



THE SIGNPOST WEEKLY

January 10, 2016

First Sunday after the Epiphany

Miriam Acevedo, D.Min, M.Div.

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

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

187 East Rd., Hampstead, NH 03841

Tel. (603) 329-4674

News or Info: signpostweekly@comcast.net

Calendar

Sunday, January 10

- Eucharist Service, 8
- Bible Study, 9 a.m.
- Ten Talents Planning Committee, 9 a.m.
- Family Eucharist Service, 10:15

Monday, January 11

- Monday morning Yoga at 9 am.
- Stewardship Committee, 1 p.m.
- Bishop's Committee, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, January 12

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

Thursday, January 14

- Eucharist & Bible Study, 7 p.m.

Saturday, January 16

- Family Service, 4 pm

Monday, January 18

- Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration, 7 p.m.

BISHOP Curry's Christmas and New Year's Message (Click [HERE](#) to watch video.)

SNOW STORM, BLIZZARD, VERY INCLEMENT WEATHER AND/OR POWER OUTAGE Of course, days like these are a struggle, and, yes, some of them even occur on the Lord's Day, Sunday. So what happens then? Please call the office and see if I have left a message regarding worship that day; check Channel 9 for church closings; check the website for an announcement. If you can't get to any of these, then call me directly at 603-489-3731.

Every Second Sunday of the Month Will be a Family Service at the 10:15 Service

Beginning this Sunday, every second Sunday of the month at the 10:15 our services will be an opportunity for families to worship together. Come and see!! *Miriam*

Help Plan This Year's Ten Talents Challenge

Join the Fundraising Committee for a planning session for the Ten Talents Challenge, **9 a.m. today, January 10**. Please bring your thinking cap and join us! We are looking for your ideas of how make it an exciting day for everyone, both young and old. If you are unable to make it today but would be interested in joining our group, please let [Karen Groves](#) or [Kathy](#)



[Trombly](#) know, and we will contact you about future meetings. We are a small group and usually meet between services on Sunday. Also note, this is not an every month commitment; we schedule meetings when necessary based on upcoming fundraising events. *Karen Groves and Kathy Trombly*

Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration

The Hampstead Area Clergy group invites you to join in "A Call to Courageous Compassion: A Celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. Day" in Song, Readings, & Reflection. This service of celebration will held on **Monday, January 18th at 7 p.m., right here at St. Christopher's!** Although we are basically a Hampstead area clergy group, our membership includes clergy from Plaistow, Kingston, Salem and one rabbi from Derry. I hope that many of you will support this observance with your presence. Since we are hosting it would be nice to have some simple refreshments for our guests and so I have put out a sign up sheet for those who are able to help. *Miriam*

Birthday Cards for Our Adult Parishioners (18 years of age and over)

One of St. Christopher's ministries is to send birthday cards to our adult parishioners. If you would like to receive a card on your birthday, please

Practice gratitude . Encounter the Lord each day. Be present to others. Resist overwork. Nurture friendships. Give more. Make a difference in your parish community. Consider living more simply. Get healthy. Don't give up. Turn to the Lord.

print your name and birthday information (month/day only) on the list in the folder on the round table in the vestibule. Folder will remain on the table through Sunday, 1/17. If you prefer, you may send your information to my email address - denmatnh@comcast.net. If you are already receiving a birthday card, it is not necessary for you to add your name again. [Denise Stevenson](#)

The Nomination Task Force would like to introduce the following candidates for positions within St. Christopher's offices. (See attached.) Please note that this year we have three candidates for two positions on the Bishop's Committee. Their biographical paragraphs are included for your perusal. Please read them and get to know the candidates. We will vote on all the positions at our Annual Meeting on January 24th Eucharist with a snow date of the 31st.

- | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Junior Warden | <input type="checkbox"/> | Joseph O'Leary | VOTE
FOR
TWO |
| Treasurer | <input type="checkbox"/> | Wayne Trombly | |
| Clerk | <input type="checkbox"/> | Karen Groves | |
| Bishop Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> | Marcia Devine | |
| Bishop Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> | Emily Vinton | |
| Bishop Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> | Br. David Gems | |
| Finance Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> | Natalie Gallo | |
| Delegate | <input type="checkbox"/> | Ann Gems | |
| Delegate | <input type="checkbox"/> | Julia Nye | |
| Alternate | <input type="checkbox"/> | Tone Crossman, | |
| Assessor | <input type="checkbox"/> | Katie Waymouth | |
| Assessor | <input type="checkbox"/> | Marilyn Towne | |

Respectfully submitted,
Nomination Task Force members:
Marcia Devine, Joseph O'Leary, Karen Groves

Faith Symposium on Money in Politics

Please see the attached flyer about an upcoming Faith Symposium on Money in Politics, brought to us by the Franciscan Action Network, January 20 at 6pm at Manchester City Hall, Manchester NH.

There is now a Facebook event page for the event at <https://www.facebook.com/events/337948336329311/>
[Corrine Dodge](#)

Our Parish Annual Meeting is Two Weeks from Today, January 24

The Annual Meeting will be on January 24 with a snow date of January 31. As is our custom, we will have one service on that day at 10 am. New members of the Bishop's Committee, Delegates to Convention and Assessors will be voted in. A week before the meeting you will be emailed a PDF of the

2015 Parish Annual Report. "Hard copies" of the report will also be available at church (for the three of you who don't have email.) Please save the date and join us for this important parish-wide event.

