

THE PROPHET

PENTECOST 2012

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PARISH OF CHRIST CHURCH

Happy Pentecost!!

We begin this long season of the church year on May 27 – the Day of Pentecost – as we celebrate the coming of the Spirit to empower us to take the good news of Jesus Christ into the whole world.

I'm writing this as I anticipate a journey to the tiny country of Rwanda in the heart of Africa with ten of us from Christ Church and six others from Epiphany Church in Winchester. Most of us will have returned by the Day of Pentecost to share what we have seen and heard. I know from previous journeys how powerful these experiences can be, and I expect that we will have much to share!

The gospel was never meant to keep to ourselves! It's not only for us, but for all people. And the church is not merely a local gathering for our sakes. In the opening chapter of the Book of Acts, Jesus, before his Ascension, said to the gathered disciples, "You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth." (Acts 1:8) We are going nearly to "the end of the earth" on this mission/pilgrimage to Rwanda. And we will go not only to share with people there, but to learn and to grow and to be blessed by them. Their experience of God's reconciling love coming out of Rwanda's horrific genocide has much to teach us about forgiveness and reconciliation. We go to learn as well as to share.

Following our week in Rwanda, I will also be going next door to the tiny country of Burundi for a gathering of "emerging church" leaders from across the continent of Africa and abroad. Over the past few years I have gotten to know brothers and sisters in Christ at these gatherings whose ministries have breathed new life into my experience and my understanding of the gospel.

We may not all be called to go to the heart of Africa, but we are all called to share the good news of God's love somewhere – "in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth" – which may mean for us "at home, at school or work, and to every other place where our life's journey might take us."

Pentecost is not merely a day long ago on which the Church was born, nor is it merely one day each year when we remember that day long ago. Pentecost is a lived reality for a living church, into which we are born and live and grow throughout our lives. It is the reality of God's Spirit ever breathing new life into us and empowering the work we do as God's partners in the transformation of our world. It's time to celebrate that new life!

Happy Pentecost, everyone!
Jeff

Launching Our New Communications Strategy

With this edition of the *Pentecost Prophet*, we are launching two new vehicles for communication at Christ Church to replace our former *Prophet*.

Four times a year, you will receive a seasonal *Prophet* like this - four pages with brief articles, and notices of things coming up in the next few months. This will be sent via mail to every household and will also appear on our website (www.christchurchandover.org).

In September, we will also launch a new and expanded version of our *Sunday Prophet*, which will appear each week in your service bulletin. These new print communications will also be archived on our website so that you have continuous access to them, in addition to everything else that appears on the website. We will also continue our weekly publication of the Parent Weekly and *eProphet*, which are emailed each week on Thursday.

Choral Evensong
in Loving Memory of
**The Very Reverend
James A. Diamond**

Sunday, June 17 at 5:00 p.m.

The Reverend Stephen V. Smith,
Guest Preacher

The Parish Choir of Christ Church
& Friends

Nicholas White, Guest Conductor

Barbara Bruns, Organist

*Magnificat & Nunc dimittis
(Collegium Regale)* by Herbert
Howells

*In Sure and Certain Hope (Requiem
Aeternam)* by Nicholas White

*Agnus Dei (Choral Version of Adagio
for Strings)* by Samuel Barber

The Great Emergence: How Christianity is Changing and Why

Wednesdays in June from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. will be an opportunity to look at not only the birth of the church, but its adolescence and its current state of affairs. This is a time of great change in the Church, something that observers often refer to as "The Great Emergence." We'll explore Phyllis Tickle's book on this subject and ask whether we think the church *ought* to change, why or why not, and *how* it ought to change, with abstracts from her book to guide us. Email Jeff if you'd like to take part in this Pentecost book group.

A Voice Recital

“An Evening of Encores”

Terry Morgan, soprano
Leonardo Ciampa, piano
Saturday, June 2 at 7:30 p.m.

Cabaret

Featuring Talented Musicians
from Christ Church
Janel Romagnoli, Director
Saturday, June 9 at 4:00 p.m.

**Organ Recital at
Methuen Memorial Music Hall**

Barbara Bruns, organist
Wednesday, July 11 at 8:00 p.m.

**Organ Concert Previewing our New
C. B. Fisk Organ**

Guest Organists from Yokohama, Japan
Mineko Kojima
Mina Iizuka
Naoko Asao
Monday, August 13 at 7:30 p.m.

Summer Opera Academy

Young Opera Company of
New England
The Marriage of Figaro (excerpts) by
W. A. Mozart
Marie Stultz, Artistic Director
David Collins, Piano & Music Assistant
Barbara Bruns,
Harpsichord & Music Assistant
Academy: August 13 – 17,
8:45 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Performance: Saturday, August 18 at 7 p.m.



