

Christ Episcopal Church
506 Mulberry
Madison, IN 47250



December 2019
Volume 2019, Issue 12
<https://cecmadison.org>

Happening at Christ Church

CELEBRATIONS, FUN, AND OUTREACH

Coffee Hour this Sunday (December 1) is a Pitch-In

Bread and Soups are requested, but if you do have any Thanksgiving feast left-overs, they will be welcome, too! We're planning card and board games; so do bring your favorites!

Two Opportunities for Advent Learning!

The Prophets and The People: Sundays Between the Services, 9:10-9:45 a.m. Read what Jesus and the disciples read! See how these texts have been used to inform our Christian faith! Job, Moses, Esther, and Isaiah will all have something to tell us.

Living Well through Advent: Mondays 5:15-6:30 p.m. What is peace? How do we understand God's peace? How does God's peace challenge and transform us?

THANK YOU!

So many of our members are working hard to create events, help our neighbors, and support our ministries! For this month's saints, see page 6.

DECEMBER MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- The *Ladies' Lunch Bunch* will meet Thursday, December 5. 11 a.m.
- *Vestry* meets December 17.
- The Christmas Tree Sale starts November 29 and continues until all trees are sold! Come and buy! Come and help!
- The Office will be closed December 25—January 1. There will be one service only on December 29, at 9 a.m.



EPISCOPAL
DIOCESE of
INDIANAPOLIS

Grounded in God's love in Christ, the Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis and its people:

- ✦ Serve as beacons of Christ
- ✦ Offer a generous welcome
- ✦ Stand with the vulnerable and work against injustice
- ✦ Connect with neighbors
- ✦ Develop leaders for today and tomorrow

INDYDIO.ORG

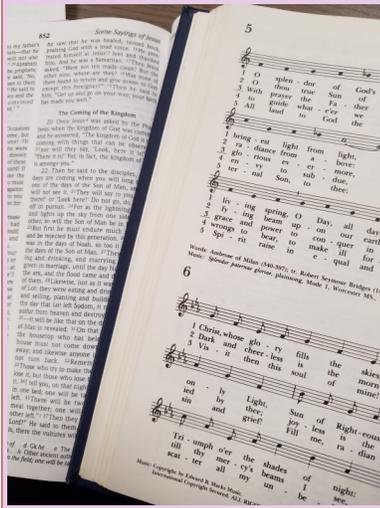
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ONE SERVICE ONLY

Sunday, December 29
All your favorite
Christmas Hymns!

SUNDAY LECTIONARY



Sunday, December 1 (Advent I):
Isaiah 2:1-5; Psalm 122; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:36-44

Hymns: Love astounding; Sleepers wake; Humbly I adore thee; Lo, he comes on clouds descending

Sunday, Dec 8 (Advent II)
Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 72:1-7,18-19; Romans 15:4-13; Matthew 3:1-12

Hymns: Love astounding; (3 more to be announced)

Sunday, Dec 15 (Advent III)
Isaiah 35:1-10; Psalm 146:4-9; James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11

Hymns: Love astounding; (3 more to be announced)

Sunday, Dec 22 (Advent IV)
Isaiah 7:10-16; Psalm 80:1-7,16-18; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-25

Hymns: Love astounding; (3 more to be announced)

Sunday, Dec 29 (1 Christmas)
Isaiah 61:10-62:3; Psalm 147; Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7; John 1:1-18

Each week in Advent, we will sing succeeding verses of:
O Fiery Spirit; and
Light the Light, the Fire of Life

What Are We Reading & Singing?

Who's Helping When?

SERVING SUNDAYS

PLEASE REMEMBER:

If you cannot serve as scheduled, please find a substitute and notify the office by Wednesday of the week preceding the Sunday you are scheduled. Thank you!

