

# CHRONICLES

July 2010



*The mission of Christ Church is to be a diverse, inclusive community which, through its lively worship of Jesus Christ and witness in His name, serves the Christ in all persons and stands as a beacon of hope in the heart of Detroit.*

## Christ Church Detroit

960 East Jefferson Avenue  
Detroit, Michigan

Telephone: 313.259.6688  
Facsimile: 313.259.1087  
Email: office@christcd.org  
Website: www.christcd.org

### Hours

Monday-Thurs: 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.  
Saturday Mornings by Appointment  
Sunday: 7:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

### Holy Eucharist

Sunday 8:15 & 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School resumes in Sept  
9:30 a.m.

### Rector

The Rev. John Gordon Talk, IV

### Assisting

The Rev. Rollin Norris  
The Rev. Canon William Logan

### Director of Christian Education

Mrs. Maggie Blanchard

### Organist/Choirmaster

Mr. Jeffrey Walker

### Business Administrator

Mrs. Joanne M. Case

### Administrative Assistant

The Rev. Cn Sandra Richardson

### Security

Mr. Kevin Lewis

### Nursery

Ms. Alyssa Wilson

## From the Rector: Church Changes Things

*Church changes things. More accurately God uses the Church to change things.* Through the church chaotic time is turned into sacred space and an ordinary room is turned into sacred space. Through the church, sin is turned into forgiveness and death into life. Through the church, nations have been restructured, families have been saved and individuals have been transformed.

I believe that the first mechanism for this change is **prayer**. Our most obvious prayers are those we pray in public. We quite obviously have public prayer in our worship. But we sometimes also pray publicly at community events like city council meetings, political rallies, some sporting events and at some workplaces. This prayer is important first because it helps the community as a whole lift its voice to God, but also because it is a statement of faith by the church to the secular community, whether the prayer is offered in a church building or at the start of a NASCAR event.

However, public prayer is not the only prayer the church offers up. Private prayer by individual Christians is also the prayer of the church. These prayers can be as simple as a child at night or as deeply meaningful as the last words a patient says to our God. However just because these prayers are private doesn't mean that the community doesn't help facilitate them. One important way Christ Church helps us pray is to lift up our individual prayers, our various prayer lists. You will find one such list in our service leaflet every week. But another important list comes from **Sally Moore**.

Every month Sally compiles a list of those people and situations that need our prayers. We pray for some of these people for months, others for just a few short weeks. We sometimes know why we are praying for them, but often not. Sally then mails these lists, along with a wonderfully written note to all those who ask. I'm not sure that anyone really knows how long she has been doing this work, but we do know that over the years Christ Church has lifted up tens if not hundreds of thousands of prayers over these years due in part to God working through Christ Church and specifically Sally. **By the way, if you have a prayer request or would like a copy of the monthly list please let the church office know.**

Prayer is not the only mechanism for change that the church engages in. *Sometimes we take direct action in people's lives.* Just as with our prayers this direct action is often public. We host AA meetings, we speak about important political issues to our legislative bodies, we take direct action against unfair and unjust situations, we box and bag food at Gleaners, we serve at Spirit of Hope, etc. etc.

(continued on p. 2)

## News of the People



**Ashley Carter**, daughter of Josephine Powell and Al Carter, graduated from the College of William and Mary Law School on May 16, 2010, where she received a Juris Doctorate degree. She is currently living in Ann Arbor where she is studying for the bar exam, but will be moving to Washington, D.C. in August on a fellowship to work in the Mental Health Division of the Washington D.C. Public Defender. Congratulations and Good Luck, Ashley.

**Miles Gordon Shahly** was born to Kirk and Crystal Shahly on May 19<sup>th</sup>. He joins his big brother Donovan, and was warmly welcomed by cousins Danielle and Brandon Starkey. Added congratulations to Arthur and Marilyn Shahly on this grandchild member number 6.



