



Fall, 2010

A Newsletter of  
Christ Church Ithan  
Villanova, PA

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A Newsletter of Christ Church Ithan

*Parish Mission Statement*

Christ Church Ithan strives to be an active, inclusive, family that embraces an ever present, loving relationship with God, through our Lord Jesus Christ.

It promotes leadership in the church and broader community through nurturing and developing each member's unique gifts from childhood throughout life.



**The Rector's Desk**

Year Two: Here we go!

Dear Friends in Christ,

We spent our first year together getting to know one another and engaging in lots of conversations regarding what ministries we wanted to develop for building up of God's Kingdom in our midst. I feel like I've gotten to know all of you at least a bit, and I certainly enjoyed the discussions we had with our Every Member Conversation last Fall and our Ministries Task Force (which is now the Ministries Commission). It was a year of discernment and preparation, and this, our second year together, will be one where we begin to try some new ministries. Allow me to mention a few of them, and there will be more about each one in this newsletter:

1. We have two new youth initiatives: First, Wednesday Rocks is an after school program to help those who are playing instruments learn how to do so in a band, and the bands we develop will then play at Rock Vespers. Second, starting in October the first Sunday of each month will be Youth Sundays, where our young people take all the ministerial roles of the service (except mine, of course!).

2. We are now participants in the Ardmore Food Pantry, and on the third Sunday of each month everyone will be asked to bring in food items that will support a very busy pantry at St. Mary's in Ardmore. We will also be looking for volunteers to help at the pantry.

3. On April 2nd of next year we will host a regional Flower Show, where trainers from the National Cathedral in Washington D.C. will be here to train flower arrangers from churches throughout our area. It is a one day event, but believe me, it will take months for us to get everything ready and will require everyone to get involved.

Add to these initiatives the fact that we have a new Music Director, Louis Perazza, as well as a Seminary Intern, Ben Wallis, and you can see why I am so

excited about this new program year at Christ Church. We are moving forward in ministry, and while there is always risk involved in trying new things, there is also spiritual fruit for those who are willing to step out in faith and take some risks for God. We are a church that tries new things!

Peace,

Kevin

## Fall Stewardship Campaign



Look for your personal invitation to join your fellow parishioners for a wine & cheese/dessert & coffee gathering in October. Five parish families have agreed to host these meetings at their homes. You will hear from Fr. Kevin about the progress of our Parish Development Program and you will be able to ask questions about our church. Your invitation will arrive sometime during the first week in September when you may choose between one of four dates.

Upon receiving your invitation, please RSVP as soon as you can.

We hope to have a good turnout at each host's house.

Pete Hubbard, Stewardship Chair

## Wednesday Bible Study and Eucharist Group

Wednesdays, 11:30 am - 12:30 pm

On Wednesday, September 15th, we will begin a new year of Bible Study where we explore the readings for the upcoming Sunday and give Fr. Kevin lots of good ideas for his sermons! Bible Study is then followed by the Eucharist at 12:15 in the chapel. ALL are welcome!

## St. Francis Day Blessing of the Animals

Saturday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00 am



Bring your beloved pets to Christ Church on Saturday, October 2nd at 10:00 am for a service of blessing. This is traditionally done on St. Francis' Day (which is actually Oct. 4th) because of that great saint's love of nature and animals. We will gather at the cross behind the parish hall, and

please keep pets leashed or otherwise appropriately contained!

## Women of Christ Church Bible Study

Saturdays, 9:30 am to 11:00 am

The Women of Christ Church (WOCC) will begin their weekly Bible Study gatherings on Saturday, September 11 in the Parker Library. We plan to meet each Saturday from 9:30 to 11 AM for an interesting give-and-take discussion on a particular book or subject. The first book we will be using is *Enduring Grace: Living Portraits of Seven Women Mystics*, by Carol Lee Flinders, as recommended to us by a regular attendee, Jo Parker.

