

Christ Church

News and Views

Volume 29, No. 7

July 2017

SUNDAY SERVICES at 8:00am and 10:00am Saturday Service at 5:00pm

Sunday School at 10:00am -- September through May

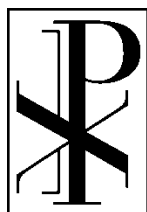
www.christchurchwestriver.org

christchurchwr@comcast.net

Our mission is to grow spiritually in the Christian faith, to support one another and to spread God's love throughout our community and the world by our example and deeds.

From the Rector

Nicholas S. Szobota



Dear Friends in Christ,

We have come to the summer lull in the program year. I would like to take time to give thanks to those who have contributed through roles in the various ministries of this church. There are many more of you who give consistently, in addition to those who are listed, by volunteering to assist with buildings and grounds, outreach projects, and other activities. Thank you for making our ministries possible as we support one another and spread God's love throughout our community! See you in Church!

Sincerely,
The Rev. Nick Szobota

Acolytes

Chloe Colhoun
CJ Colhoun
Sara Colhoun
Eileen Doherty
Griffin Doherty
Sabrina Doherty
Joshua Foxwell
Caterina Grandi
Samantha Lewis
Emma Robertson
Ian Robertson
Vincent Schultz
Diana Stapleton
Tim Stapleton
Emma Talbott
Ryan Watson

Baby Pantry

Irene Gamboa
Cel Petro
Emma Robertson
Lisa Siciliano

Charlotte Hall

Carole Magee Turner

Chalichists

Emily Brown Phipps
Ken Brown
Shelly Collinson
Peyton Robertson
Lisa Siciliano
Mike Stricker
Susie Stricker
Paula Tremel
Carole Magee Turner
Bill Whitman

Altar Guild

Elizabeth Aikin
MaryBeth Austin
Shelly & Tom Collinson
Margaret Gwathmey
Jean Krebs
Cel Petro
Lisa Siciliano
Susie Stricker
Elsie Whitman
Etta Wisner

County Food Bank

Sylvia Jennings

Sunday School

Shelly Collinson
Emma Robertson
Loretta Bryant
Anne Schultz

Readings & Prayers

Robin Anderson
MaryBeth Austin
Elizabeth Bonner
AJ Brown
Cindie Brown
Ken Brown
Frank Chaney
Shelly Collinson
Jean Krebs
Cel Petro
Emma Robertson
Ian Robertson
Melissa Robertson
Peyton Robertson
Chris Schultz
Anne Schultz
Lisa Siciliano
Susanne Talbott
Frank Tremel
Carole Magee Turner
Bill Whitman

Vocal Choir

Shelly Collinson
Charlotte Kennedy
Heather Guild
Peyton Robertson
Ian Robertson
Frank Tremel
Kenny Brown
Samantha Lewis
Irene Gamboa
Robin Anderson
AJ Brown
Lisa Siciliano

Bell Choir

Cindie Brown
Emily Brown Phipps
Jean Krebs
Shelly Collinson
Richard Glasgow
Breslin White
Chris Harrison
Paula Tremel
Kim DiPietro
Susanne Talbott

Parish Office Notes

Summer Hours

The Parish Office Summer Hours will begin the week of July 10 with the secretary in the office Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Tuesday and Thursday hours will be 9am to 1pm. Wednesday hours will be 2pm to 6pm. The office will be closed July 4th in observance of Independence Day.

Vestry Notes

June, 8, 2017 Vestry Meeting

- The Celtic Concert will be held on December 3rd. There will be on show at 3:00 PM.
- The Parish Hall account funds will be transferred to the operating budget to pay the expenses for the addition of fully accessible rest rooms to the Parish Hall.
- The Outreach portion of the yard sale proceeds will be directed to the South County Baby Pantry.
- A bequest of \$25,000 was received from the estate of Bill Brewer. This will be added to the endowment. A thank you letter has been sent.

Parish Milestones

Funerals

Anne Dare Billard Bonner, June 5th
Judith Anne Heintz, June 16th

Marriages

Emily G. Brown and Shawn T. Phipps, June 24th

Baby Pantry

These Diapers are Just Right...