**Gabriel Gazoul**, son of Sylvia and Allen Gazoul, has achieved a remarkable feat. Competing against thousands of other submissions, his short film *The Russian*, which he wrote and directed, has been accepted for viewing at the Los Angeles Short Film Festival. The Festival runs from July 22-30 at the Laemmle Sunset 5 Theater. Maybe we'll hear of an Oscar yet! Gabriel is now in the process of writing a feature film. He is the grandson of Katherine Albert and the nephew of Evelyn and Sam Sanom. (We are indeed a family church.)



Com-  
and



**Brittany DeGroot**, granddaughter of Joyce and Dick Esse is a student at Central University and is now entering her senior year in the College of Education at Central. She has been teaching in the University Tutor Program. Her work, which she does voluntarily, has been in Mathematics to her peers needing extra help. At their Honors Ceremony recently, Brittany was named Tutor of the Year.

### Please Note:



**Mrs. Elizabeth Murr's** Memorial Service will be held at Christ Church on Friday, July 9<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. A repast will be held in Ledyard Hall following the service. (This is a change from a previous announcement.)

## From the Rector (continued from p. 1)

Just as with prayer our direct action in people's lives is far more often private rather than public. Every time you stop to buy a homeless person a sandwich at Speedway in the name of Christ you have been the body of Christ making a change in our world. At Christ Church an important part of this direct action has long been our **Walk-in Ministry**. For at least fifteen years **Evelyn Sanom** has meet with individuals in great need and does what she can to help them get on their feet. Some times she provides transportation to a job interview, sometimes she buys a work uniform necessary to start a job, sometime she provides a reference to a social agency where people can get help. Whatever she does she does in the name of Christ Church and more importantly in the name of Christ and our world is transformed just a little. Unfortunately Evelyn needs to take a break from this work. We are glad and fortunate that **Karen Fleming** will be following in her footsteps.

Over the next few weeks take a few moments to think about how God has used the church to transform your life, remember the prayers that have been lifted up for you, remember the hands that have gone to support you in your life through direct action. Then think about how you can be part of the church as you are called to be used by God in this world - to pray and to act.

## CHRONICLES

*The official monthly publication of Christ Church*

The deadline for the August issue is:

**July 8, 2010**

Chronicles printed courtesy of Budco Corp

**Editorial Staff:**

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## An end of the school year prayer of thanks from the 5th and 6th graders.....

Dear God,

Thank you for loving us.

Thank you for our friends and family.

Thank you for everyone who made it safely through the year. For those that passed may they rest

in peace.

Thank you for food and shelter.

Thank you for fun places for vacation.

Thank you for Mrs. Leney and Mr. Lamar as our teachers.

Thank you for those of us going to Rite 13 next year.

Thank you for another great year in this class.

Thank you for going to a good school.

Thank you for our loving and cute pets.

Thank you for siblings traveling home safely.

Thank you for spiders eating mosquitoes.

God, thank you! Amen



*From the 5th and 6th graders - Danielle S., Emily F., Eric J., Erin L., Kelsey L., Reid B., Ryan M., Sophie T., and Will B.*

## Sunday School by Maggie Blanchard

Even though summer has just begun, things are already in the works for Fall and the beginning of another Sunday School year. I will be sending out a pre-registration form by email in August to get an idea of numbers and ages of students. On the first Sunday after Labor Day, **September 12**, we will have the actual **registration and welcome**. **Classes will begin on Sunday, September 19**. For all you parents, bring your children, please. For all you students, bring a buddy, please. Let us each do that one thing to get more children and young people involved in Sunday School and in Christ Church Detroit.

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**VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS  
CHRIST CHURCH DETROIT  
MAY 27, 2010**

**PRESENT:** The Rev. John Talk, Claire Brown, David Chivas, Oliver Coleman, Tom Cragg, Susan Diehl, David Jackson, Aretha Marshall, Marilyn Shahly, Jan Weir, Ben Wilbert

