one.

– Abraham Lincoln

"Thanksgiving for the Natural Order"

We give you thanks, most gracious God, for the beauty of earth and sky and sea; for the richness of mountains, plains, and rivers; for the songs of birds and the loveliness of flowers. We praise you for these good gifts, and pray that we may safeguard them for our prosperity. Grant that we may continue to grow in our grateful enjoyment of your abundant creation, to the honor and glory of your Name, now and for ever. Amen, – Book of Common Prayer, Page 840

Christian OUTREACH

Manna

2 Kings 4:8–10: The **Shunammite woman** prepares meals and builds a dedicated upper room to host and feed the prophet Elisha whenever he travels through her town.

In another time and life, I wonder if Linda Smith was the Shunammite woman? Circa 2017, I had the honor of driving with Linda to The Manna Food Project in Harbor Springs. She knew there were programs there; one in particular dedicated to providing a weekend's worth of meals through a backpack of non-perishable items. Linda had been a formidable teacher before retirement and she knew the way to educating children is through their stomachs. Acquiring the details about volunteering to assemble the sacks, she paused to have a protein break by eating a couple of hardboiled eggs she touted along with us, and then formulated our first announcement to the CEC membership about caravanning east on 31N each month to help 'pack up' this Manna program.

Short the Covid year when hunger didn't take a break, but volunteers had to, CEC membership has carpooled at 9:15 a.m. the first Thursday of each month for YEARS to arrive at the Harbor Springs warehouse by 10a.m. There, we toe the assembly line with plastic grocery bag in one hand and the ability to count and pick out items from bins of foodstuffs to fill it.

Another member ties off each filled bag and puts 10

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Don Binns



Christian Outreach members working at MANNA

Christian OUTREACH

Manna



Christina Outreach members at MANNA in September 2026

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to a box. Thirty-two boxes to a pallet and CEC teams have been known to exceed one pallet before our 90 minute shift ends.

On our inaugural packing visit September 3, 2026 we learned that 65,000 backpacks went out to schools in three Northern Michigan counties in this Manna service area just last school year. The number is projected by Manna to rise.

Anyone is welcome to join for as many or few trips to honor the Shunammite woman who God blessed, and with whom we walk. It's helpful to let Don Binns know if you'd like to carpool so no one is left behind.

Gratefully shared by Pam Sroufe on behalf of CEC Outreach in remembrance of Linda Smith.

A light heart lives long. – Shakespeare

For the Diversity of Races and Cultures

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 ever-widening 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

– *Book of Common Prayer, page 840*

Christian OUTREACH

Rainbow Shoppe

The Rainbow Shoppe thrift store welcomes anyone to volunteer for a 3 hour shift. It is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10-4. The shifts are 10-1 and 1-4. Episcopal Church has been involved since its inception in 1983. Anyone that is interested can contact Margie Kirinovic 231-373-0719

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

– Nathaniel Hawthorne



Two happy Rainbow Shoppe workers

*Wishing to be friends is quick work,
but friendship is a slow ripening fruit.*

– Aristotle

Izzy Boyer

Hello Pam!!

Junior year has treated me well so far. I have been part of founding a club with my friends called Global Health and Economics Collective which has kept me busy, along with my Entrepreneurship fraternity's events as well.

The football games have been fun as always and my roommates and I have been soaking up the warm weather while we can.

Classes are interesting and my professors are really great so far, so things are looking pretty good!

– Izzy Boyer; at UM

Tommy Dobbelaer

Hi!

My classes are going great so far, I am learning lots of cool stuff about construction. We are making floor plans in drafting class and I really enjoy that. Everyone in the program is really nice too. I have also been going to a ministry here on campus and it's really cool. Living down here isn't as fun as Boyne City and I miss my family, but it's nice to only be 2 hours from home and the drive is really easy.

I am super blessed to have this scholarship so thank you all so much!