Sunday, December 1 (Advent I)

Vestry: Aaron Lynch; **Chalice:** Tabitha Tolbert; **Lessons:** Tabitha Tolbert; **Prayers:** Carolyn Gunter; **Greeters:** Richard & Karen Dickie

Sunday, December 8 (Advent II)

Vestry: Roger Williams; **Chalice:** Deb Wickham; **Lessons:** Ted Todd; **Prayers:** Aaron Lynch; **Greeters:** Roger & Jane Williams.

Sunday, December 15 (Advent III)

Vestry: Tabitha Tolbert; **Chalice:** Allen Watson; **Lessons:** Jane Williams; **Prayers:** Bill Marvell; **Greeters:** Pam Jones, Jan Campbell

Sunday, December 22 (Advent IV)

Vestry: Aaron Lynch; **Chalice:** Matt Vosmeier; **Lessons:** Deb Wickham; **Prayers:** Karen Scroggin; **Greeters:** Fred Scroggin & Cindy Armstrong

Sunday, December 29 (Christmas I)

Vestry: Dave Sloane; **Chalice:** Tabitha Tolbert; **Lessons:** Karen Scroggin; **Prayers:** Ted Todd; **Greeters:** Richard & Karen Dickie

Altar Guild: Richard & Karen Dickie, Beth Owens

THE RECTOR'S BLOG

It's been a pretty incredible few months since I came back from my August vacation in Greenland. Somewhere along the line, I am convinced, the Holy Spirit showed up with a vengeance (the good kind—God's justice!). We started getting strong positive feedback after the cleansing ritual at Jaycee Park; then I got to talking with the Madison Area Arts Alliance about possibly renting and using the Rectory (that didn't work out but it still is leading to some exciting options for us); after that I found a large group of folks very interested in exploring whether to offer programs and, ultimately, a residential program for LGBTQ youth who have been evicted from their homes, in that same Rectory; and of course the amazing and wonderful St Cecilia Arts Festival just a week ago, and the Christmas Tree Sale about to start—there's so much going on that is positive and hopeful around here. I am so very grateful!

You might think that our budget woes would bring me down, especially as we have reached the point where further cuts are impossible (unless CEC switches to part-time clergy, which I don't think anyone wants), but somehow instead of sadness or distress, what I mostly feel is joy and hope!

How is this possible? Because I KNOW that God is here, that Jesus hears our prayers, and the Holy Spirit has work for us to do together!

How do I know this? One of the signs of God's presence in any situation is that things just start falling into place, and exuberance begins to increase. And that is precisely what I see happening here.

Now, I said the Madison Area Arts Alliance will not be renting the Rectory; they have signed a lease two blocks away, and will call it "The SPOT" - "Supporting People of Talent." The whole focus is on kindness. Just 62 steps away there will be a large mural on the theme of kindness (we're invited to participate in its creation). The Mulberry Street Connector is about to become a center of joy! (And there is still the possibility of using the Rectory for overflow programs., and they have promised to help us find a tenant for our space.) One never knows what's right around the corner. Keep praying! Keep hoping! Keep the Faith!

VESTRY REPORT

WE ARE IN BUDGET MODE! The Finance Committee is working on next year's budget, and we will be contacting you soon to ask for your pledge for 2020. Thank you to all who have caught up on your pledges for this year!

One of our main concerns is being able to pay our staff in 2020 – including Mother Evelyn – and continuing to meet our financial obligations to the diocese, our service providers and suppliers, and to provide support for the Clearinghouse House of Hope food pantry and other formation, mission, and evangelism opportunities that may arise. If you are able to increase your pledge over prior years, we would very much appreciate it.

WE ARE RECRUITING for 3 new vestry terms to start in February 2020. If interested, please speak to Deb Bunton, Karen Scroggin, or Dave Sloane. Thank you.

WHO'S ON VESTRY?

Senior Warden: Karen Scroggin

Members at Large:

Aaron Lynch, Tabitha Tolbert, Deb Bunton, Peggy Hans, David Sloane, Roger Williams

Clerk: Jacquie Grimes

Ass't Treasurer: Ted Todd

Meetings are open to anyone who wishes to attend. Meetings begin at 6:00 p.m. on the 3rd Tuesday of each month.