[Miriam](#)

2016 Calendars

Do you get a lot of nice calendars from businesses and other organizations in the mail, but can't use them all? If you are like me you can't just toss them out! So please consider donating them to Seafarer's Friend in the New England Maritime Community in Boston, Portland, and Portsmouth. I will be collecting calendars and sending them off to the [Seafarer's Friend](#) in the next week or two. You can leave them in the marked box in the vestibule. Thank you. [Kathy Trombly](#), or if you prefer you can mail them to Seafarer's Friend, 77 Broadway, Chelsea MA 02150

Prayers of the People

Please pray for Terry and Joan Stevens' daughter-in-law, **Theresa**, who has Stage 4 breast cancer. Pray for the repose of **Diane Berger Foley**, who died on December 21 and is the mother of Morgan LaMonica's boyfriend, **Quinton Collins**; pray for Robin Flynn's **father**, diagnosed with cancer; **Bill Steinhoff** going through radiation and chemo; **Liz Naters-Gamarra**, Miriam's daughter; for **Jane Roth**; **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: Greta and James McElvanna and Rebecca and Emily Peterson; Eric, Susan, Christopher, Brian, and Kevin Nyberg; Laurie, Bryan, Raina, and Shayne Moore; Carolyn Mueller.

Attendance
Saturday, 1/2, 6
Sunday, 1/3, 8 a.m., 32; 10:15 a.m., 46

**Nomination for Election of Bishop's Committee Officers and Members
to be VOTED on at the Annual Meeting**

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*Respectfully submitted, Nomination Task Force members:
Marcia Devine, Joseph O'Leary, Karen Groves*



Marcia Devine

Marcia learned she was a "cradle Episcopalian" when she was a student of EFM at St. Christopher's. She has been attending St. Christopher's for almost 11 years. She has served as a LEM, on the Stewardship Committee, mostly as the resident artist, and presently is Clerk of the Bishop's Committee. She is also a member of the music team, a vocal soloist, and choir member. Marcia has run her own sole proprietorship as a housekeeper for the past 27 years. She has also cleaned the parish house for the past 6 1/2 years. Marcia wants to be a part of what it is that keeps us going. She says, "I think I can add a little different view on things and would like to be on the Bishop's Committee."



Emily Vinton

Emily joined the congregation of St. Christopher's in the summer of 2014. She is the mother of three daughters and a jewelry designer. Since joining the congregation, she has participated in Group Spiritual Direction programs, the Emmaus House program, and the 10 Talents program. She is committed to the mission of the Church and is a very grateful member of this community. She hopes to bring her enthusiasm and open heart to the Bishop's Committee and to help carry the message of St. Christopher's by serving in this capacity.



Br. David Gerns, OSB

Br. David and his family became members of St. Christopher's in 1986. He has had the privilege of serving this community in many leadership and service capacities over the years, including the building committee, Bishop's Committee, treasurer, and Junior Warden. As a 'cradle Episcopalian' he understands to a degree how the church as an organization works and wishes to serve on the next Bishop's Committee so that he may offer his experience to assist this collegial group of committed Christians as they continue their good work for the St. Christopher's community.

*Ask much of us. Expect much of us. Enable much by us. Encourage many through us.
May we dedicate our lives to your glory. Amen.*



Franciscan Action Network and the Center for Earth Ethics invite you to a symposium on the topic of Money in Politics from a faith perspective.

Faithful Democracy

How the faith community can help
#GetMoneyOut

Confirmed Featured Speakers:

- **Sr. Simone Campbell, SSS**—Exec. Director, NETWORK Lobby
 - **Karenna Gore**—Director, Center for Earth Ethics
 - **Arnie Alpert**—Co-director, American Friends Service Committee's New Hampshire Program
 - **Rev. Eric Jackson**— Pastor, Smith Memorial Congregational Church, UCC

Facilitator:

Patrick Carolan—Exec. Director, Franciscan Action Network

DATE and TIME: Wednesday, January 20, 2016 @ 6p

PLACE: Aldermanic Chambers, Manchester City Hall
One City Hall Plaza, Manchester, NH 03101



Center for
Earth Ethics

**FRANCISCAN
ACTION NETWORK**



American Friends
Service Committee

THE *Episcopal* CHURCH



JANUARY 10, 2016 – FIRST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY (C)

#REFUGEESWELCOME: THE IMPORTANCE OF BELONGING

What does it feel like when you don't belong in your own country?
In your own life?

Living in Yugoslavia, Sergio found himself in 1991 at the epicenter of a war that was certain to claim his life, as well as the life of his mother. They fled, leaving everything behind, receiving refugee status from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and moving from refugee camp to refugee camp searching for safety.

Reflecting on this time of his life, Sergio says, "I felt that I don't belong anywhere, but I also literally didn't belong...anywhere."



After four years and countless background screenings, interviews, and health checks, Sergio and his mother were notified that they were bound for the United States through the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP).

Landing in Chattanooga, Tennessee, they were greeted by staff and volunteers of Bridge Refugee Services, an Episcopal Migration Ministries local resettlement partner, who not only welcomed them to the city but helped Sergio restart his career as a videographer.

"You just open the door and I will do the rest," said Sergio to his Bridge Refugee Services case worker.

As it turns out, the local PBS affiliate needed videographer. Fast forward to a few years later and Sergio is on the stage accepting an Emmy for his work on a documentary.

"After all that, to be on that stage, I felt like I won a million dollars and five Oscars."

In 2008, exactly 5 years after coming to U.S., Sergio and his mom became U.S. citizens. With his career well underway, Sergio got married and had a son.

Receiving his son's birth certificate in the mail was the moment when Sergio realized that through his journey, he found a place where he belongs and where his son will never be forced to wonder about home.

"It kinda makes me at ease, I know he belongs from the start."

Episcopal Migration Ministries is the resettlement service of The Episcopal Church. Each year, Episcopal Migration Ministries, in partnership with 30 local organizations, staff and volunteers, resettles 5,000 refugees from countries across the globe.

You can be involved in this life-saving ministry. Visit episcopalchurch.org/emm for more information.

