



The Signpost Weekly

July 3, 2016

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Miriam Acevedo, D.Min, M.Div.

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Calendar

Sunday, July 3

- Eucharist, 9 am

Monday, July 4

- Happy July 4th!!

Tuesday, July 5

- Women's Bible Study, 9:30
- Al-Anon, 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, July 9

- Saturday Service, 4 p.m.

Sunday, July 10

- Eucharist, 9 am The Rev. Jane Van Zandt

INDEPENDENCE DAY

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.

Declaration of Independence July 4, 1776

A simplified coffee hour for the summer months-

After some discussion with some members of our church and with the Bishops Committee it has been decided to simplify coffee hour for the summer as follows: No one person will be in charge. I will make sure that a selection of coffees and teas are available to be used with the Keurig machine. I will also have a snack and cream available. If someone would like to make something, that would be nice also, just let me know [via e-mail](#). This will be for the Sundays that have the 9:00 am service only-July 3rd to September 4th. Thank you again to everyone who contributes so generously to the coffee hour. This is to give everyone a break without eliminating the opportunity for fellowship after church. With gratitude for the St. Christopher's community,

[Ingrid Chapman](#)

Miriam's Vacation

My vacation begins Sunday July 10 through August 16. The 4 pm services resume Saturday, August 20 and I will of course be here Sunday, August 21.

Miriam

Mark Your Calendars



The Rev. Canon Hannah Anderson from the diocese will be here on July 17 to both celebrate the Eucharist and meet with you to talk about the transition period after my retirement. I know it's in the middle of the summer and many take the summer off from church but this is an important meeting. Hannah will go over what you can expect to happen after January 8, 2017 and will answer your questions. Your presence is important so please mark your calendars for July 17 at 9 am. Thank you. *Miriam*

Joining us this summer as "Supply Priests."

Rev. Jane Van Zandt who will join us on July 10. Jane and her husband, Allen, served as frequent overnight hosts for St. Christopher's Family Promise. And we look forward to the return of Rev David Plank who joins us July 24 and 31, and August 7 and 14. He brings with him his wonderful sense of humor, and his knack for engaging us in his sermon.

Bishop's Committee Personnel Changes

I sent out an email earlier this week about a number of changes to the Bishop's Committee. Our Junior Warden Joe O'Leary had to resign his position because of family concerns. Joe felt that given the circumstances it was not fair to the parish for him to continue in his position. He hopes, however, to

serve the parish sometime in the future. Please pray for the O’Leary family and especially their son Mattie as they move forward in faith with Mattie’s treatments for Batten’s disease. In light of this, Bishop Committee member Dave Cosio has volunteered to take the position of Junior Warden and complete Joe’s term. Brother David Gerns has agreed to fulfill Dave’s term. This is effective immediately.



As we face a transition due to my retirement it is important that members realize that they may be called upon to step up to the plate and help in some ways. Should you be called upon I hope that you will prayerfully consider stepping up. I want to thank Joe for the time he spent as Junior Warden and for realizing that he is, at this time, unable to serve the parish as he would like to do. I also want to thank Dave and Br. David for stepping up to serve at this time. My friends, please pray for St. Christopher’s as you go through this important time of transition. I pray daily for all of you. You are the best parish I have ever had the privilege to service. I mean that and I think whoever follows me will be one very fortunate priest! Faithfully, Miriam

Try to Keep Pledge Payments Up-to-Date over the Summer

With the summer months coming cash flow tends to get tight. Please take this as a friendly reminder to bring or keep your pledges up-to-date, especially if you plan to be away for the summer. Thank you,

Episcopalians Vote

The 2016 election in the United States remains at the top of the news, and it is a topic of personal conversations. To provide education about the election, as well as assisting in being prepared, The Episcopal Public Policy Network and the Episcopal Church have developed an online toolkit with a webpage that outlines how individual Episcopalians and congregations can participate in the electoral process through a number of nonpartisan activities. You can make your pledge to vote and find the toolkit which is designed to assist Episcopalians in being informed and engaged voters on the EPPN election webpage [HERE](#).

Please take the time to read the attached Page 3, excerpts of the opening remarks of Presiding Bishop Michael Curry presented June 8 at the Executive Council of the Episcopal Church.



Presiding Bishop Michael Curry speaking with Miriam during his recent visit to the NH Diocese.

