

Christ Church Episcopal

Hudson, Ohio



a Parish of the
Diocese of Ohio

THE COMMUNICANT

June 2011



Many Ministries

"June is busting out all over"

Carousel, Rogers and Hammerstein

Friends:

At staff meeting the other day, Nancy Sitek presented the June calendar for review. When we finished making sure all of the dates and times were correct, I had this feeling of being overwhelmed! Wow!! June is usually the time of year when things begin to slow down. But, here at Christ Church, things are "busting out all over"!

First, there are the normal programs that carry on from month to month: Sunday services, Bible studies, Scouts, and support groups.

But, then the choir has extra rehearsals this month in preparation for their pilgrimage to England in July and August. Keep the members of the choir in your prayers as they make ready for a week long ministry of leading worship at the Cathedral in Bristol, and their concerts at Bath Abbey and the Cathedral in Canterbury.

A number of good souls, both old and young are setting forth in the middle of the month for a Mission Trip to Charleston, West Virginia. During the week of June 12, these members of the parish will be assisting the local Habitat chapter in building a new home for a partner family. I am confident that these

folks will return with stories of transformation about how God moved during their week of ministry.

At the end of the month, thirty participants from all over the country, will join a faculty of fourteen for the inaugural Festival of Liturgical Arts of the Western Reserve (FLAWR). This is a ministry that has been in the process of discernment and planning for the past two years. Some of the finest preachers and musicians in America are coming to Hudson to celebrate the liturgy of the church through worship, education and fellowship. There will be workshops, master classes, and opportunities for you to participate in the festival.

The festival runs from June 22 through the 25th. Each day there will be occasions for you to worship with those who have come to study. You will have a chance to hear some awesome preaching, fantastic music, and be moved by the various expressions of worship. I trust that every member of the parish will take part in experiencing the festival first hand.

Finally, my apologies to my good friend, Chub Russell. It seems that in the last edition of *The Communicant*, I spelled his name wrong! One "b", not two.

Blessings, Brian

Of Special

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Sunday Summer Schedule

8:00 am—Chapel

10:00 am—Church

**Make A
Note Of It!**

Liturgy and Music

Festival of Liturgical Arts of the Western Reserve Making Worship a Transformational Experience

The Festival of Liturgical Arts of the Western Reserve (FLAWR) was created for clergy and musicians who plan and execute worship in parishes and churches. The inaugural festival will take place here at Christ Church, June 22-25. Currently there are thirty participants signed up for the event from all over the country. The mission of the festival is to celebrate the liturgy of the church through worship, education and fellowship by bringing the leading preachers, teachers and musicians together to offer their gifts and share their experiences.

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FLAWR is a synthesis of worship, workshops, master classes and discussion for those who are devoted to the continual development of their craft. Musicians meet together frequently. Preachers meet together frequently. But in very few instances are all of these leaders brought together to create, disseminate, discuss, and wrestle with the issues of how and why we “do what we do”.

The liturgy of the church is ancient, yet modern and ever-evolving. This evolution is cultivated by liturgists – the scholars, clergy, musicians, artists and creative minds who work together to balance the traditional and the new. Through this collaboration we draw on their gifts to inspire and create a new generation of passionate churchgoers, young and old alike.

Faculty for the Festival will include: The Rev. Dr. Mitties McDonald DeChamplain, Trinity Church Professor of Preaching at The General Theological Seminary in New York; The Rev. Dr. Paul Westermeyer, Professor of Church Music at Luther Seminary, Saint Paul, Minnesota; Dr. Gerre Hancock, Organist and Master of Choristers Emeritus, Saint Thomas Church in New York City; Dr. C. M. Shearer, Choral Director of the Canton Symphony and Chorus Master of Opera Cleveland; The Cleveland Jazz Orchestra and The Canton Symphony Chorus. The coordinators for the Festival are Nicole Keller and Brian Suntken.

While all of the worship services are open to the public, please make a note of the Jazz Vespers service on Friday, June 24 at 8:00 pm led by The Cleveland Jazz Orchestra in their first appearance here at Christ Church. This surely will be one of the highlights of the Festival. For more information on the five day festival, visit the web site at www.flawr.org.



Let's Get Radical About Hospitality

How welcome do our visitors feel on Sunday mornings? How can we make things easier for parents to calm young children during worship? How easy is it for visitors to navigate the parking lots and entrances? How accessible are the various areas of the church? These questions and many more are being tackled by an enthusiastic committee that is looking to get your ideas!

During the Vestry retreat in February, we examined five key themes behind what constitutes a healthy parish and how those would apply at Christ Church Episcopal. These themes are discussed in much detail in "Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations" by Robert Schnase. One of the key themes was Radical Hospitality, which Schnase describes as follows: "Churches that practice *Radical Hospitality* sense a calling and responsibility to pray, plan and work to invite others and to help them feel welcome and to support them in their faith journey. Out of genuine love for Christ and for others, their members, staff and pastors take the initiative to invite, welcome, include, and support newcomers and help them grow in faith as they become part of the body of Christ. *Radical* describes that which is drastically different from ordinary practices, outside the normal, that which exceeds expectations and goes the second mile" (Five Practices Workbook, page 9).