**NOT PRESENT:** George Ellenwood, John Leney, Seth Lloyd, Eileen MacDonald, Kevin Maher

**GUEST:** The Rev. Cn. Lisa Gray

**NEXT MEETING:** Thursday, June 17, 2010  
Supper: Marilyn Shahly

Table discussion at supper was centered on the vestry retreat of Saturday, May 8, 2010 when Chris Yaw of St. David's in Southfield explained the convergence format for congregational organization. According to church canons the vestry is responsible for the administration, finances and maintaining and/or improving the buildings and grounds of their congregation. Congregations organized on the convergence format divide vestry members into commissions responsible for those three functions. Commissions meet once a month and bring reports and action items to vestry. Other committees and organizations in the congregation form a parish council that would meet three or four times a year. Reactions to this organizational format were generally favorable and included the following:

- With commissions reporting in writing to vestry members prior to the meeting less time would be spent on "business" and more time could be spent on determining, planning and carrying out our mission.
- This kind of reorganization might result in a better use of our human resource.
- Susan attended the vestry meeting at St. David's and reported that the business portion of the meeting was indeed only an hour long and that commission reports and action items were no more than a page and a half long. An hour was then left for brainstorming and discussion.

Reducing the size of the vestry was also discussed. John reported that studies by the Alban Institute indicate that smaller boards help churches solve problems and determine goals in a more timely manner than large boards.

Further discussion about the retreat and other organization models will be held at Lily's Seafood in Royal Oak on Thursday, June 3, 2010 at 6:30.

The Rev. John Talk opened the meeting with prayer at 6:30 pm.

#### **MINUTES AND FINANCE REPORT**

Both the minutes and finance report were approved as distributed.

#### **WOODBIDGE PARKING LOT – FENCE –**

The fence between Christ Church property and our neighbor the Garan Luow law firm has been broken for some time due to ground erosion from our property. In order to remediate this condition three bids have been received that will include the following scope of work:

1. Removing of the old fence and debris
2. Grading the current slope
3. Installing movable barriers to hold back the slope
4. Project management and permits

(continued on p. 5)



**Motion:** Recommend the Vestry authorize the Building and Grounds Committee, or in its place, The Finance Committee, to select a contractor for the parking lot slope remediation at a price not to exceed \$11,000. **Motion approved.**

### **BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS**

We have yet to find a chair or co-chairs for buildings and grounds. However, John talked to Steve Berlage who is the president of Turner Construction of Michigan. He has consented to act as a consultant to help us determine what we need. Some of those things that we need to do are:

- Consolidate our knowledge about the building into an operations manual
- Determine a process for writing specifications for bids and obtaining and reviewing bids
- Prepare a priority list for major projects
- Prepare a maintenance schedule
- Determine a process for reviewing vendors
- Consider hiring a handyman for preventive maintenance

John reported that during the recent rains that we have a significant leak where the St. Michael's window meets the new construction. Members have also noticed what they think is a leak at the peak of the nave. These are in addition to the problems noted by Pomaville at the April meeting. Detroit Cornice and Slate has also looked at our roofs and is preparing a report. Verbally we have conflicting opinions regarding the problems and the solutions. Further bids will be obtained before making a decision on roof repairs.

Susan reported that she will look into applying for a diocesan grant for these repairs.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

John reported that the Reconstructionist Congregation wants to return to Christ Church. The place for their worship center is still to be determined.

### **PRESENTATION – The Rev. Cn. Lisa Gray**

The rector asked Lisa Gray to present some ideas regarding self discovery and change that had been covered in a week long session with clergy this spring. She managed to give us a great overview of the topic and introduced us to books and methods to expand on the information given and the suggested process in an amazingly short period of time. Especially important seemed to be the difference between adaptive and technical change. Adaptive change is mission focused and more successful since it is purpose driven change and involves as many as possible in the decision making process. Technical change, however, is less successful since it tends to be change by fiat and is more likely to be resisted by members.

We thanked Canon Gray for her presence with us and are happy to know that she can be a valuable resource for us in the future as we discern our mission and contemplate the changes that we might have to make to insure Christ Church Detroit presence in the community for the next 100 years.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet B. Weir

### **Christ Church Vestry's 2010 Focus Areas**

- ◆ **Being Inviting**
- ◆ **Being Communicative**
- ◆ **Being Self Aware**

## Church in the Park



Join your church family in the celebration of Holy Eucharist and picnic fun in the “great outdoors.”

