



# THE SIGNPOST WEEKLY

August 30, 2015  
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
Miriam Acevedo, D.Min, M.Div.

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church  
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## Calendar

### Sunday, August 30

- Eucharist Service, 9 a.m.

### Tuesday, September 1

- Al-Anon, 5:30 p.m.

### Sunday, September 6

- Eucharist Service, 9 a.m.

### Monday, September 7—Labor Day Holiday

### Dates to Note

#### Tuesday, September 8:

- Women's Bible Study at 10 am resumes
- Yoga with Miriam at 6:30 resumes

#### Thursday, September 10:

- Thursday Evening Bible Study resumes.

#### Sunday, September 13:

- Two services resume at 8 and 10:15.
- Sunday School Registration Sunday
- Blessing of Backpacks!
- A fun activity is planned for all the children after the 10:15 service.

#### Monday September 14:

- Monday morning Yoga resumes at 9 am;
- Bishop Committee Meeting begins with a potluck at 6, meeting at 7.
- **Sept 20: Sunday School Classes begin** and there will be a cookout following the 10:15 service.

**Are you willing** to share details about your favorite charity to earn some grant money for it? St. C's Outreach Committee will be starting a grant program in the fall. Maybe we can work together. More information coming soon. *Outreach Committee*

### Note to Parents and Teachers

The annual blessing of school backpacks will take place during the 10:15 service on September 13.  
*Miriam*

### Parents--Auditions

Christ Church, Exeter, is holding auditions on September 1 and 2 from 6-8:30 for their production of Cinderella. Auditions are open to children ages 6-14. *Miriam*

### Hospice Training

Rockingham VNA and Hospice is offering comprehensive Hospice volunteer training beginning September 18 and continuing every Friday from 9-noon through November 6. There is a special need for volunteers who are veterans! Classes will be held at Rockingham VNA & Hospice, 137 Epping Road, Exeter, NH. Please call Martha Carlson, Hospice Volunteer Coordinator, 772-2981 ext. 140. *Miriam*

### Group Spiritual Direction

"Group spiritual direction provides a place where members of a small group can listen carefully to their own soul needs and to the needs of others. As each person is given an opportunity to talk about whatever they want to share, the group listens attentively, seeking together to hear the direction of God." Alice Fryling, Seeking God Together: An Introduction to Group Spiritual Direction. There is still time to sign up for this amazing experience. *Miriam*

**Prayer for returning to school** God of Wisdom, we give you thanks for schools and classrooms and for the teachers and students who fill them each day. We thank you for this new beginning, for new books and new ideas. We thank you for sharpened pencils, pointy crayons, and crisp blank pages waiting to be filled. We thank you for the gift of making mistakes and trying again. Help us to remember that asking the right questions is often as important as giving the right answers. Today we give thanks for these your children, and we ask you to bless them with curiosity, understanding and respect. May they have everything they need to

learn and grow this year in school and in Sunday School. May they be guided by your love. All this we ask in the name of Jesus, who as a child in the temple showed his longing to learn about you, and as an adult taught by story and example your great love for us. Amen. Written by Wendy Claire Barrie, Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministries at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, New York City

### Thursday Evening Bible Study

We begin our year with the study of the book, [The Bible and the Land](#) by Gary M. Burge. "This book reopens the ancient stories of the Bible and urges us to look at them through new lenses. Beautiful color pictures, maps and artwork enhance Burge's presentation as he explores the biblical landscape—geography, water, rock, bread, etc. and applies this to both the Bible and a spirituality we might recover from antiquity." The book is available through Amazon. *Miriam*

### Family Promise Host Week Begins Sept 27

It is time for us to host our families beginning Sunday, Sept. 29. We have graduated 3 families, Chris, Jamie and Cindy. There is also a chance that Loretta will be graduating some time in September. The program is working well and it is wonderful to see our families become independent. As we get closer, I will let you know the number of guests we will have. The sign-up sheet for volunteers is now posted online. Click on this [LINK](#) to visit the sign-up area online. Thank you for your continued help. Peggy Baker

