

THE PROPHET

SPRING/SUMMER 2013

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PARISH OF CHRIST CHURCH

Interim Rector's Reflections

Summer time is nearly here. Woo Hoo! Our grass will get green and so will the hangings in our church as we stretch into the long liturgical season of Pentecost (from Pentecost Day, May 19, until Advent I on December 2). The summer encompasses "Early Pentecost" when we have a children's sermon each Sunday in the North Chapel for children (of all ages) who come to church with their parents who hear a "grown-up sermon" in the sanctuary. We have the 8:00 a.m. service in the North Chapel too. We turn "coffee hour" into iced tea or lemonade time on the lawn or at the back of the church and note that many take vacations and are missing from our company.

It would seem that things "slow down," but the truth is summer will not be dormant at Christ Church this year. The Search Committee will be finishing the Parish Profile, the Vestry will continue to work on getting the parish ready for the new rector by making sure that the underpinning sorts of things that make for a strong organization are in place - things like bylaws and organizational charts, preparing the rectory for the new rector, studying our communications, planning the Annual Vestry Auction (Sept. 28, mark your calendars!), tightening our finances, stewardship, and finding folks to take on tasks to insure that Christ Church is ready for the new rector when she or he arrives.

One thing that is evident to the Vestry and the forming Finance Committee is that our pledging does not meet the staffing and program needs of the congregation. In the next few weeks you will be hearing more about this. In the mean time, review your pledge and consider that it takes about \$16,000 a week to operate our parish. Do the math. Are you contributing your fair share of that? We are the ones responsible for the present and future of Christ Church and one of the most basic needs is the money

[Continued on p. 2...](#)

The Search Committee needs to hear from you!

One of the most important steps in the search for a new rector is the Self-Study and completion of the Parish Profile. During this phase the committee seeks to answer several questions about our parish such as who we are as a faith community, where God might be calling us to go in the future, and what type of leadership we will need to live into our mission and vision. To accomplish this, the Search Committee is conducting a parish-wide survey which began in mid-April and is available both online and in hard copy form. We will also be holding five Open Forums during the month of June; the dates, times, and location are listed below. We hope that you will be able to attend one of the forum sessions.

Open communication is important to every member of the Search Committee, which is why we have created a new webpage on our Church website as well as a blog that allows us to go into more detail on the search process. To find them, just visit www.ChristChurchAndover.org and click on our link on the homepage. You will also see photos of our members on the website and up on the wall in the Parish Hall. If you have questions, please seek us out, send an email, or give us a call. Finally, we ask for your prayers during this time of discernment - for support, patience, guidance, and wisdom.

Loving God we are yours. Protect us as we live in this time of transition. Bless us with the person who will lead us in love and truth to the place you know we need to be. Help us to have the courage and wisdom to leave behind what holds us back and embrace the newness that you have waiting for us. All this in the hope that, as a community, we will grow to be a stronger member of the Body of Christ and, individually, move more deeply into relationship with you. In your Son's name. Amen.

Search Open Forums:

Sunday, June 2nd - 9:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall & 11:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Wednesday, June 5th - 7:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall

Monday, June 10th - 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall

Sunday, June 23rd - 11:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall

Summer Children's Sermons begin June 9th

Please bring your family to church this summer! Summer is a great time for families to come worship; it is less crowded and more relaxed.

There is no Church School during the summer but we will continue to offer our children ways to deepen their faith with the weekly Children's Sermon at the 10 a.m. service. Childcare for children under three is available as usual in Room 113.

Children join their parents in church for the beginning of the service. During the sermon and prayers, they are led into the North Chapel for a Children's Sermon, usually either given by Gale or Kit. Afterwards, they return to share the Eucharist with the congregation. These sermons are geared for children going into K-6th grade; Pre-K children are welcome to come accompanied by a parent. Children's Sermons are offered every Sunday this summer except for June 30th, July 7th and September 1st. This is a great way for your child to spend time with our clergy! *Carolyn*

From the Assistant Rector

I tend to lay low in the summer. Something about the longer days, the New England heat, the ability to be outside creates in me a desire to escape from the 'real' world or the rigidity of the academic calendar. Some people "take the summer off" from church or meetings or groups, as if they are overwhelmed by the very thought of just showing up. I get that. I sometimes feel it. But I also know that that is a symptom of something much larger and deeper, rather than a self-care mechanism.

We can fall into the danger of compartmentalizing that our 'real life' happens at some points, and our 'spiritual life' happens at others. This spring and summer, I am challenging myself (and would LOVE company on this journey!) to imagine this time 'off' differently. I am challenging myself to engage in practices that nourish me, considering that time spent not as time given away, but as time cultivating a soul well tended, watered and fed, which will enliven and ground me in all that I do and all that I am.