We look forward to welcoming Ben Wallis, a seminary intern at Christ Church this fall, to some of our meetings as a discussion leader. Ben, a postulant for Holy Orders in the Diocese of Pennsylvania, currently is studying at Lutheran Theological Seminary. CCI members and friends who have questions or wish to purchase a copy of *Enduring Grace* should call Mary Tatnall at (610) 688-5623, or e-mail her at [mknuxtatnall@verizon.net](mailto:mknuxtatnall@verizon.net). The approximate cost will be \$5.00.

## Church School

Sunday, September 12



The 2010-2011 church school year is about to begin! We are looking forward to an exciting year with a new lectionary-based curriculum and monthly youth services!

The curriculum is geared for 3 to 10 year old children, who will be split into 2 groups - preschool and school age. The children will join us all in church for the early part of the service to hear the readings and gospel, and Father Kevin's children's sermon. Then, the kids will come back to the classroom and expand on the teachings of the gospel through art, skits, and discussion, based on a curriculum designed by the Episcopal Church.

[http://www.episcopalchurch.org/109452\\_ENG\\_HTM.htm](http://www.episcopalchurch.org/109452_ENG_HTM.htm)

In addition, we will be enjoying a movie series about the books of the Bible called "What's in the Bible," presented by the Veggie Tales creator, Phil Vischer.

On the first Sunday of the month, the youth will take all the assisting roles during the service: greeters, ushers, crucifer, acolytes and readers. There is no Sunday School on these days.

We look forward to having your children and grandchildren join us, and hope that some of you would like to join our teaching "staff." No experience is required!

For more information, please email Chris Soutendijk at [Soutendijk@verizon.net](mailto:Soutendijk@verizon.net)

## UTO Reminder

Sunday, October 10<sup>th</sup>



We hope you are filling up (each time you feel blessed) those little blue UTO BOXES that we sent out a month or so ago. We included in that mailing a UTO envelope which you may prefer to use for a contribution. Don't forget our United Thank Offering Ingathering here at Christ Church is October 10 at both the 8:30 am and 10:30 am Services. We will present the sum total of those collections to a UTO reprehensive at the Diocesan Convention in November. Please let's make a real effort to present a generous amount from Christ Church at that time.

Thank you... Jo Parker, UTO Coordinator

## Food for the Poor

Sunday, October 17th



Please join us on Sunday, October 17th, when the Rev. Jay Pierce will preach at both services and provide an Adult Ed lecture between services to tell us about "Food for the Poor," a missionary organization which brings direct relief to the poor throughout Latin America and the Caribbean.

## More from the Sermon Box!

It has been a lot of fun this Summer preaching from the Sermon Box, and the feedback I have received on our little experiment has been so positive that we have decided to continue the Sermon Box on the 4th Sunday of the month for the remainder of the year. So keep putting those sermon ideas in the box, and show up on 4th Sundays to see what surprises God has in store!

## Adult Ed Lecture Series: Those Perplexing Parables!

Sundays, October 24th to November 21st

Have you ever sat in church listening to the Gospel only to find that instead of being comforted you instead found yourself wanting to scream out "That's not fair!?" Our Autumn lecture series will focus on certain parables of Jesus which have been known to evoke such a response. This series will be held on five Sundays prior to Thanksgiving, from October 24th to November 21st, and will be facilitated by Fr. Kevin and our Seminarian, Ben Wallis. Adult Ed is held from 9:30am-10:15am in the Fellowship Hall so members from both services can attend.

## Hospitality

Francie and I want to thank all of you who have helped this year with Hospitality. You have provided wonderful food for fellowship after church. We encourage everyone to be a part of this great ministry which is a good way to really know your fellow parishoners. Nancy Breitling has agreed to join Francie and I as co-chairs of this ministry. We are looking forward to another great year.

Joan Keator, Francie Hubbard, Nancy Breitling

## Ardmore Food Pantry

The Ardmore Food Pantry has welcomed Christ Church into their fold. They are delighted to have help and have eagerly accepted any and all donations of time, money and food for this endeavor. As a church, our outreach budget has been seriously cut and this is such a great way to provide outreach without too much money.

