



THE SIGNPOST WEEKLY

September 27, 2015

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Miriam Acevedo, D.Min, M.Div.

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

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

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Calendar

Sunday, Sept 27:

- Sunday School Classes 10 am
- Eucharist Service, 8 a.m. AND 10:15 A.M.
- Bible Study, 9 a.m.
- Family Promise Guests arrive, 5:30 p.m.

Monday, September 28:

- Monday morning Yoga at 9 am.

Tuesday, September 29

- Al-Anon, 5:30 p.m.
- Women's Bible Study at 10 am
- Yoga with Miriam at 6:30

Thursday, October 1

- Thursday Evening Bible Study

Saturday, October 3

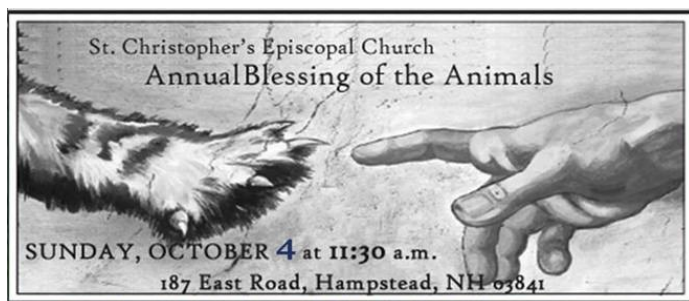
- Rhythms of Grace, 2 p.m.

Sunday, October 4

- BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS, 11:30 p.m.
- **Sunday School Classes 10 am**
- Eucharist Service, 8 a.m. and 10:15 A.M.
- Bible Study, 9 a.m.

Sunday School Kick Off Luncheon

Thank you so much to everyone who contributed to our delicious lunch on Sunday. What a wonderful celebration we shared for the start of Sunday School. *Danielle LeClair*, Sunday School Coordinator



The annual Blessing of the Animals will take place on October 4, the feast of St. Francis. I will begin to bless the animals at 11:30 and will continue until the last animal is blessed. As I did last year I am asking for contributions for the shelter, All Better Pets in Manchester. **This is completely optional!** We are looking for contributions of Purina dog and

cat food, old towels and blankets. I will deliver the contributions to the shelter later that day.

Stewardship Heads Up

Our annual pledge drive begins Sunday October 11 with a celebration of gratitude. It runs for six weeks until November 22, the Sunday before Thanksgiving. Your pledges make it possible for us to continue to serve God in this part of his kingdom. *Miriam*

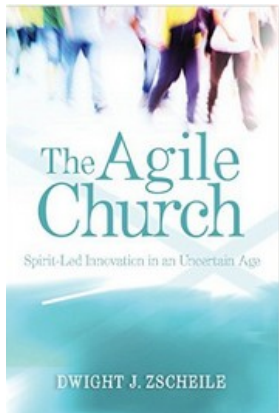
"We pray for the members of St Christopher's and their ministries both in, and outside, the church" - Now it's time to put our money where our mouth is! The Outreach Committee wants to support the charities our members hold dear, so **we have created a grant program.** If you are involved in a non-St Christopher's charity that benefits children or the hungry, we want to hear from you. Outreach is offering small grants (\$50 - \$500) that members can use toward supporting their outside ministries. Applications will be accepted until October 31st, monies will be distributed in mid-November, in time for any year end or holiday projects. Forms are in the lobby of the church. Please contact [Michele Christian](mailto:Michele.Christian@stchristophers.org) for more information.