I haven't figured out how to do this yet, but there are a plethora of options in front of me/ us. Perhaps I should write letters (handwritten—with a stamp!) to those I love who live both near and far; or on behalf of a cause I believe in, which stirs me deep in my soul. Perhaps I will try to grow something in my yet-to-be-created garden this summer, using that time I spend digging in the soil and paying attention to the slow process of fruition to keep an inner quiet. Perhaps I will find time to volunteer more—there is always a need in the summer most of all, and poverty, need and service do not take the summer off.

There is a Franciscan blessing that ends with this line: "May God bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you really CAN make a difference in this world, so that you are able, with God's grace, to do what others claim cannot be done." Sometimes in the busy-ness of the school year, I believe that there really isn't enough time. But that idea is actually limiting my sense of what is mine, and how much time I need to cultivate a practice. Just as I needed hours to practice my scales when I played piano, I need that time to remind myself that foolishness (of time and space and ability) will cultivate a Spirit filled with love and life.

God find your Spirit this summer. Don't take the time off, indulge in the foolishness that your Spirit craves to be used and cultivated and enjoyed!

Blessings, Kit+



Summer Choir Sundays beginning June 9th

Interested in singing in the choir this summer? Adults and high school students who love to sing are welcome to sing in the "Summer Choir". Just show up for a rehearsal in the Choir Room at 9:00 a.m. on any Sunday morning and sing for the 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist.

Please contact Barbara Bruns, Minister of Music, for further information:
bbruns@christchurchandover.org.

[Gale continued from p. 1.](#)

to do the work God has given us to do.

This planning, fundraising, organizing and reviewing is not glamorous, nor does it often even get noticed, until it is left undone! But these things are part of the framework that is needed to keep a thriving community thriving. They also make it possible for the new rector to come onboard and proceed full speed ahead to do the things you are being called to do together.

A Nominating Committee, that is called for in our current bylaws, is being activated. As I write this, Mary Ann Lennon, Norm Scarpulla, Susan Bozorth, and Stuart McDowell have agreed to serve on this committee, and we hope to fill it with one or two others from the parish. They, the wardens and clergy will meet, pray and think about who might best serve in ongoing ministries. If we call you, please think about how your gifts might be used. Please prayerfully consider saying yes to our call. The joy in being a community such as Christ Church is that there is so much going on, so many are being served, so many are serving. Yet, providing consistent and ongoing leadership is as crucial as money if the parish is to be ready to hit the ground running with the new rector. In the mean time, if you have already said "no", please reconsider!

This is the time to accept financial responsibility and ministry leadership and each be part of the continuing story of "What comes next". God is already at work preparing the next rector to be among you. The Spirit has begun the dance of a committee working to meet that person. It will unfold, in God's time. Be on the dance floor ready to answer God's call to you. Allow the Spirit to work in you by being a committed part of the community that paves the way to the future of this marvelous parish...Gale+

**CRAFTS IN THE PARK ~ Saturday,
May 11TH 10 AM - 4 PM Rain or Shine!!!**

This spring our Parish has taken over the sponsorship of the popular town event CRAFTS IN THE PARK. It promises to be a wonderful way for us to become more visible in the community as well as a terrific fundraiser.

We have a growing list of volunteers including **Greeters** to welcome the crafters, show them to their location, and check in with them during the day. A **Clean-up** crew will do general pick-up throughout the day and the final sweep of the park at the fair's close. We have a list of people willing to have a lawn sign and people who will deploy them the weekend of May 4th and 5th. If you haven't yet offered your yard and have great visibility, let us know. Parishioners have taken small posters to post and we are seeing them pop up all over town.

We are still welcoming everyone who would like to participate in any way, for whatever time you have available. The **youth group** will be at the park helping in many ways ably overseen by Rev. Kit! We will have red **CRAFTS IN THE PARK** T-shirts available that day for all volunteers to wear and return or purchase and keep for \$10 each. **Crafts In the Park** will happen rain or shine, so volunteers should come dressed accordingly. Training where needed will be offered. Contact Karen Herman at kvwherman@verizon.net for more details or to volunteer.

Together Now!

Our Diocese has long practiced the axiom, "we can do far more together than we can ever do alone." Knowing that, a powerful campaign to create new ministry and enhance successful ones throughout the diocese has begun. Every parish in the diocese (close to 200) is participating by raising funds, creating ministry and partnering with others around the Diocese to accomplish their goals. Christ Church is no exception. You should each have received a letter about our participation this week (Or early next week) inviting you to personally be part of it. Each of the next four weeks you will hear from one of the clergy or one of our co-chairs, Don Delollis and Hope Flynn, encouraging your participation as we activate the "in pew" portion of our participation.