– Tommy Dobbelaer

"He is a wise man who does not grieve for the things which he has not but rejoices for those which he has."

– Epictetu



Abbey Wright

Abbey Wright

Abbey Wright will graduate from Grand Valley State University Spring 2027; having completed her education there in 3 years.

CEC *Scholarship* MAIL BAG

Ellen Dhaseleer



Ellen Dhaseleer



– Ellen Dhaseleer;
graduating from Calvin College December, 2026

Gratitude
is the memory of the heart.

– Jean Massieu

Christ

“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

South AT CEC

ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Charlevoix's Ric Sytsma-Reed playing his way to well-deserved nickname

Hat trick Ric has a nice ring to it. Ric Sytsma-Reed is one of a number of early standouts for a hot Charlevoix soccer squad to begin the 2026 season.

News-Review

Little FREE LIBRARY

AT CHRIST CHURCH

A big thank you to all the people who generously donated books to our Little Free Library. The 2026 season was the most books ever given away to

walkers and bikers. Our library will spend the winter in our lower level, free from rain, wind and snow. Kind of like a snow bird and of course, return in the Spring.

Blessing of the Animals



Sunday, October 4 | 4:00 PM

We invite you to come to Christ Church at 10AM for worship and Coffee Hour, then come back at 4:00 PM for our Blessing of the Animals on Sunday, October 4! We will pray a short liturgy together, all animals present will be blessed, and we will celebrate the gift of God's creation. If your beloved pet has passed, or cannot attend due to anxiety, you are invited to bring a picture so we can bless and remember all the animals that are precious to our community. All are welcome to join us for a time of worship and joy!



CHRIST CHURCH

EPISCOPAL + CHARLEVOIX

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Green Thumb **GARDENERS** **AT CHRIST CHURCH**

Dear Gardeners, It is that time again to put the church gardens to bed. All are welcome on October 13, 2026 at 9a.m. Please bring your favorite garden gloves, shovels, clippers and leaf blowers. Also, we will be dividing many of our lilies and you are welcome to take them home and plant in your own

gardens. Remember, many hands make light work. Our gardens were beautiful again this year and we also received recognition from the Charlevoix Area Garden Club for our outstanding flowers. Great work by all!

Love works miracles in stillness

– Herbert Read

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

– Elizabeth Bibesco

Stewardship SEASON

We will kick off our annual **Stewardship Season on Sunday, October 25!** Join us in prayer during these 5 weeks, as we pray together, asking God to help us discern how we are being called to offer our time, talent, and treasure to God and Christ Church.

We will be guided by the wisdom of a classic and powerful hymn: "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross." May we be guided by the wondrous cross of Christ, that sign of love so amazing, so divine, as we give to God and to the mission and ministry of Christ Church.

Diocesan Convention and Bishop Election

Christ Church will send a clergy and lay delegation to our annual **Episcopal Diocese of the Great Lakes Diocesan Convention in Muskegon on October 23 and 24.** This year our convention will do something historic: we will vote for the first bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of the Great Lakes! We ask you to

please pray for our delegation and our bishop candidates. You are invited to visit the diocesan website: GreatLakesEpiscopal.org to learn more about our 4 bishop candidates who will stand for election, plus lots of other important information about our diocese.

United Thank OFFERING

We will have our Ingathering Service on

Sunday October 11, 2026

If you've been filling a Blue Box with coins, you can bring it to church October 11.

If you want to use a blue envelope for your giving, we will make them available in the church parish hall.

Please see Margie Kirinovic if you have any questions.



**United Thank Offering
Blue Boxes and envelopes**



PHIL PRATT ORGAN CONCERT

and Harvest Dinner



Taylor Series committee gather before harvest dinner

Phil Pratt, our organist and choir director provided the community with a wonderful organ concert on September 22, 2026. People drove from Harbor Springs, Petoskey, Boyne City, East Jordan, Traverse City and of course Charlevoix to enjoy his music. After the concert everyone found a seat in the parish hall and enjoyed a harvest dinner. All of this was made possible from the Taylor family donation to Christ Church, in memory of Joan and Charles Taylor II. It was a wonderful evening.