The Baby Pantry was the recipient of half of the proceeds from the May yard sale. The Baby Pantry is jointly coordinated by Joy Reigns and Christ Church. Irene Gamboa, Christ Church Co- Coordinator, says they have plenty of diapers, in fact the storage space is full of diapers. Unfortunately, they often receive diapers in sizes that are not in demand.

To keep storage requirements to a minimum and ensure that what is needed is available, consider supporting the pantry with a financial contribution.

Parish Hall Clean-Up Report from the front



A very big and long overdue cleaning of the Parish Hall was spearheaded by MaryBeth Austin last month. MaryBeth writes: "A huge thanks you to everyone who helped clean up the Parish Hall on June 9th and 10th! Parish Hall clean elves included: Cecelia Petro, Elsie Whitman, Jean Krebs, Cindie Brown, Paula Tremel, Shelly Collinson and MaryBeth Austin.

Curtains were removed for dry cleaning; windows and doors washed; many feet of beadboard cleaned; bathrooms thoroughly scrubbed (2 hours for each); kitchen cupboard, doors, counters and stools cleaned; floors vacuumed and mopped; supplies & 'stuff' sitting around for a "coon's age" streamlined; and the storage closet cleaned and organized.

If the budget will allow, the vestry is hoping to brighten up the large meeting area with a fresh coat of paint and new durable, waterproof vinyl "wood" plank flooring. MaryBeth says there is more to do over the summer and she'll be working on it. Want to help? Contact her at 410-867-0280 or wandmb@me.com.

EFM Graduate Emily Grace Brown Phipps!



Congratulations to Education for Ministry Graduate Emily Grace Brown Phipps, who has had a very busy year studying and planning for her wedding to Shawn Phipps which was held at Christ Church on June 24.

Youth Reporter Needed No Experience Necessary

If you are between the ages of 13 and 18 and you would like to write for the Christ Church Newsletter, we are looking for you!



The congregational community would benefit from hearing your point of view. Help enrich our church family with the voices of our younger members. No experience is necessary, just a willingness to write a short article six times a year. (Count the sentences in this piece, it qualifies as an article!)

Possible topics include: youth events at Christ Church, within the greater Episcopal Church or in our general community; short interviews of community members; Sunday School happenings. We encourage you to generate your own ideas for articles.

This is an opportunity to broaden your perspective, develop new skills, try a new endeavor and contribute to your community. We will gladly work with you. If interested, contact Cel Petro, baylibrarian@gmail.com.

Breaking The Fast An Interfaith Ramadan Feast

One evening this past July I and our new church secretary, Petey Kitzmiller, and twenty-five percent of the world's population observed Ramadan. The Iftar, or 'breaking of fast' hosted by the Southern Maryland Islamic Center in Prince Frederick was a multi-faith gathering to promote informed understanding and build cooperation between diverse communities, other sponsors included: Calvert Interfaith Council, Compassion for our Neighbors, Congregation Beit Chaverim, Daughters of Abraham, Rumi Forum-Maryland and Our Common Calvert and a broad range of local churches. We had been invited to participate to whatever extent we were comfortable in an interfaith fasting and observance for one of the thirty days of Ramadan.

Islam (which means 'submission to the will of God') was founded by Muhammad (570-632 CE) based on the worship of one God, the same God Jews and Christians worship. Muslims believe that Islam ('submission to the will of God') is the final version of religious truth as revealed many times before through prophets, including Adam, Abraham, Moses, and Jesus. Ramadan is a time of abstention, spiritual reflection and charity.

The invitation read "Fasting is a powerful practice across spiritual traditions, bringing intention and reflection...(as well as) a sense of community and solidarity with the needy and the hungry." The fast should also include refraining from pleasures as well as from "ill-behavior" and increasing the doing of good deeds and charity. Fasting is one of the five pillars of Islam along with faith, prayer, charity and pilgrimage to Mecca.