Are we exceeding expectations when it comes to hospitality? Do you have any radical ideas to share?

Amy Sonntag and Doug Harvey are leading a Radical Hospitality committee that will be working on a number of initiatives to make Christ Church more hospitable. Examples include:

- Improving Navigation for Visitors (Interior and Exterior)
- Improving Accessibility for Members and Visitors
- Creating a Cry Room / Mother's Room
- Evaluating Options for Improving the Nursery

If any of you would be interested in participating on or contributing ideas to this committee, please contact Amy Sonntag (amysonntag@me.com) or Doug Harvey (marcieanddoug@yahoo.com) and we will look forward to hearing your radical ideas. Thanks in advance!

Vacation Bible School ~ July 11-15



"Churches that practice *Radical Hospitality* sense a calling and responsibility to pray, plan and work to invite others and to help them feel welcome and to support them in their faith journey."

Pentecost: Come and Catch the Spirit! June 12

The Feast of Pentecost, the Greek name given for the Jewish Feast of Weeks, is celebrated fifty days after Easter and remembers the coming of the Holy Spirit descending upon the disciples gathered in Jerusalem. Pentecost ranks, after Easter, as the second festival of the Church (Oxford Dictionary of the Church) and is sometimes referred to as the birthday of the church. We will celebrate Pentecost in grand style on June 12 with festive hymns, kites, uplifting lessons from the Scriptures, and a few other surprises!

It is our custom at Christ Church to wear red that day in celebration of the Spirit. Since Anniversary Sunday also falls in June 12, we will take the annual family picture as well right after worship. Invite your friends and neighbors to enjoy this wonderful service.

Systems Campaign Update

Progress on our Systems Campaign projects continues. The replacement of the old cold and hot water piping to the first floor rooms of the Chapel and the Old Kitchen continues. Replacement of Parish Hall furnaces with air conditioning is underway and should be complete by the end of May. We are trying to accommodate a Mama Duck who is sitting on ten eggs in the courtyard between Beebe House and the Chapel. The ducklings should hatch in the third week of May. So far, Mama is ignoring the construction activity.* Engineering work is underway on air conditioning for the Chapel. We have let a contract to cap the chimney between the Men's and Women's rest rooms, and to replace the flat roof between Beebe House and the Chapel. Then, this summer, we will repair the ceiling and walls in the second floor hallway by the Upper Room. Gabe Lefebvre, Project Manager

*Mama Duck successfully fledged 5 darling ducklings.

The family departed for more “watery” quarters on Tuesday, May 24.

Systems Campaign Financial Summary, Nancy Sistik, Parish Administrator

January 1 – May 15, 2011

\$16,759.00	Final Payment for Phase One heating in Beebe House
445.00	Glass Block Windows with venting for water heater
1,214.24	Electrical upgrades to Beebe House basement
438.09	Small supplies, phone reimbursement
1,402.32	Plumbing Permit/supplies including high efficiency hot water heater
90.00	zoning certificate/minor alteration permit
61.62	plumbing supplies Beebe House
3,923.28	electrical upgrading Beebe House basement
1,050.00	drawings for plumbing upgrades
787.50	drywall installation Beebe House basement to restore fire wall
127.83	small supplies
1,075.00	43 hrs. plumbing work
487.50	masonry work Beebe House basement
130.52	reimbursement to project manager for telephone & small supplies
7,000.00	equipment purchase HVAC Phase II
<u>171.02</u>	small supplies purchase
\$35,162.92	

Easter Offering Assists Others

Christ Church members gave generously this year for the annual Easter offering. We collected a total of \$4,860.00. Those monies were disbursed in the following ways:

- \$860.00 is on its way to St. George’s College in Jerusalem, Israel
- \$2,000.00 has been sent to Habitat for Humanity of Summit County
- \$2,000.00 has been designated to be used for the Christ Church Mission Trip this month to West Virginia.

A **BIG** thank you to everyone who gave so generously to support these worthy ministries.

Thrice Blessed

Once blessed. The Rev. Kay Rackley spent many hours in the fall of 2010 pastoring to Franklin Lane. Franklin was a former Episcopalian who left the church when women began to be ordained. Imagine his first reaction when Kay arrived after Christ Church was called by his family as he neared death. Kay won Franklin back and he died giving thanks for Kay and the ordination of women! We give thanks to Kay!

Twice blessed. In early May of this year, we were contacted by Suzanne Franklin, Executrix of the Franklin Lane Estate. Franklin had changed his will during the last three months of his life and designated Christ Church to receive 10% of his estate. Suzanne personally delivered the check in the amount of \$10,598.68 which was designated for the Systems Campaign by Franklin.

Thrice blessed? If you have not done so already, please consider naming Christ Church Episcopal in your will. Designations in any percentage or amount are warmly received and deeply appreciated. The Finance Committee is hosting a seminar on Estate Planning this fall and you can learn just how easy it is to remember your faith family in your will.