Vestry will meet Tuesday, December 17, at 6:00 p.m.

COMMUNITY EVENTS:

Madison Performing Arts Presents:

The Madison Performing Arts Foundation is pleased to present the *Louisville Brass*, in recital on Tuesday, December 3, at 7:00 p.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church. The concert is free, and the public is warmly invited to attend.

Trinity United Methodist Church invites you to a recital by *classical pianist, Stephanie Pestana*, who recently earned her M. M. from the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. The program will be on Friday, December 6, at 7:00 p.m.

The *Madison Community Band* will present their Christmas program on Tuesday, December 17, at 7:30 p.m. in the Overlook Room of Clifty Inn.

Madison Area Arts Alliance

Holiday "P-ART-y" to be held Friday, Dec. 13, 7-10 p.m. at Thomas Family Winery with "hot jazz, raffles and FUN! Cash Bar.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

On Sundays in Advent, we will hear from the prophets Job, Moses, Esther, and Isaiah, at our "Between the Services" classes at 9:10 a.m., led by Aaron Lynch.

On Monday evenings, we will study the Advent lectionary and consider how to "practice peace" with our whole being.

5:15-6:30 p.m., mentored by Mother Evelyn.

CHRISTMAS EVE & CHRISTMAS DAY

Our *Christmas Eve Service* will be held on Tuesday, December 24, at 7:00 p.m., with festal hymns, candlelight, and, of course, Holy Eucharist!

Christmas Day dawns with a quiet and meditative Service of Holy Eucharist at 8:00 a.m.

DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT!

Even if you are not planning to purchase a Christmas Tree from us this year, please consider buying one for a family in need!

Do you want to double the impact of your charity giving? Christ Episcopal Church will accept donations for trees to be purchased for needy families identified by the Salvation Army. We will deliver them free-of-charge, too!

Your donation will help Christ Church as well as provide Christmas cheer for families who could not otherwise afford or transport a tree! That's how you *double your impact!*



A Joyful Christmas

**TELL YOUR
FRIENDS!
BUY YOUR TREE
HERE!**

Darryl Smith reports on Diocesan Convention in November. Here are excerpts:

Convention was held at the Monroe Convention Center on S. College St in Bloomington, with worship beginning at 10 a.m. on Friday, November 15. After worship, the business meeting convened. This had the adoption of convention rules and information on voting for Diocesan positions. Neighborhood conversations between lay and clergy delegates. Balloting began for Commission on Ministry, Waycross Board, General Convention delegates (seven ballots were needed for the full panel of lay delegates!).

On Friday we were addressed by the Very Rev Dr. Kelly Brown Douglas, Dean of Episcopal Divinity School at Union Theological Seminary on “what does it mean to be church today.” What would it mean for the Episcopal Church to lead the way toward a beloved community by confronting the realities of social injustice, and thereby living into the call to be CHURCH. We are called to lead the way and tell the truth. The Episcopal Church was a big supporter of slavery. It did not support north or south. It was led by the wealthy slave holders. What needs to be done is to tell history and the truth.

Workshops I attended:

DIY Communications for Congregations, led by Kathleen Moore-Zebendon

Many things were talked about. I feel we as a church do pretty good, but could be better. Especially by forming a communications team or staff to help our priest and office secretary.

Growing Courageous Neighbors, led by Good Samaritan, Brownsburg

This was a very good workshop. This dealt with how we make new visitors or guests feel welcome to our church. The best way to evaluate this is to ask yourself how would you want to be treated if you were a stranger at a church in a different city. Because you probably wouldn't return if it was an undesirable experience.

On Saturday, November 16, we had Holy Eucharist led by the Rt. Rev. Jennifer Baskerville-Burrows, Bishop of the Diocese of Indianapolis. It was a beautiful service that was half done in English and Spanish. A little difficult to follow and understand if you don't speak or read Spanish, but still a beautiful service.