I began my day at 3:30 am, downing coffee and breakfast so I could begin the fast at 4:05 am. I didn't have to work that day, but I found that it was better to be busy and prayerful (and mindful of the need and hunger in the world). I also modified my fast by drinking water during the day; a true Ramadan fast is waterless, though there are many provisions

Transitional Diaconate Ordination

A Multi-Cultural Unity Event

and exemptions for vulnerable individuals such as children, the ill or elderly and those in unusual or difficult circumstances (for instance, travelers are exempt). But most exempted folk are required to provide a meal or equivalent for someone in need and may also still be expected to make up their missing fast days.

Armed with dishes for the potluck and canned goods for the food pantry, Petey and I set off from Christ Church happy to know we'd be feasting at 8:35 pm. We were welcomed warmly and began our interfaith service with an introduction to Ramadan. There was a recitation of Qur'anic verse, a Jewish song, and Christian scripture reading from 1st Corinthians, along with short talks on fasting in the Jewish and Christian traditions as well. People were invited to share their experience of the day, and The Rev. Jennifer Wilder of Broadview Baptist Church spoke of how her congregation has been talking about "the thin places," times when God feels particularly close by. The fasting made me feel vulnerable—open—which was a good way to enter into community with others.

Finally, it was time to break the fast, which we did each with a traditional plump, moist, coconut-sprinkled, almond-stuffed date. It tasted so good. With the call to evening prayer the invitation was extended to all present to go upstairs and observe. After prayer, we feasted at our potluck which included samosas, Middle Eastern spinach and rice dishes, pizza and desserts.

I was grateful for the opportunity to participate in one of the thirty days of Ramadan. Interfaith services often leave me with a rich appreciation of others' hospitality, culture and traditions and a fresh appreciation of my own. This was no exception.

Cel Petro

The Rt. Rev. Eugene Taylor Sutton will ordain Ms. **Janet Kuria** to the **transitional diaconate**, Saturday, July 8, 10:00 AM, **St. Andrew's Church**, 6515 Loch Raven Blvd., Baltimore, MD 21239. St. Andrew's is a joint ministry of the Diocese of Maryland and the Diocese of Nakuru, Kenya.

Rev. Nick plans to attend this service, which promises to be a joy-filled expression of Anglican Christianity in the African cultural context. This is also a milestone occasion, in that various Anglican Churches in African have had difficulty with the Episcopal Church's views on hospitality toward and ordination of same-sex oriented Christians.

This partnership between our bishop and a Kenyan bishop, which has the blessing of the Archbishop of Kenya, is a sign of unity and reconciliation. If you would like to carpool with Rev. Nick, please contact him at cwornick@comcast.net, and be prepared to enjoy this celebration through the early afternoon!

Sundae Sunday!

July 30th

Set your priorities right – dessert first! July 30 is the annual Christ Church Sundae Sunday at coffee hour after the 10 am service. Join us for a cool celebration of fellowship during the hot midsummer.



Take Me Out to a...

**Episcopal Church Night
at Camden Yards**



**Friday, August 4
Orioles vs. Tigers.**

Tickets [available online here](#) or [download this one-page PDF flyer](#) with ticketing instructions

22nd Annual Episcopal Church Women (ECW) Retreat September 15-17

The 22nd Annual Episcopal Church Women (ECW) retreat will be at the Claggett Center September 15-17. More information will be appear in this space as it becomes available.

Ministries Committees at Christ Church

Acolyte Coordinator: Betty Colhoun

betty_colhoun@frontier.com

Altar Guild: Jean Krebs

wwkrebs452@gmail.com

Baby Pantry: Irene Gamboa

itgamboa@msn.com

Buildings & Grounds: Frank Tremel, Jr.

Warden, rosehillcreams@aol.com

Cemetery: Bill Brown, 410-741-9039

Coffee Hour Hospitality: Katie Moore

yogawithkatie@gmail.com

Education for Ministry (EfM):

Shelly Collinson

nofrenchyvonne@hotmail.com

Environmental Committee:

MaryBeth Austin,

wandmb@me.com

Newsletter: Cel Petro

baylibrarian@gmail.com

410-867-7050

South County Faith Network:

Cel Petro, baylibrarian@gmail.com

410-867-7050

Sunday School: Shelly Collinson

nofrenchyvonne@hotmail.com



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