"A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, the breeze is blowing, the birds are singing, and the lawn mower is broken."

— James Dent



Christ Church was filled with 80 guests enjoying Phil Pratt's organ concert on September 22, 2026



PHIL PRATT ORGAN CONCERT

and Harvest Dinner

*A*re you sorry you had to miss Phil's concert? Were you at the concert but wish you had a better view of Phil's hands and feet?

In either case we have the answer for you. The online version of the concert is now available on the church's website ChristEpiscopalChurch.net. In this version, you are positioned right next to Phil, so you have a close-up view of all the action.

We hope you enjoy it.



Christ Church parishioners enjoyed harvest dinner



Don Collier and Don Binns helped served beverages during Harvest Dinner



Our welcome table was dressed for the Fall season



Judy & Phil Pratt enjoyed the harvest dinner following Phil's concert

Ministry Schedule

OCTOBER

2026

Ministry	<i>Sunday October 4</i>	<i>Sunday October 11</i>	<i>Sunday October 18</i>	<i>Sunday October 25</i>
Old Testament & Psalm	John Fiedorek	Steve Hall	Dan Sytsma Reed	Tricia Drenth
Epistle & Prayers of the People	Linda Wertz	Rick Wertz	Nancy Porter	Mark Heydlauff
Ushers	Don Collier Jeff Porter	Sharon Witucki Chris Benson	Mark Andresky Susan Flanders	John Fiedorek Tom Kirinovic
Intinction	John Fiedorek	Rick Wertz	Brownie Flanders	Betsy Collier
LEM (Chalice)	Rick Wertz	Brownie Flanders	John Fiedorek	Nancy Porter
Acolyte	Rick Wertz	Brownie Flanders	John Fiedorek	Nancy Porter
Altar Guild	Linda Wertz & Marge Kirinovic	Betsy Collier	Nancy Porter Linda Wertz	Susan Flanders Betsy Collier
Coffee Hour	Amy Russell Marge Kirinovic	Susan Flanders Christine Benson	Wendy Perrett Judy Pratt	David and Penny Loving
Vestry	Amy Russell	Brownie Flanders	Barb Wilson	Kathy Boyer

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

Ministry Schedule

NOVEMBER

2026

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>
Old Testament & Psalm	Barb Wilson	Nancy Porter	Dan Sytsma Reed	Tricia Drenth	John Fiedorek
Epistle & Prayers of the People	John Fiedorek	Rick Wertz	Steve Hall	Mark Heydlauff	Mark Andresky
Ushers	Jeff Porter Mark Andresky	Chris & Christine Benson	Don Collier Tom Kirinovic	John Fiedorek Rick Wertz	Marsha Hall Sharon Witucki
Intinction	John Fiedorek	Rick Wertz	Nancy Porter	Betsy Collier	John Fiedorek
LEM (Chalice)	Rick Wertz	John Fiedorek	John Fiedorek	Nancy Porter	Rick Wertz
Acolyte	Rick Wertz	John Fiedorek	John Fiedorek	Nancy Porter	Rick Wertz
Altar Guild	Amy Russell Marge Kirinovic	Nancy Porter Betsy Collier	Linda Wertz Amy Russell	Nancy Porter Linda Wertz	Marge Kirinovic Betsy Collier
Coffee Hour	AVAILABLE	AVAILABLE	AVAILABLE	AVAILABLE	AVAILABLE
Vestry	Amy Russell	Marge Kirinovic	Barb Wilson	Kathy Boyer	Dan Sytsma Reed

Words of Promise

*God has given a son to us...His name will be Wonderful Counselor,
Powerful God...Prince of Peace.*

— Isaiah 9:6