The Mission Trip is a Go! June 12-18

A hearty bunch of souls are heading to Charleston, West Virginia on Sunday, June 12 for a week long mission trip to assist the local Habitat chapter in building a new home for a partner family. There is still time for you to be part of this fantastic and transforming adventure. Don’t wait another minute. Contact Len Harrison at harrison13n@gmail.com for more information and registration. On Sunday, June 12, the Day of Pentecost, we will commission those persons heading out on the Mission Trip during the 10:00 am service.

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Stewardship

2011 Christ Church Episcopal Stewardship Campaign

Planning for this year's Christ Church Episcopal Stewardship Campaign is well underway. To date Bob Madison, Ruth Andrews, Steve Portalupi, Marilyn Hansen, Lou Young, Charlie Haake and Dan Carter have agreed to be on the Campaign Committee. Initial responsibilities for the team include Steve and Dan serving as Co-Chairs, Lou spearheading the Campaign messaging, Bob helping to organize Fall informational meetings for the Congregation, and fully availing ourselves of Ruth, Marilyn and Charlie's expertise and knowledge. We are also grateful for our Junior Warden and Vestry member, Lis Hugh, generously agreeing to help by overseeing our Campaign letters and articles, and for Guy Wylie volunteering to write a newsletter article. We hope to add several more Committee members and another Co-Chair as the Campaign progresses.

"We're all in this together and as one body in Christ our Stewardship endeavors will be an abundant success."

In considering the mission of the Stewardship Campaign, we are drawn to the blessings each of us enjoy in our own God given strengths, interests, talents, gifts and abilities. We acknowledge and rejoice in the generous contributions already made by so many whether it be in your love and support for each other, the donation of your time, talent and treasure, or through the many other ways you serve the Church and the Lord. Our goal is to personally reach out to each of you, thank you for your service and support, and encourage each of you to prayerfully consider where the Lord leads you in the use and sharing of your own blessings in this life. We're all in this together and as one body in Christ our Stewardship endeavors will be an abundant success.

Faithfully yours,
Dan Carter, Co-Chair

Ancient and Modern

Love Ourselves Properly

We do not exist for ourselves alone, and it is only when we are fully convinced of this fact that we begin to love ourselves properly and thus also love others. What do I mean by loving ourselves properly? I mean, first of all, desiring to live, accepting life as a very great gift and a great good, not because of what it gives us, but because of what it enables us to give to others.

Source: *No Man Is an Island*, Thomas Merton

Advance Confidently

I learned this, at least, by my experiment: that if one advances confidently in the direction of his dreams, and endeavors to live the life which he has imagined, he will meet with a success unexpected in common hours. He will put some things behind, will pass an invisible boundary; new, universal, and more liberal laws will begin to establish themselves around and within him; or the old laws be expanded, and interpreted in his favor in a more liberal sense, and he will live with the license of a higher order of beings. In proportion as he simplifies his life, the laws of the universe will appear less complex, and solitude will not be solitude, nor poverty poverty, nor weakness weakness. If you have built castles in the air, your work need not be lost; that is where they should be. Now put the foundations under them.

Source: *Walden*, Henry David Thoreau

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Nathan Wiles, Sexton

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Lee Irving
Linda Martin
John Heer
Melinda Nawn
Doug Harvey
Amy Sonntag

Dick Potts, Treasurer, ex officio
Tammy Kline, Clerk, ex officio

Christ Church Hudson is a Parish of the
Episcopal Diocese of Ohio
www.dohio.org

Sunday Summer Service Schedule

8:00 am Rite I—Chapel

10:00 am Rite II—Church

9:15 Formation

5:15 Second Sunday
Evening Service

“Charlie Chaplin once entered a
Chaplin look-a-like contest &
came in 3rd place! (Remember)
You are you, NOT what critics
say you are!”

God is Love
Rev Run

Relay for Life—June 10 and 11

American Cancer Society "Relay for Life" to be held at Hudson High School

The Hudson Ministerial Association (HMA) is fielding a team so no one church needs to come up with an entire team to cover the 24 hrs on the track. Several local congregations are participating and I hope Christ Church can be counted among them. Sign Up in the Parish Hall to join Tom and me.

Also, though this is a fund raising event, our main emphasis is on participation by members of the various congregations and not so much on raising money although donations are gratefully accepted. Here is what you can do to help with the Relay:

- Consider signing up to walk for 1/2 to 1 hr during the 24 hr time of the event 4PM Friday, June 10-4PM Sat June 11
- Pay the registration fee of \$10 /participant
- Participants need to first create a login at www.RelayforLife.org. Click on Participation. Then register on-line for the Hudson event then scroll down to "find a team" and select Hudson Ministerial Association then follow the directions on that page for luminarias dedicated to honor or remember a loved one touched by Cancer.
- If someone wants to participate but cannot commit to the walk, the Hudson Ministerial association will have a booth to sell snacks, water and soft drinks. Donations to the booth are welcome as well as any offer to help staff the booth.

Thanks a lot, *Gretchen Green*