Mother Evelyn: I attended a workshop to introduce the *College for Congregational Development* and I have to tell you, it was very enlightening! We will do one of the exercises, probably in January. This program has revitalized churches in several dioceses over the last ten years, drawing on the strengths and challenges so many of us are so very familiar with. In some ways, it sounds a lot like the “SWOT” exercise the Vestry did last year (and which led to the Christmas Tree Sale this year!). I also went to a workshop on *Becoming Beloved Community*. Although our featured speaker was unable to attend, we had a good discussion of transforming churches through deep conversations about hard topics. Like racism and White Supremacy. And we talked about widening the diversity of our *music*.

ALL THE FEELS

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Worship Schedule:

Sunday:

8:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist

10:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist with music

Wednesday:

6:00 p.m.— Evensong

Regular Meetings:

Third Tuesdays, 6:00 p.m.— Vestry

First Thursdays: (December 5)

- 10:00 a.m.—Prayers and Squares
(**NO MEETING this month**)
- 11:00 a.m.— Ladies' Lunch Bunch (*Carpool at 10 a.m.!*)

Christian Formation:

Sundays at 9:10 a.m. in the Great Hall: Job, Moses, Esther, & Isaiah

Mondays at 5:15-6:30 p.m. in the Great Hall: Practicing Peace with all your Heart, Soul, Mind, and Strength

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We continue to thank our saints who have given above and beyond.

St. Cecilia went off without a hitch on her feast day, and our audience was the largest yet! Music, poetry, art, food—what a beautiful evening! We thanked the planners and plotters by name in last month's Epistle, so this time we want to express our appreciation for Charlotte (our custodian), Jacquie Grimes, Barry Brown, Sarah Vosmeier, Belinda Vernon, Tabitha Tolbert, Dave Sloane, Bert Fitzgerald, Robin Sloane, Nancy Watson, Pam Jones, Cindy Armstrong, Karen Dickie, Patty Trimble, and Deb Bunton for the wonderful reception from set-up to delicious treats to clean-up, Jan Campbell for wonderful decorations and Ann Farnsley for her amazing paintings! Thanks also go to Roger and Jane Williams, Allen Watson and Jan C for lighting the garden.

Speaking of church, kudos to the Altar Guild members who have made sure we are ready to worship all year round: Beth Owens, the Dickies, Carolyn Gunter, Deb Wickham, Brenda Dietrich, Kathy Williams, Cindy Armstrong, Brenda Sundt, Patty Trimble, and Pam Jones.

We also want to thank Jim Schell for serving as a chalice-bearer. He needs to step down from this ministry, at least for a while, but we won't his years of service!

Finally, this month we honor Darryl Smith and Dave Sloane, Convention delegates. Dave has been elected to the Clergy Disciplinary Board.

JUST FOR A LAUGH

MUSICAL TERMS

ALLEREGRETTO: When you're 16 measures into the piece and suddenly realize you set a too-fast tempo

ANGUS DEI: To play, with a divinely beefy tone

A PATELLA: Accompanied by knee-slapping

APOLOGGIATURA: A composition that you regret playing

APPROXIMATURA: A series of notes not intended by the composer, yet played with an "I meant to do that" attitude

APPROXIMENTO: A musical entrance that is somewhere in the vicinity of the correct pitch

DILL PICCOLINI: An exceedingly small wind instrument that plays only sour notes

FERMANTRA: A note held over and over and over and over and...

FIDDLER CRABS: Grumpy string players

FLUTE FLIES: Those tiny insects that bother musicians in outdoor gigs

FRUGALHORN: A sensible and inexpensive brass instrument

GAUL BLATTER: A French horn player

GREGORIAN CHAMP: The title bestowed upon the monk who can hold a note the longest

PLACEBO DOMINGO: A faux tenor

SPRITZICATO: An indication to string instruments to produce a bright and bubbly sound

TEMPO TANTRUM: What an elementary school orchestra is having when it's not following the conductor