Their specific need is participation on Thursday evenings from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. They would also love help at the other open times, i.e. Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:30 am to 11:30 am. Most welcome are gift cards to any of the local grocery stores in the amount of \$10.00 and of course, donation checks in any amount. The list of foods needed is posted on the bulletin board in the church hall. Some have asked about cleaning supplies, paper goods, laundry supplies, etc. At this time they do not handle these things, however they would never turn anything down.

The pantry serves some 60 people per week and spend approximately \$600.00 to \$800.00 per week on food for them. In August they have served over 600 people. There is also some gardens growing produce which they give out. At holiday times they create boxes filled with holiday foods. This is a thriving pantry and we need to help keep it that way. They have a person who is a "shopper" and buys huge quantities at substantially lower prices.

Sooooo, starting in September, the third Sunday of the month will be "Food Pantry Sunday" and goods can be brought to church that day and will be taken down to St. Mary's on that day or the Monday following. Please check the list on the bulletin board. Volunteers are seriously needed and sign-up-sheets will also be on the bulletin board.

Call Dode Tague at 610-527-0393 to become an active volunteer. If we could staff the pantry on Thursday evenings, we would fill their largest need, but working at the other times would also be welcome. The "Spare Change Spares Hunger" jar is located in the back of the church on Sundays. During the year, we will try to develop other ways of helping. This is a new project for us so any thoughts or ideas you have would be most helpful.

## Parker Library

Some Libraries are Closing, but Parker Library is Opening! Sept. 13th

Six of us women have been weeding out books, dusting off those chosen, gluing in book plates, cataloguing each book, sorting and shelving for the past 6-7 weeks to get our Parker Library ready to open on September 12th. This is to be a "Users Library", with the honor system in force. Its first goal is to assist the Women's Bible Study with the idea that as we grow so will the library and its mission. We have some truly great books: The Holy Bible! , pictures and maps of the Holy Land, all kinds of interpretations of the Old and New Testaments, prayers and and how to pray, etc. Do come see the set up, browse, even take out a book. The books on the first bookcase belong to Fr. Kevin which he wants us to use (be mindful of the honor system). You can sign out a book for 2 weeks (any over dues are computed by the borrower: any profit will go to new books). We have had a good time with this project. Now we entreat you to come and enjoy.

Anne Churchman, Joan Keator, Penny Mann, Peg Mowery, Jo Parker, and Mary Tatnall.

## Chime In - News about our Parish Family

### New Addresses



Jane Swan (Janya Gruen's)  
Dogwood Forest-Buckhead  
4804 Roswell Road  
Atlanta, GA 30342

Nancy Moorshead  
Azalea Terrace  
10100 Hillview Drive  
Pensacola, Florida 32514

SAVE THE DATE!

An exciting program will be happening April 2, 2011 at Christ Church!



Our Flower Guild is sponsoring

THE WASHINGTON CATHEDRAL FLOWER GUILD

To lead a program of flower arranging  
Open to Churches and Garden Clubs of the area.

This will take much planning and a need for EVERYONE to help. Below are some of the jobs we will need to fill:

1. Underwriters
2. Help with food preparation : Serving coffee and Danish in the morning and a box lunch at noon: Finding a good source for the box lunch
3. Flower committee: help with buying, sorting, carrying, conditioning etc.
4. Mailings to other churches and garden clubs: stuffing envelopes and stamping
5. Taking reservations and collecting monies
6. Dinners for the Cathedral Ladies several nights
7. Publicity: letters, flyers, posters
8. Putting up and taking down of tables on that Saturday
9. Clean-up committee
10. Music at lunch and in the church for ½ hour while the parish hall is prepared for the afternoon session.

This is a new venue for us and we are counting on the whole church's participation. It is not only a way for our church to become better known in the area but also give us a chance to form bonds with each other. Besides, it will be fun!!!!

Give some thought how YOU can help. More will be coming your way in the next news letter!

Your Flower Committee

If you have something you would like to share with your Christ Church Ithan family, please send articles, stories, poems or pictures to Nancy in the Church office or to Porter Gould at [blpgould@verizon.net](mailto:blpgould@verizon.net)

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SPIRE COLORING PAGE

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