Green Your Clutter

The annual parish Yard Sale is a great opportunity to recycle for a good cause. And summer is not too soon to start setting aside those usable items you no longer need. Shoppers will be looking for household items, small furniture, working appliances, clothing, toys, and just about anything else. (Please note that the Yard Sale can't accept large metal items, TVs, computer equipment, and skis.) Our big recycling event will be here before we know it — the sale is set for **September 15**, with drop-off all day on September 14. See you there!

**Summer Children's Sermon
Schedule begins June 10th**

The summer is a great time for families to come to church! The services are less crowded, more relaxed and most importantly, there is another opportunity at the 10 a.m. service for your children to continue to learn about their faith and how it fits into their world during our children's sermons. This is a chance for the children to spend time with either Kit or Jeff as they will be leading most of the children's sermons this summer. Guest parishioners will share their gifts with the children on Sundays when our priests are not available.

The children are led out of the church just after the Gospel reading to the North Chapel where they will explore a Scripture reading or a part of our liturgy. They will come back to participate in the Eucharist with their parents during the peace. Children's sermons will be offered every Sunday this summer except for June 17th, July 8th and September 2nd.

Please bring your family to church this summer, you just might start a new family tradition!

Summer Choir

June 24 – August 26
Sings every Sunday at the
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
Rehearsal at 9:00 a.m. preceding the service
Contact Barbara Bruns
if interested in singing!

**Coming in September
Organ Dedication Recital &
Special Service**

C. B. Fisk Organ, Opus 137
Saturday, September 29 at 7:30 p.m.
Barbara Bruns, Recitalist
Sunday, September 30 at 10:00 a.m.
The Choirs of Christ Church, Andover

**Cinco de Mayo – Very
Successful and Fun**

We grossed over \$17,161, raising \$3025 for Christian Education and ending with a net of \$12,313 for the event! Of the total 88 Silent Auction items we sold all but seven. The Committee included: Linda Borland, Helen Pickard, Rosalyn Wood, Jackie Salvesen, Jeff Moddero and Frances Young. Our thanks go to the parish for supporting this event with such enthusiasm. -Jim Walker



2012 Graduates

Our congratulations to the following students who are graduating from high school or college this year. Our thoughts and prayers are with you for whatever challenges life now presents.

High School

- Ian Michael Bates
North Andover High School
- Eric Buck
Brookline High School
- Chris Cowie
Governor's Academy, Byfield
- Emily Hunter Ishihara
Andover High School
- Colin Johnson
Andover High School
- Colin McGuire
Wilmington High School
- Peter Novello
North Andover High School
- Katie O'Book
Governor's Academy, Byfield
- Elizabeth Marie Walther-Grant
Andover High School

College

- Kim Bixby
University of New Hampshire
- Becky Cowie
University of New Hampshire
- Andrew Delollis
Brown University
- Andrew Donovan
Castleton State College, Vermont
- Evelyn Fortino
Providence College
- Phillip Johnson
Boston College
- Joseph McConaughy
Keene State College, NH
- Cara McGuire
University of New Hampshire
- Grace Elizabeth Rodden
*Catholic University Law School
Washington, D.C.*
- Christopher Valleau
Dartmouth College

Treasurer's Update*Bill Hastings*

There was a tremendous outpouring of financial support in March and April after our All-Parish budget meeting. With new pledges, increased pledges, and gifts, we now have pledge income of \$560K towards a budget of \$554K or 101% of budget.

More good news, YTD the annual pledge income is above budget and expenses are under budget primarily due to a mild winter and lack of heating equipment repairs. For Renew and Rejoice, Channel Construction came in under budget with \$9K in savings, and our own construction reserves have \$8.5K remaining.

In addition, we had \$12K in savings because generous parishioners offered their homes for the CB Fisk installers and tuners rather than having to pay for hotels. Fulfilling *Renew and Rejoice* pledges on schedule is still important as we are paying interest on a line of credit and have one more large payment due to CB Fisk. Thank You for your support.



Grilling and Game Nights!
Tuesday, July 10 &
Tuesday, August 7
6-8:30 p.m.
Christ Church Courtyard

Join Christ Church for two mid-summer nights of grilling out, fellowship, and of course, camp-themed/*Minute-to-Win-it* games for ALL AGES! Bring a side dish or dessert and beverage to share, and we'll provide the burgers, veggie burgers and hot dogs! More information to come in the *eProphet* and *Sunday Prophets* closer to the time.

We are looking for a Grill Master and Game Guru—is the Holy Spirit inviting you into one of these ministries?? Let [Rev. Kit](#) know!