Music at Christ Church Andover

**Inaugural Concerts featuring our new C. B. Fisk Organ
Sunday, April 28 at 4:00 p.m.
Organ Recital by Douglas Major**

Douglas Major, internationally acclaimed concert organist, is currently Music Director at St. Michael's Church, Marblehead. He has performed solo organ recitals throughout Europe, the Far East and North America, and served as Organist-Choirmaster at the Washington National Cathedral from 1988-2002. His program includes the virtuosic "Tocatta in F" by J. S. Bach, César Franck's "Piece Heroique", his own "Three Sharp Preludes" (composed in 2012), and other works by John Knowles Paine, Olivier Messiaen, and Charles Tournemire.

**Spring Concert
Sunday, May 19 at 4:00 p.m.
Christ Church Parish Choir, Soloists & Strings
Donald Teeters, Guest Conductor; Barbara Bruns, Organist**

Donald Teeters, guest conductor, retired a year ago from The Boston Cecilia following a 44-year tenure as Music Director. Currently he is Music Director at All Saints Parish, Brookline, a position he has held since 1967. He is also on the faculty of the New England Conservatory where he teaches graduate seminars on Bach and Handel. He is a frequent performer of works by 20th century British composers, especially Benjamin Britten. Mr. Teeters will conduct the Christ Church Parish Choir in a performance of Benjamin Britten's "Rejoice in the Lamb" and Franz Joseph Haydn's "Missa Brevis Sancti Joannis de Deo", popularly known as "Little Organ Mass". Also on the program is the world premiere of a newly commissioned anthem for Pentecost by our own resident composer, Dr. Peter Bell, featuring our choir and new organ. Christ Church soprano soloist Anney Barrett will sing the solos in the Britten and Haydn. Rounding out the program will be Maurice Duruflés "Theme and Variations on Veni Creator" performed by Barbara Bruns and works by two other British composers: Henry Purcell's "Evening Hymn" sung by Terry Morgan and Geoffrey Burgon's "At the round earth's imagined corners" sung by Wendy Heckman.

**Organ Recital by Susanna Valleau
Saturday, June 15 at 7:00 p.m.**

Susanna Valleau, who grew up in the Parish of Christ Church, first began her organ studies at the age of seventeen with Barbara Bruns. She is a recent graduate of the University of Washington where she completed her Masters degree in organ performance under Carole Terry. She also earned her Bachelor of Music degree in organ performance at Lawrence University under Kathrine Handford. In 2011, Susanna won both the Chapter and Regional levels of the American Guild of Organists (AGO) Regional Competition for Young Organists (Region VIII), and performed as a "Rising Star" at the 2012 AGO National Convention in Nashville, TN. Currently she is Music Director of St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Renton, WA and maintains an active piano studio. Her program includes works by J. S. Bach, Johannes Brahms, Amy Beach, Jehan Alain, Arvo Pärt and Charles Tournemire.

**Admission at the Door for all Concerts: \$15 / \$10 students & seniors
A Reception in the Parish Hall to greet the artists will follow each performance.**

United Thank Offering

On Sunday, May 12th, Mother's Day, we will be gathering the *United Thank Offering*. Every cent collected from these boxes will go to helping women worldwide. What a wonderful way to thank the women in our lives. If you do not have a box, you may pick up one in the Narthex of the church or at the Glebe House.



Church School Registration for 2013/2014

Registration for Church School for 2013/2014 will be held **September 8th, and the first Sunday of Church School will be September 15th**. I hope all of you have a great summer filled with fun adventures and hopefully, I will bump into you during the vacation weeks!

Please e-mail me at chughesuozzo@christchurchandover.org if you have questions or need any information over the summer. *Carolyn*

Walk for Peace

Bishops Tom Shaw and Gayle Harris have invited congregations to come walk with them in Dorchester on Mother's Day as we will all be in solidarity with those parents who have lost their children to violence. We will all gather at 8:00 a.m. in Dorchester and walk together, celebrating the Eucharist at the end of the walk (about 10:00 a.m.). Rev. Gale will be going and invites others to join with her and the Bishops as we "pray with steps - one step at a time" for those families torn apart by violence and for Peace. For details, e-mail Gale at gdavis@christchurchandover.org.

Everyone is Welcome at God's Table ~ Christ Church Andover

The Parish of Christ Church

www.christchurchandover.org

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Dates to Remember

Sunday, April 28, 4:00 PM
[Organ Recital](#) by Doug Major

April 29, May 20 & June 10
Check times & location in weekly Prophets!
Women's Group

Sunday, May 5
Walk for Hunger in Boston

Sunday, May 19, 4:00 PM
[Spring Concert](#)
Christ Church Parish Choir, Soloists & Strings
Donald Teeters, Guest Conductor
Barbara Bruns, Organist

Monday, May 27 - Memorial Day

Rector Search Open Forums
Please join us for one of these forums!
More information on [page one](#) of this Prophet.
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June 15, 7:00 PM
[Organ Recital](#)
Susanna Valteau

July & August
Watch for Grilling & Games
Dates & time to be announced in Weekly Prophets!