



THE SIGNPOST WEEKLY

December 13, 2015

Third Sunday of Advent

Miriam Acevedo, D.Min, M.Div.

Visit us at: <http://www.saintcs.org>

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

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News or Info: signpostweekly@comcast.net

Calendar

Sunday, December 13

- Sunday School Classes 10 am
- Eucharist Service, 8 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.
- Bible Study, 9 a.m.

Monday, December 14

- Monday morning Yoga at 9 am.
- Bishop's Committee Meeting, 7 pm.

Tuesday, December 15

- Al-Anon, 5:30 p.m.
- Women's Bible Study at 9:30 am
- Yoga with Miriam at 6:30

Thursday, December 17

- Thursday Evening Eucharist & Bible Study, 7 p.m.

Saturday, December 19

- Family Service, 4 pm

Christmas Schedule

Thursday, December 24 - Christmas Eve

- Christmas Eve Family Service and Children's Pageant - 4:30 p.m.
- Christmas Eve, Holy Eucharist, 9 p.m.

Friday, December 25 - Christmas

- Christmas Day, 9 a.m., Holy Eucharist

Saturday, December 26

- NO Saturday Family Service

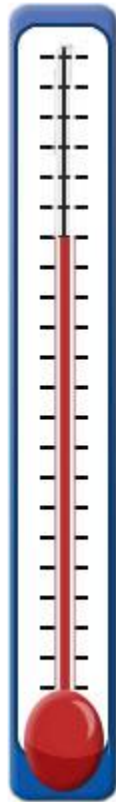
Sunday, December 27

- Eucharist Service, 8 and 10:15
- No Bible Study

Important News About Family Promise from Peggy Baker

Our week of Host Week of December 13th has been cancelled as there are no families in the program. I am so appreciative to all our great volunteers who stepped forward to help with this week. THANK YOU! Thank you all for being great and caring people. At Family Promise we will be focusing our holiday efforts on doing more after-care for the families that have

Number of pledges received to-date.



graduated. As some of you may be aware, we are in the process at St. Christopher's of evaluating whether we can sustain this program going forward given the requirements of the volunteer efforts and the number of people who are willing to step forward to help. No doubt about it, it is a HUGE commitment of volunteers, but in terms of the people we serve, it pales next to the ENORMOUS impact it has on the families we host. I and Kathy and Wayne are very dedicated to the program, but we simply do not have the people to help. I will keep everyone informed as the decision process progresses. I welcome your thoughts and feedback. Thank you again and I wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Peggy Baker.

Christmas Flowers - please fill out envelope on vestibule table if you would like to contribute to flowers and greening of the church. Please turn in (mail or plate) by Sunday, Dec. 20th.

Saints Mary & Joseph Parish, Salem NH will join Family Promise as a Host Congregation.

"We are thrilled to form this relationship with them," says Maggie Martin, Executive Director. Peter and Kristen Klecan will be the Host Coordinators and are looking to recruit volunteers to help during their host weeks. We will keep you posted on this exciting new partnership!

Spirited Life Today, Miriam and Ed's Cable TV



Program is now available on our website.

[CLICK ON THIS LINK](#) to watch all 6 shows.

*Overheard. First impression of the Episcopal Church.:
"Questions encouraged. Doubts expected. Is this really Church?"*

Good and gracious
God,

As your Son Jesus
Christ reached out in
love to welcome
and serve children
and all in need,
You have given St.
Christopher's a call
to do the same.

Bless us as we live
out this call.

Open our hearts to
discern the
movements of your
Holy Spirit, the
needs of this
community, and the
gifts you have given
us for service.

Ignite our passion
and our love for
you and for others.

In the name of the
one who loves us
all, Jesus, our Lord.

Amen.



GAUDETE Sunday

Today, the third Sunday in Advent is Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete is Latin for Rejoice. Both the lesson from the prophet Zephaniah and the letter to the Philippians call us to rejoice. In the Gospel lesson from Luke John the Baptist reminds us that we are to repent and live lives worthy of the kingdom of God. John points us to the coming Lord. Happy Gaudete Sunday! *Miriam*

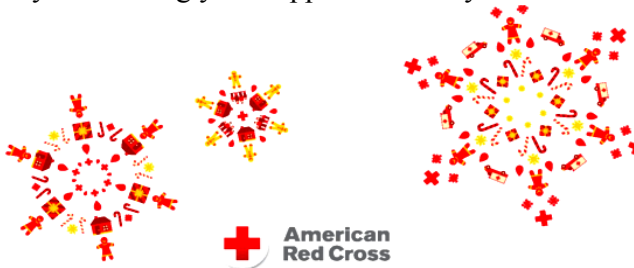


<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S02KOlw7dIA>

Stewardship Update

As of last Monday, December 7, we have raised \$127,944 in pledges. There are still

some folk who have not pledged. I urge you to fill out a pledge form. The amount you can afford may be low, the size doesn't matter but your commitment to financially support the parish in her ministries is one way of showing your support. Thank you. *Miriam*



Give Something that Means Something*

Donate blood or platelets.