### The Spirited Life

The next episode of the Spirited Life will feature an

**Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things:**

**Graft in our hearts the love of your Name;**

**Increase in us true religion;**

**Nourish us with all goodness;**

**And bring forth in us the fruit of good works;**

**Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.**

**Amen.**

interview with Roclyn Porter [Jean Porter's daughter in law] who is director of the Family Mediation and Juvenile Services located in Atkinson. The show will be taped on September 1 and will air as soon as the editing is done. The show will be available to watch through our website. *Miriam*

### Isaiah 58 Benefit to Support Homeless Families - September 11

The 2nd Annual Isaiah 58 Charity Benefit will be held on September 11, 2015. Special guests include Governor Maggie Hassan and State Senate President Chuck Morse. Please contact [Andy Weir](#) or [Wayne Trombly](#) to purchase tickets, or visit the [www.gofundme.com/Isaiah58nh2015](#)

### First Annual Closest to the Pin Challenge

On Sunday September 20th at 2pm Calvary Bible Church will sponsor a "Closest to the Pin" challenge to benefit Family Promise. Golfers of all ages and skill levels are welcome. See attached flyer.

### Also for Family Promise

Please come to 5 Guys in Derry NH on September 14, 2015 for lunch or dinner. 15 % of the proceeds will go to support Family Promise of Greater Rockingham County. This will include eat in or take out! **You must bring in the flyer attached to this Signpost** in order for us to receive the donations.

### Prayers of the People

Please pray for **Joan** and **Ron Ruggerio**; 2 year old **Brayden**; **Matty**; **Ian**; **George Gallo**; **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 strength and peace; for Jean'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**: Prayers for **Bradley LaMonica** who is at Basic Training for 10 weeks for NH Army National Guard. Please pray for Del's cousins, **Daniel**, **Matthew** and **Sandra**, for **Paul**.

**Parish Cycle of Prayer:** Ruth, Madeline and Trevor Woodworth; Andrew and Carolyn Weir; Scott, Jamison and Jackson Webster; Jeff and Katie Waymouth. **Attendance**

Sunday, 8/23, 9 a.m., 42

# THE *Episcopal* CHURCH



AUGUST 30, 2015 - FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (B)

## BLESSING OF BACKPACKS

As the summer winds down and the school year begins, Episcopal congregations across the country are blessing backpacks, gathering school supplies, and enjoying other activities that bring us back together.

At St. Luke's Episcopal Church in North Little Rock, Diocese of Arkansas, students of all ages can receive a blessing upon their backpacks at a Sunday service. Rev. Joanna Seibert of St. Luke's said the purpose of the service is to honor children as they go back to school. "It's to let them know that the church community is praying for them and it's recognition that the children are a part of our community. It's to let them know they are not alone." Not only does the congregation participate in a blessing of the backpacks, but the congregation also fills backpacks for a local food bank that distributes food to school children in backpacks each day.

Christ Episcopal Church in Poughkeepsie, NY, Diocese of New York, in collaboration with Freedom Plains United Presbyterian Church, Lagrangeville, NY, distributes backpacks filled with school supplies to local school children during the annual event, "Backpacks, Supplies and More." The event takes place on the Christ Church campus which is transformed for the day with face painters, bouncy houses, a fire truck, a police dog, and more. In addition, the Poughkeepsie-Arlington Rotary cooks free hamburgers and hot dogs for all who attend the fun-filled event. Donations from both congregations and local community partners are used to purchase bulk school supplies, plus donations in the form of supplies are given by local residents, county employees, and local businesses. In its eighth year, this ministry builds connections within the community, and helps students to be prepared for a successful and joyful school year.



Photo: St. Luke's Episcopal Church, AR

Does your congregation participate in backpack stuffing for the community or host a blessing of the backpacks? If so, share your photos and story with The Episcopal Church here: <http://www.episcopalchurch.org/form/photo-submissions>.

### **Prayer for returning to school written by Wendy Claire Barrie, Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministries at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, New York City:**

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Photo: Trinity Episcopal Church Fort Wayne, IN