New Worship Service for Families

I am adding to our worship schedule a new service for families who cannot make church on Sunday for whatever reasons. The weekly service will be on Saturdays at 4 pm beginning October 17. The service will take about 30 minutes. I am looking for families to commit to attending this service as often as they can--I realize that every week might not be possible given the busy schedules of most families. Currently I have several families who are interested. Please note that this service does not take the place of Sunday school on Sundays. If your children are enrolled in Sunday school it is important for them to attend on Sunday. *Miriam*

[The Agile Church: Spirit Led Innovation in an Uncertain Age](#) by Dwight J. Zscheile

Zscheile is an Episcopal priest and in this book he, “takes one page from the Bible and another from Silicon Valley to help churches to become more innovative and ultimately more faithful.” The Wardens and I have read the book and each member of the Bishop’s Committee has been given a copy. I purposefully bought four extra copies of the book to give [free] to anyone who would be interested in reading it. Just let me know, I will have the copies with me on Sunday. Miriam



Parish Friends,

As an active member of Find A Grave, an on-line grave record organization, I have created an on-line record and Celebration for Jean Porter at the Plaistow Cemetery using excerpt's of the Celebration of the Life of Patricia "Jean" Porter at

FIND A GRAVE St. Christopher's. I have also joined her husband Arthur L.

Porter [to her site](#). Names of living family members were omitted at this writing. You may add a photo, virtual flowers, and a note if you wish in her memory. [Ed Hale](#), Member St Christopher's, Find A Grave Contributor



Here is the [link to the fourth edition](#) of “The Spirited Life Today” show. It features Roclyn Porter who is Jean Porter’s daughter in law. It is a

discussion of [Family Mediation and Juvenile Services](#)’ work in the surrounding community with troubled youth and families. Programs include Family Mediation, Active Parenting, Substance Abuse Education; Anger Management/Emotion Regulation; Theft/-Shoplifting Education; Community Service; Restitution; Tobacco Education.

This Week’s Signpost attachment: Children’s Advocacy

Fall is a time when certain days are lifted up to help us observe the importance of addressing children’s health and education as well as the impact of poverty on the lives of children. Caring for children is part of living into the Five Marks of Mission as we are called to respond to human need by loving service and transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and to pursue peace and reconciliation. (See attached.)

Internment of George Gallo

Please pray for the repose of Natalie Gallo’s husband, **George Gallo**. There will be a grave side service at our Memorial Garden for George Gallo, Natalie’s husband, on October 10 at 2:30. Everyone is invited. Miriam

Prayers of the People

Please pray for **Natalie Gallo** as she mourns the loss of her husband, George; **Arthur Kearley** who had surgery for lung cancer this week; **Diane Kolbe; Carmen Acevedo; Jess; Kate; Scott Freeman** who is Fred Black’s stepson; **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 **Brenda;** 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: Please pray for Del’s cousins, **Daniel, Matthew** and **Sandra,** for **Paul.**

Parish Cycle of Prayer: Deb Carpenter; Rebecca, Lyle, Megan, and Mathew Carnahan; Jennifer, Nick, Nikos, and Alexandria Cassotis; Mark and Ingrid Chapman.

Attendance

Tuesday, Sept 15, 3; Thursday, Sept 17, 9
Sunday, Sept 20, 8 a.m., 24; 10:15 a.m., 66

[What Would Jesus Do about the Refugee Crisis?](#)

[September 11, 2015](#) / [Rob Hirschfeld](#)

In his [recent blog posting](#), Tending the Vine, Bishop Rob asked, [What Would Jesus Do about the Refugee Crisis?](#) Bishop Rob included many informative links to help us, “to...learn more about the causes and the extent of this, the worse refugee crisis since World War II. One resource is the website for the United Nations High Commissioner on Refugees (UNHCR), which maintains a web portal for aid groups in the region to share information and coordinate response: [http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/region al.php](http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/regional.php).” He goes on to provide additional resources. [“Refugees From Syria, a Cultural Orientation Backgrounder.”](#) offers provides more information about the unique experiences, trauma, and needs of the Syrian refugee population :<http://www.culturalorientation.net/learning/backgro unders>. Or, watch The Episcopal Migration Ministries’ video on “Syria’s Refugees: The Episcopal Church’s response:” <https://vimeo.com/114033002>. “To provide meaningful relief to those affected, I encourage our parishes and people to make contributions or learn more about these partners, who are equipped to help:

Episcopal Migration Ministries

Episcopal Migration Ministries is The Episcopal Church’s foremost response to refugee crises. Working in partnership with offices and groups within the church as well as with governments and non-government organizations (NGOs), Episcopal Migration Ministries assures safe passage and provides vital services for thousands of refugee families upon their arrival in America: English language and cultural orientation classes, employment services, school enrollment, and initial assistance with housing and transportation. For each family, the goal is self-reliance and self-determination. Learn more at: <http://www.episcopalchurch.org/page/episcopal-migration-ministries>.