Download the Blood Donor App | redcrossblood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS

#GiveWithMeaning

Prayers of the People

Pray for **Diane Foley**, who is in hospice, and is the mother of Morgan LaMonica's boyfriend; **Quinton Collins**, Robin Flynn's father, diagnosed with cancer; **Bill Steinhoff** going through radiation and chemo. What a pleasure to see Bill and his family at church on Sunday. Just know, Bill, that our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. **Jabula Butler; Diane Kolbe; Ann Donovan; Carmen Acevedo; Jess; Kate; Joan and Ron Ruggiero, and Josephine Herbert; 2 year old Brayden; Matty; Ian; Joan Fettes;** for Christine's friend **Christine**; for **Cheryl**; for **Linda**, mother of Ruth Ann who has been diagnosed with cancer; for **Ryan**; for **Jacqueline**, for **Natalie Gallo**; for Jean Porter's grand-nephew **Tyler**; for Natalie's brother **Lorin**; for Mark and Ingrid's son **Eric** who with God's grace is in safe hands. **Serving in the Military:** Please pray for Del's cousins, **Daniel, Matthew and Sandra**, for **Paul**.

Parish Cycle of Prayer: Patricia Laurie-Hermes; Brooke, Albert, Morgan and Bradley LaMonica; Sarah, Eric, Haley, Emma, Gabriel and Graham Lanseigne; and Diane and Christian Kolbe

Attendance

Thurs. 5

Sat 4

Sunday, 8am 28

10:15 63

**A 7 Year Old And A 64 Year Old Have
A Conversation About Aging**

<http://wimp.com/child-and-old-man-have-conversation/>



Visitors Cordially Welcome

*The Clergy and Congregation of
St. Christopher's Episcopal Church*
**INVITE YOU TO SPEND
CHRISTMAS WITH THEM.**

Christmas Eve

4:30 p.m., Family Service

9 p.m., Late Service, Holy

Eucharist

Christmas Day

9 a.m., Holy Eucharist



187 East Rd.

www.saintcs.org

THE
Episcopal
CHURCH



DECEMBER 13, 2015 - THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (C)

WILLIAM LLOYD GARRISON AND MARIA STEWART

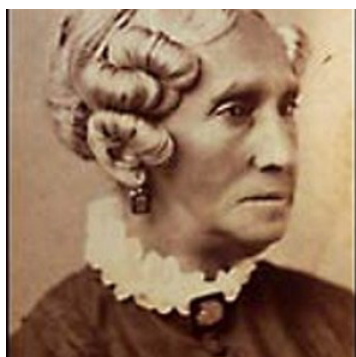
This Thursday, December 17 the Church will celebrate the feast day of William Lloyd Garrison and Maria Stewart.

According to *Holy Men, Holy Women*, “William Lloyd Garrison was born in Newburyport, Massachusetts, in 1805. His father, a sailor, had abandoned the family when he was five years old. His experience of poverty at a young age awakened in him a religious zeal for justice and a hatred for slavery. After working on a Quaker periodical in Baltimore, Garrison returned to Boston and, with the help of the black community, started his own antislavery paper, *The Liberator*.



His proclamation of purpose in the first issue became famous around the country: “On [the subject of slavery] I do not wish to think, or speak, or write, with moderation. No! No! Tell a man whose house is on fire to give a moderate alarm ... but urge me not to use moderation in a cause like the present.”

The Liberator came to be the dominant voice in the abolitionist movement demanding immediate emancipation without compensation to slave owners. Garrison invoked the ire and rage of people all over the country, particularly in slaveholding states. In 1835 an angry mob attacked Garrison who was jailed for his own safety.



In what was a radical policy for the time, Garrison opened up his columns to black and female writers. Among those to respond to his call was Maria W. Stewart, a freeborn African-American woman who showed up at his office in 1831 with several essays that were published in *The Liberator*.

Born in Hartford, Connecticut, Stewart was orphaned at the age of five and grew up in the home of a white minister. She married James W. Stewart, a successful shipping outfitter, but was widowed just three years later. Soon after she experienced a religious conversion and responded with her vigorous antislavery advocacy. Her efforts called upon African Americans in the south to rise up against slavery and for northern blacks to resist racial restrictions. When her speaking career ended after three years, she became a schoolteacher and then Head Matron of Freedom’s Hospital in Washington D.C., which was later to become Howard University.”

Collect for William Lloyd Garrison and Maria Stewart

God, in whose service alone is perfect freedom: We thank you for your prophets William Lloyd Garrison and Maria Stewart, who testified that we are made not by the color of our skin but by the principle formed in our soul. Fill us, like them, with the hope and determination to break every chain of enslavement, that bondage and ignorance may melt like wax before flames, and we may build that community of justice and love which is founded on Jesus Christ our cornerstone; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. Amen.