The **10:30 church service on Sunday, August 29<sup>th</sup>**, will be held at the **Grosse Pointe Woods Lakefront Park**. Following the service, we’ll have our annual picnic in the park. Bring a lawn chair, your drinks, and a dish to pass (salad, side dish, dessert, etc.) The meat and buns and dinnerware will be provided for us. (The 8:15 service will be held at the church.)

Park driveway entrance is on Jefferson, between Vernier Road and Nine Mile, just before Marter Road.

### Two important points:

\*\*Please sign up at church or call the office (313-259-6688) or email [srichardson@christcd.org](mailto:srichardson@christcd.org) as soon as possible, but **no later than August 22<sup>nd</sup>**. A guest list must be supplied to the gate attendants for entrance to the park.

\*\*Jo Mashour has always so graciously headed this event, but we all need to help. A committee to help with the day’s activities is being formed. If you can lend a hand, please contact her at church or call at 313-886-7692.



## Summer Choir: July 18 & August 15

Come along with us! We will rehearse in the choir room at 9:30 to prepare for the 10:30 liturgy. Sign-up sheets are on the table in the choir room or call the church office by the preceding Wednesday so the director will have enough time to recruit additional singers as needed. This is a great opportunity for those who can’t make the weekly commitment during the regular choir season. Call Jeff Walker (810/814-6505) if you have any questions.

## Coffee Hour Hosts are Needed!



Lemonade/Tea and Cake/cookies make great after service refreshers for the summer. Sign up on the Coffee Hour sheet in Ledyard. Sign up w/ family and friends to share the cost.



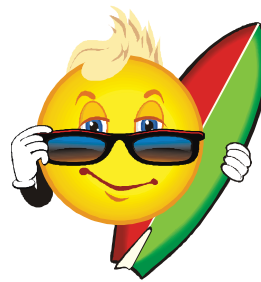
## Mark Your Calendars



Sat July 31 11am **Soup Brigade** at Spirit of Hope  
Sign up sheet in Ledyard. See Jon Miller for details.

Saturday Aug 28th  
9am -12N

Bagging at **Gleaners Food Bank**,  
Sign up sheet in Ledyard. Anyone  
over 6 years of age can help with the  
bagging. Seth Lloyd is the contact person



## Christ Church July Schedule

### Sunday

**8:15 a.m.**

Holy Eucharist

**9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**

Nursery - Off of Atrium

**10:30 a.m.**

Holy Eucharist—Nave

### Tuesday

**11:30 a.m. — G.A. - Cary Lounge**

**1:30 p.m. - Bible Study - Cary**

### Wednesday

**9am—Walk-In Ministry - Ledyard**

### Thursday

**G.A. — 11:30 a.m. - Cary Lounge**

### Saturday

**A.A. 10:30 a.m. & 8:30 p.m. Ledyard**

**Al-Anon 8:30 p.m. Ledyard**

**G.A. 7 p.m.—Cary Lounge**



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 Detroit, Michigan 48207

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## July/August Calendar

### July

1, 5-8	Summer Reading Camp at CCD
4 8:15 & 10:30	6 Pentecost, Independence Day
5	CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
8	August Chronicles articles due to <a href="mailto:costandim@aol.com">costandim@aol.com</a>
11 8:15 & 10:30	7 Pentecost
17 10am	Knit/Crochet in Cary
18 8:15 & 10:30	8 Pentecost
22 6pm	Vestry in Cary
25 8:15 & 10:30	9 Pentecost
31 11am	Soup Brigade at Spirit of Hope



### August

1 8:15 & 10:30	10 Pentecost
8 8:15 & 10:30	11 Pentecost
15 8:15 & 10:30	12 Pentecost
21 10am	Knit/Crochet in Cary
22 8:15 & 10:30	13 Pentecost
28 11am	Soup Brigade at Spirit of Hope
29 8:15am	14 Pentecost at Church
10:30 am	Holy Eucharist at GPW Lakefront Park followed by Picnic