Episcopal Relief & Development

Episcopal Relief & Development is the compassionate response to human suffering in the world. Hearing God's call to seek and serve Christ in all persons and to respect the dignity of every human being, Episcopal Relief & Development serves to bring together the generosity of Episcopalians and others with the needs of the world. You can make a gift or learn more at <https://www.episcopalrelief.org>.

Welcoming America

Welcoming America is a national nonprofit that helps communities achieve prosperity by becoming more welcoming toward immigrants and all residents. National Welcoming Week is celebrated September 12-20. To find events in NH and across the US, visit: <http://www.welcomingamerica.org>.

Ascentria Care Alliance

Ascentria is the local community service organization, which works most closely with the resettlement of refugees, serving their needs socially, spiritually and economically. Inspired by their faith-based heritage, Ascentria “envisions a world in which everyone can realize their fullest potential and share with others in need.” More at <http://www.ascentria.org>.

The Missionary Society

The Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church pools its members together to advocate for solutions to a variety of pressing issues, including domestic poverty, environmental protection and global justice. More at <http://www.episcopalchurch.org/page/missionary-society>.

THE *Episcopal* CHURCH



SEPTEMBER 27, 2015 - EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (B)

CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY

Fall is a time when certain days are lifted up to help us observe the importance of addressing children's health and education as well as the impact of poverty on the lives of children. Caring for children is part of living into the Five Marks of Mission as we are called to respond to human need by loving service and transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and to pursue peace and reconciliation.

We invite your congregation to examine these topics and ask, "How am I responding to children's needs in my community and throughout the world?" While the observances have specific dates, you can choose to mark them anytime this fall.

October 16-18 - Children's Sabbath

The 2015 National Observance of Children's Sabbaths, "How Long Must I Cry for Help? Bending the Arc toward God's Vision of Justice for Children," will focus on real solutions to significantly reduce child poverty now. This is a way for faith communities to celebrate children as sacred gifts of the Divine, and provides the opportunity for congregations to renew and live out their moral responsibility to care, protect and advocate for all children. <http://www.childrensdefense.org/programs/faithbased/faith-based-action-programs-pages/childrens-sabbaths/National-Observance-of-Children-s-Sabbaths.html>



United Nations Observances

The Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society and Episcopal congregations and dioceses refer to UN observances and special days to highlight areas of ministry of the church and to focus on the spiritual and material needs of Episcopalians worldwide. Through social media and participation in live events at the UN, Episcopalians raise awareness of girls' rights and concerns, birth registration and child trafficking, in partnership with other non-governmental organizations, the UN Working Group on Girls and UN agencies including UNICEF and UN Women. Episcopalians also use these observances to honor the children in their midst, highlighting their particular needs, ministries and contributions within their communities.

October 11 - International Day of the Girl Child

The empowerment of and investment in girls is critical for economic growth, and the achievement of the new UN Sustainable Development Goals that will be adopted this September. They include the eradication of poverty and extreme poverty, as well as the meaningful participation of girls in decisions that affect them. <http://www.un.org/en/events/girlchild/>

November 20 - Universal Children's Day

This day was the date of adoption of the UN Declaration of the Rights of the Child (1959) and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989). It is a day on which we can recall the ideals and objectives of the United Nations Charter as they relate to the world's children and the promises the world has made to children: that we would do everything in our power to protect and promote their rights to survive and thrive, to learn and grow, to make their voices heard and to reach their full potential. <http://www.un.org/en/events/childrenday/>