Prayers of the People

Please pray for **Dawn Hodges** a friend of Terri McDermott; Deb Pothier’s granddaughter **Ellie Laura McCabe** as she continues to recover from heart surgery; for Cheryl Poussard for her loss; for Terry and Joan Stevens’ daughter-in-law **Theresa**, who has Stage 4 breast cancer; for **Zach; Bill Steinhoff** going through cancer treatment; **Liz Naters-Gamarra and Carmen**, Miriam’s daughter and mother; **Ann Donovan; Kate; Joan and Ron Ruggiero, and Josephine Herbert; Brayden; Matty; Ian;** for Christine’s friend **Christine**; for **Cheryl**; for **Ryan**; for **Jacqueline**; for Natalie’s brother **Lorin** and for **George Gallo, Jr.**; 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: Kara, Rob, Emma, and Matthew Maslowski; Andy, Christine, Brady, Colby, and Addison Mason; Jessica and Ellie Laura McCabe; Judy McCabe.

Attendance

Tuesday, 6/21, WBS, 4; Thursday, 6/23, 8
Saturday, 6/25, 9
Sunday, 6/26, 8:00am, 20; 10:15am, 32

Summer Wish List Ecumenical Food Pantry

Juice, Spaghetti Sauce, Microwave Popcorn, Jelly/Fluff, Pudding, Tissues, Paper Towels, Body Wash, Bar Soap, Deodorant (M & F), Shampoo, Razors

The following are excerpts of the opening remarks of Presiding Bishop Michael Curry presented June 8 at the Executive Council of the Episcopal Church.

I really believe that the Gospel of Jesus Christ matters, and that its presentation by the Episcopal Church matters, profoundly and critically, in these times in which we're living.

The Jesus Movement language is a metaphor, an image. Images, metaphors, Marilou's forms of symbolic speech are a way of helping you get at some more deep and sometimes complex things in accessible and memorable ways. This Jesus Movement isn't a 21st-Century invention or a Michael Curry rhetorical concoction. We're really talking about going forward as a church by going back to our deepest roots as disciples of Jesus Christ. And in the run we will find our true strength, vitality, and integrity for faithful, authentic and effective witness to the way of Jesus in our time.

The Jesus Movement, we're actually pointing back to the earliest days of Jesus' teaching and his followers following in his way and footsteps in the power of the spirit. And in our context this image reflects a call to return to our deepest and most authentic roots as the Jesus Movement in the 21st century. We're really talking about reclaiming the heritage of the Acts of the Apostles. The heritage of the movement of people who were profoundly convicted by this Jesus of Nazareth because this dude really did have something to say and really did help folks get closer to God and each other. That this Jesus of Nazareth really mattered and matters. The first followers of the way of Jesus really believed, often in spite of themselves.

I was with the folks in the Diocese of New Hampshire earlier this week. At one point in our conversation I said that the first council of the Church, the Council of Jerusalem (Acts of the Apostles 15) that's what we call it, was indeed the first council of the Church, but it was also, if we want to be real, a church fight!

A church fight! But the result of that church fight was that the community found a way to identify

what was really essential in the Christian faith and matters that are important but not core essential.

For us as The Episcopal Church, the Way of Jesus of Nazareth really is who we are, it's who our baptism calls us to be anyway. The final bow of holy Baptism is the promise to follow and obey Jesus Lord. The core of the baptismal covenant is pointing both to our belief in the Triune God and how we live out our relationship with God by following the way of Jesus in our lives. That's the core. We are followers of Jesus of Nazareth, people who seek to love and serve in His spirit and in His way.

I think Christian witness is particularly needed in our time. We are living in the midst of some real and deep polarizations. And so we need a witness that is a Christian counter-narrative because very often Christianity is seen as being complicit in that voice. We need a witness by a church like The Episcopal Church to a way of being Christian that is not complicit in the culture, but committed to following Jesus, and looking like Jesus of Nazareth, loving and caring, and serving in the way that we see Jesus doing it in the New Testament.

I believe that this Church and people in this Church can bear that witness. Episcopalians who are Republicans and Episcopalians who are Democrats. The via media. The sensible center. That's who we are. And so, the Jesus Movement embodied in The Episcopal Church and in Episcopalians in our time has profound cultural significance and may well have global significance as well.

Opening Remarks (excerpts from a transcription)



Presiding Bishop Michael Curry speaking with Miriam during his recent visit to the NH Diocese.

“WE ARE
THE **Episcopal** BRANCH
OF
THE **Jesus movement**”

—Presiding Bishop Michael Curry

THE
Episcopal
CHURCH



JULY 3, 2016 – SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (C): INDEPENDENCE DAY

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