



September, 2009

A Newsletter of  
Christ Church Ithan  
Villanova, PA

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# The Spire

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.

## From the Rector's Desk

It's been a very busy and exciting Summer as I and my family have begun to settle into life at Christ Church. I want to thank all of you for going out of your way to make us feel welcome; especially those who made an extra effort to help me get settled in and those who made my first Sunday such a happy occasion.

Transitions make for happy and yet unsettling times, but as we look ahead to the autumn I feel ready to go! I want you to know that I see this first year primarily as a time of getting to know one another. It was a quick change from Fr. Parker to me, so I feel like we need to work on building relationships before we determine any changes or additions to the ministries of this wonderful parish. The programs and ministries that you know and love will start up again without any great changes, and through the course of this program year we will organize some opportunities for discussion about how we will move forward together, as we seek to serve Christ and his people.

One big occasion that doesn't come along too often is when the bishop

comes for the "Celebration of a New Ministry"; which is when a new Rector is formally installed. Bishop Rodney Michel will be with us at 4:00 pm on Sunday, September 27th for a wonderful service and reception, and I certainly hope that everyone will make a special effort to be with us that day.

Other than that, let us keep praying for one another, please keep telling me your names until I get them, and let us make every effort to get to know and love each other, as Christ loves us.

Sincerely,

Kevin



## Vestry Notes



Fr. Moroney's first Vestry meeting was held in August.

During the meeting, the Vestry named Fr. Parker "Rector Emeritus" at Christ Church Ithan. The Vestry also appointed Pat Palumbo to the Vestry - filling a vacant seat.

## Fall Kick-Off

Sunday, September 13th will kick off our new program year with the return of Sunday School and Choir!

### Wednesday Bible Study & Eucharist

We will be starting on Wednesday, September 16th, with Bible Study at 11:30 and Eucharist at 12:15. At our first gathering, Fr. Kevin will discuss with the group what topic or book we would like to study.

### Celebration of a New Ministry



On Sunday, September 27th, at 4:00 pm the Rt. Rev. Rodney Michel will preside over the installation of Fr. Kevin as the new Rector of Christ Church. It will also be the main service on that day; with no 8:30 Eucharist and a simple, said Eucharist at 10:30 am. We expect a very full house, so you may want to arrive a little early, and there will be a festive reception after the service in the parish hall.

### Jazz Vespers and Rock Vespers

Fr. Parker and Fr. Moroney will be alternating Vespers services this year, with our traditional Jazz Vespers starting things off on November 8th, and a new Rock Vespers, led by Fr. Moroney, on December 13th. The services will still be at 7:00 pm, but this year they will be on the second Sunday of the month.

### Choir and Music Program

After a summer of many wonderful solo performances, the Choir reconvenes for the season on Sunday September 13, 2009. We currently have eleven members, two of whom just joined in the past year, and as always we welcome new members at any time. Stay tuned for upcoming events including an Opera Night slated for early 2010 and the annual Dinner-Show in the spring.

We are also seeking ringers for a Handbell Choir to perform at the Christmas Eve service. Rehearsals will begin in October. Please contact Barbara Browne at [music@christchurchithan.net](mailto:music@christchurchithan.net) if you are interested in participating. Many thanks go out to those who have generously supported the Music Program in the past year. We are so grateful for your donations and your assistance in presenting our musical programs, and look forward to seeing all of you at upcoming concert events.

### Church School - CALLING ALL KIDS!!



Christ Church School wants you! Our fall semester begins September 13 and we are looking forward to seeing you all. This year we will again be using the "Live B.I.G." curriculum, complete with storytelling, crafts, and of course, music with "The Big Sound." We will also be putting on another fantastic Christmas pageant! Look for an application in the mail and send it in to Chris Soutendijk to sign up! You can also get an application from Nancy in the Church office. All kids from 3 through 12 are welcome! Our Young group is for preschool through kindergartners, the Elementary Group is for first through fourth graders, and our Tween group is for sixth through eighth graders. The young and elementary groups will meet weekly and start September 13, and our Tween group meets monthly on the first weekend of the month and starts in October. Of course we are also looking for teachers and helpers too, and welcome any interested parish member - your application will arrive in the mail too. Come have fun learning our Bible stories!

Thanks!

Chris Soudendijk

### Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN)



September is upon us, and we are scheduled for IHN on Monday September 28th and Wednesday September 30th. Please mark your calendars now and let me know if you are available to help.

A big thanks to all who helped out in July - Jimmy Edwards, Mary Girling, Charles Chaffee, Peter Hubbard and Frank Tatnall!

The IHN dates are also posted for the remainder of the year on the CCI website calendar as well.

Thanks!!

Christine F. Williams

## Hospitality



Hospitality is responsible for Coffee Hour following the 10:30am service as well as special occasions. This does not run by itself. We need your help to take a Sunday or two and welcome all who have come to worship after the service. Instructions, postcard reminders, and coffee supplies are all furnished. All you need is a willingness to serve. A sign-up sheet will be posted in the Parish Hall.

Thanks....Joan Keator & Francie Hubbard

## Welcoming Hosts



Please remember that several years ago we changed our name to Welcoming Hosts, with the belief it better expressed our purpose. Yes, we shake hands with all who enter (greet), but we also welcome them to our very special home, CCI. We need to obtain addresses and phone numbers for all who are visiting so that Fr. Moroney can contact them. Our "Hosts" collect this information and in turn relay it on to Fr. Moroney, Nancy (parish secretary) and me (Anne C.). We also like to accompany any visitors over to our Coffee Hour where we ensure they meet several people from our congregation.

It is a very important role we play, since we are the first live CCI individuals a visitor meets! We also give out wonderful bread donated by Patrick Gauthron, owner and chef of "Aux Petits Delices". Thanks to Patrick, we are all well stocked for the on coming fall. If you like people and feel this is a possible mission for you, do let me know at 610-353-4421. Hosts serve once every 2 months (more frequently, if you wish!)

Anne Churchman, Chairman

## Calling All Green Thumbs



Join us to Green the Church at Christmas, dance with daffodils at Easter or share the flowers with a friend after Sunday services. Anyone interested in joining the flower brigade is welcome.

Please contact Francie Hubbard or Deborah Beausang

## Alter Guild



Help Wanted! Volunteers are needed to help keep our brass shining bright. Polishing supplies are provided. No experience is necessary.

If interested, please contact Nancy in the Church Office.

## Christ Church Website ([www.christchurchithan.org](http://www.christchurchithan.org))

Would you like to read selected sermons? Want to know the latest upcoming events? How about a little church history? It is all there and more on the Christ Church Ithan website.

If there is something that needs to be added to the calendar or website, our own webmaster Ron McNamara can help. Just click on the "webmaster" link on the website and send him an e-mail.



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

# Children's Corner Coloring Page

