



THE SIGNPOST WEEKLY

August 9, 2015

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Miriam Acevedo, D.Min, M.Div., Vicar

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, August 9

- Eucharist Service, 9 a.m.

Tuesday, August 11

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

Sunday, August 16

- Eucharist Service, 9 a.m.

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

Summer Schedule

Our summer schedule will run through September 6 [Labor Day weekend]. We resume two services on September 13. *Miriam*

Thanks to Rev. David Plank for Joining us ...

for the past two weeks, and today. We've enjoyed your wonderful sense of humor, and your knack for engaging us in your presentation of the day's lesson. Thank you so much.

Be sure to tune in ...

to the latest episode of "The Spirited Life," Miriam's and Rev. Ed's TV program that airs on Hampstead Cable TV. You can watch the latest episode online at:

<http://hampsteadcabletv.pegcentral.com/player.php?video=a1d62f00f506c90bf1fd53170b9cabd5>

Spiritual Direction in the Fall – A Reminder

Quite a number of people have already signed up for our second year of Spiritual Direction in September of this year. So as you are on vacations and summer fun, please consider if you would like to sign up. As before, there will be either three or four groups to accommodate everyone who wishes to sign-up. The sessions are held every other week for a total of six weeks, beginning in mid September and ending the first week of December. The Sign-up sheet is in the vestibule for Tuesdays at 3:30

p.m., Wednesdays at 7 p.m., Thursdays at 11 a.m., or enter a day and time most convenient for you, and we will see what we can work out. As Henri Nouwen has written: "When we dare to fully trust in the power of God's Spirit listening in us, we will see true healing (*and spiritual growth*) occur."

Spiritual Direction is the practice of being with people as they attempt to deepen their relationship with the divine and with each other.

For more information about Spiritual Direction, contact [me](#), [Miriam](#), [Ken Swenson](#) or [Wayne Trombly](#). *Barbara Hughes*

What Would You Say if Someone Asked You, "What is meant by Safe Church?"

Quite simply, a "safe" church or, at least, a "safer" church, means that one's person – spiritual, emotional and physical – is protected from harm. It does not mean that accidents or abuse won't happen. But it does mean that as a parish we have tried to put in place reasonable safeguards against injury and exploitation. While a large part of these policies are directed against sexual misconduct, the issues raised here include spiritual safety (valuing of differences, respect for vulnerability), emotional safety (confidentiality, courtesy and civility), and physical safety (cleanliness of facilities, lighting, food preparation, storage of dangerous substances, fire safety). In its broadest sense, "safe" church involves children, youth and senior citizen safety, employee and volunteer safety, facility safety, emergency preparedness, financial safeguards, and transportation safeguards.



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

Safer Church Policy Task Force (SCPTF)

SCPTF completed their mission to create a safer church policy, tailored to St. Christopher's Church's commitment to each other that is blessed by the Diocese and accepted by the Bishop's Committee. The group began its work in April 2010. Over the course of a little more than a year, our tailored policy took shape covering things from abuse to Internet safety, fire codes to Sunday School. "The journey was challenging, sometimes uncomfortable, sometimes humorous, and always worthwhile," said Maureen Dadekian who chaired the group. "Once our final draft was completed, the Bishop's Committee reviewed it with feedback, which we then responded to. Then that updated draft was sent to the Diocese for the same review. We met again in the Fall to incorporate that feedback, resubmitted to Concord and received our final blessing in December 2011." Those who served faithfully on the SCPTF were Barbara Whitehair, Christine Collins, Bob Salois, and Maureen Dadekian. "They must be recognized for their research, writing, editing, organization, and commitment to share in this emotional, mental, and spiritual process with thoughtful, humorous, prayerful dedication," said Maureen. "It was a gift for us to work together on this task."

St. Christopher's Church SAFER CHURCH POLICIES

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Thanks to Cheryl Poussard for the lovely flowers in front of the Parish House, including the gorgeous flower boxes.

Prayers of the People

Thank you all very much for your prayers for our daughter, **Ginny**, and her family for the past 3 years! She and our grandchildren are well and happy. Our family has much to celebrate! Katie and Jeff Waymouth

Please pray for 2 year old **Brayden** who has been diagnosed with stage 4 cancer; for **Ruth Seeler** sister of Jean Seeler-Gifford; for 12 year old **Ian** who is very ill; for Christine's friend **Christine**; for **Cheryl**; for **Matty**; 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. For Marcia's relative **Joyce**, who has just been diagnosed with terminal cancer.

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: Eleanor Simmons; Bill, Leslie and Ryan Steinhoff; Terry and Joan Stevens; Denise Stevenson and Matt Rioux

Attendance

**Saturday, 8/1, Rhythms of Grace, 8
Sunday, 8/2, 9 a.m., 37**

THE *Episcopal* CHURCH



AUGUST 9, 2015 - ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (B)

REMEMBERING HIROSHIMA AND NAGASAKI

This week the international community marks the 70th anniversary of the atomic bombing on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. In August of 1945, at the end of WWII, the United States dropped the world's first two atomic bombs, killing 129,000-246,000 people. The first bomb, "Little Boy," was dropped August 6th on the Japanese city of Hiroshima, and the second, "Fat Man," was dropped August 9th on the Japanese city of Nagasaki.

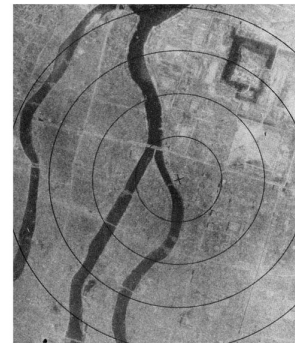
In Hiroshima, the immediate explosion wiped out 90% of the city (5 square miles), and killed 80,000 citizens on impact; however, this devastating blow did not lead to Japanese surrender. Three days after "Little Boy" was dropped on Hiroshima, "Fat Man" descended on Nagasaki. Although "Fat Man" was a stronger bomb than "Little Boy," the bomb missed its target causing destruction to be limited to 2.6 square miles unlike the 5 square miles destroyed in Hiroshima. Even years after these two explosions, Hiroshima and Nagasaki experienced tremendous losses due to radiation poisoning.

Over half of Hiroshima was rebuilt following the attack in 1945, although one section, Peace Memorial Park, will be forever set aside in remembrance of the destruction from WWII. Every year on August 6th, thousands of people gather at this park to join in various religious services to commemorate the bombing.

Through a General Convention resolution in 1997, The Episcopal Church expresses sorrow to the Japanese people for the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Today, Hiroshima and Nagasaki finally have radiation levels matching the rest of the World's; however, the painful memory of the atomic bombings will live on much longer. Episcopalians should continue to remember this tragic historic event by promoting reconciliation and remembrance.

Prayer for Hiroshima from the Anglican Diocese of Leicester

God, you are the Father of all the Families of the Earth,
and call the nations to live in peace and unity.
We remember with sorrow the devastating destruction and death
unleashed upon the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.
We pray for the people of Japan,
and all whose lives are disfigured by war.
We pray for ourselves,
the often unwise stewards of the powers of the universe.
Transfigure the lives and cities scarred by conflict
by the revealing of your glory
and move us by your uncreated energies
to advance your sovereign purpose of peace.
This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ,
our light and our salvation. Amen.



Before and after the bombing at Hiroshima,
1945