Summer Worship**Sundays**

8 a.m. Holy Eucharist/North Chapel
10 a.m. Holy Eucharist with choir

Wednesdays

7 a.m. Holy Eucharist/North Chapel
Followed by a light breakfast in the Parish Hall

Christ Church Awarded a \$10,000 Green Grant!

Many thanks to the Creation Care Team for working through all the requirements to submit a winning proposal for the \$10,000 grant. This will help pay for the Thrift Shop replacement of the front windows. Norm Scarpulla worked the energy audit of the entire Park Street Property as well as getting all the necessary signatures to complete the long request. Those serving on the committee were Frances Jennings Dodson and Catherine Rosen as the contact person for the Diocese.

Summer Spirituality for the Rest of Us

I'll admit it. My parents didn't make us go to church in the summer. In fact it always seemed a bit strange—being hot in church?! Somehow Pentecost signaled both end of term exams, the onset of New York City heat waves, and leisurely Sunday mornings at home.

I would be a terrible pastor, priest and teacher if I told you that you didn't have to come to church in the summer. In fact, I'm kind of hoping you do. It's lonely doing church without you all. We have children's sermons every week for your kids this summer, the lovely music remains at the 10am, and if you transition from the 10 a.m. to the 8 a.m., there is still time for a half marathon before lunch.

But. In case. If... For those of you who might be practicing away from the community, I wanted to share a few ideas with you before you turned into Spring Semester Seniors and disappeared into the summer.

My Favorite Summer Spiritual/ Religious Reads: Some of these are not new on the shelves, but it never hurts to try an oldie but goodie. *The Alchemist*, by Paulo Coelho; *Gilead* (and the following *Home*) by Marilynne Robinson; *Let's Pretend This Never Happened* (a mostly true memoir), by Jenny Lawson (this IS a brand new book!); *Flunking Sainthood*, by Jana Reiss; *Traveling Mercies*, by Anne Lamott; *Love Poems from God*, ed. Daniel Ladinsky. There is nothing like sitting in the sun/ shade/ air con and reminding yourself that yes, you can think about your spiritual life on your own! Please forward any other suggestions you have to me!

Being Still/ Silent: We rush about so much during the school/ program year that the summer begs a certain slowness to it. We do not need to rush to get things finished before dark. We can soak in a sunset. We can rise early to listen to just the birds and nothing but the birds. Find time for silent walks, accompanied by a Mary Oliver poem or two. Practice slow living for a day. Grace doesn't happen according to our clocks and sometimes we have to remind ourselves that productivity is not our God.

Play! Our God is playful God. Out of love, creativity, and, I think, curiosity, God created us and the world. We may be called to be serious stewards of creation, but we are also called to revel in it! Be silly. Be light. Run through a sprinkler. Jesus told us that we must become as children to enter the kingdom of heaven, so take this as permission to eat three Klondike bars and then bust down the slip and slide. Revel, glory, imbibe deeply of creation this summer.

Serve others: The beauty of the season doesn't stop the hardship of life around us. What can you offer as your 'summertime tithe'? A day? A few hours a week? As time alone or as a family? Find a place that needs to feel God's grace, and share it there!

And if none of this makes sense or appeals, then I look forward to seeing you at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. every Sunday this summer!

Blessings, Kit

Christ Church Staff

The Rev. Jeffrey Shilling Gill, Rector
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Maria L. Chan, Business Manager
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Mark Pomerleau, Sexton
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Matt Tringali & Emily McDowell, Sunday Sextons

Catherine Rosen, Head Verger

Parish Office (Glebe House) 978-475-0529

Andover Thrift Shop 978-475-0957

Christ Church Children's Center 978-475-4037

Christ Church - 25 Central Street, Andover, MA 01810

Website Address - www.christchurchandover.org

For Your Calendar

Saturday, June 2, 7:30 p.m.

Terry Morgan Voice Recital

Sunday, June 3 Trinity Sunday

Teacher Appreciation Sunday

11:30 a.m. World Café

Tuesday, June 5 Office Volunteer Luncheon

Wednesdays in June 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Book Group - *The Great Emergence*

Saturday, June 9, 4:00 p.m.

Cabaret, Janel Romagnoli, Director

Sunday, June 17 Father's Day

Choral Evensong in memory of

The Very Rev. James A. Diamond, 5:00 p.m.

Tuesdays, July 10 & August 7, 6-8:30 p.m.

Grilling & Games

Looking Ahead

Homecoming Sunday, September 9

Yard Sale, September 15

1st Day of Sunday School, September 16

Organ Dedication, Recital & Special Service,

September 29 & 30

The Prophet

The Parish of Christ Church

25 Central Street

Andover, MA 01810-3780