

# THE COMMUNICANT

## Christ Church Episcopal

*A ministry of the Diocese of Ohio*

*Seeking to be a welcoming community of faith, grounded  
in the gospel of Jesus Christ, serving Hudson and beyond.*

**March**



**2023**

# WITNESS *at the* CROSS

CHRIST CHURCH & FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
LENTEN SERIES  
AND SUPPER

Wednesday Evenings in March  
6:00–7:30pm

The evening will begin with dinner at 6:00. We will then watch a 12 minute video from the DVD series "Witness the Cross" by Dr. Amy-Jill Levine over dessert, with plenty of time for conversation afterwards.

Dr. Levine is an Orthodox Jew who is a New Testament scholar. She is brilliant, humorous, and brings new insight to the New Testament. This series invites us to "be present at the cross" with the variety of characters who accompanied Jesus.

So we know how many people to expect for dinner, please sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/lentenseries23>.

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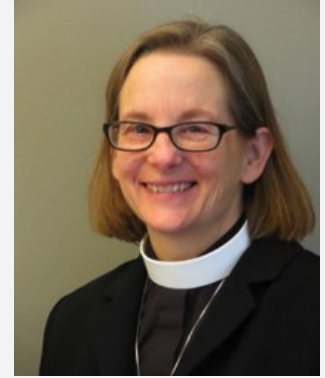
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## THE RECTOR'S REFLECTIONS



Dear Friends,

At the vestry retreat in late January, your vestry spent a good bit of time simply getting to know each other. We found connections between each other that we did not know about and heard stories that deepened our relationships. Bible studies helped us share stories and think deeply together about topics like gratitude and generosity. At Potluck Theology in February, we all brought favorite dishes from our childhood to share and told stories about those dishes and the people who inspired them. At the end of both the vestry retreat and Potluck Theology, we were amazing at all we had learned about each other. We worship together, enjoy coffee hour together, and work side by side in many ministries, and yet often we don't really know each other.

The vestry hopes to help us deepen our relationships with each other over the next year and there will be a variety of opportunities to do that. But this Lent, as a spiritual discipline, I invite each of us to talk with one person each Sunday who we do not know very well. Where did they grow up? What brought them to Christ Church? What is their favorite subject in school? What are they reading these days? The conversation topics are endless. If we spend Lent truly interested in getting to know each other better, we will arrive at Easter a stronger and more vibrant community that is ready to make an Easter difference in the world.

Blessings,

Charlotte

### Rector's Contact Information:

Contact Charlotte by email at [charlotte.reed@christchurchhudson.org](mailto:charlotte.reed@christchurchhudson.org), by phone in the church office: **330-650-4359**, or by cell phone: **937-925-5200** (*before 9pm please, unless it's an emergency*). This number can also be used for text messages. Please give your name so Charlotte knows who is texting.



### "Average Episcopalian"

*A podcast by Annie Greer Hodges and Kate Greer*

Annie and Kate grew up at Christ Church and have teamed up to create a podcast called "The Average Episcopalian." From their description: "Sisters Kate Greer and Annie Hodges attempt to tackle the mystery of God and the life of Jesus Christ with reason, humor, and deep curiosity through the lens of the church they love." Their work can be found on Apple Podcasts <https://tinyurl.com/AverageEpiscopalianApple> and Spotify <https://tinyurl.com/AverageEpiscopalianSpotify>. Give it a listen. You'll be seriously proud!



**March 2nd**  
at 9:30 a.m. in the Chapel

Once a month, a healing service is offered at 9:30 a.m. in the Chapel for anyone who would like to ask prayers for themselves or others. The service includes Holy Eucharist. Join us for this quiet, yet powerful service.


### **Holy Eucharist Service at Laurel Lake** **March 23rd at 11:00 a.m.**

All Christ Church residents of Laurel Lake, and anyone else who would like to join us are invited to gather in The Community Room at Laurel Lake for Eucharist at 11am. For more information, please contact Deacon Gretchen Green at [ghg2@aol.com](mailto:ghg2@aol.com).



### **CHORAL COMPLINE** **AND SUPPER**

**March 19th at 5:00 p.m.**



Choral Compline is “Prayer at the close of the day”, a service with no sermon, mostly chanted, a lot of candles and the choir offering special music. The service usually runs 20-25 minutes and is held on the 3rd Sunday of each month at 5:00 p.m. The service will be followed by supper and conversation in the Parish Hall. We hope you will join us!

# Adult Forum

**March/April Adult Christian Education**  
**Sundays at 9:00 am in the Parish Hall**  
**“Holy Envy” by Barbara Brown Taylor**

In her book “Holy Envy,” Barbara Brown Taylor, an Episcopal priest, describes how she has found the sacred in unexpected places while teaching World Religion at Piedmont College. We will look at two chapters each week, taking time off for Palm Sunday and Easter. Join us for a fascinating conversation that will expand our horizons.

# LADIES NIGHT

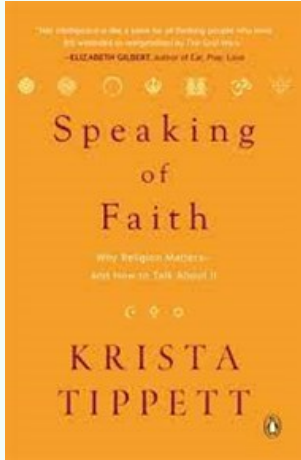
**CCEH Ladies Night Out**  
**Tuesday, March 21st at 6:00 p.m.**

Join your Christ Church sisters for an evening of great food, good conversation, and lots of laughter! We will meet for dinner at Lager and Vine, 30 W. Streetsboro Street in Hudson, on Tuesday, March 21 at 6:00 pm. This is a great way to make and meet new friends and catch up with old ones. Please sign up through the church office or at <https://tinyurl.com/CCEHLadiesnight> by Friday, March 17. Contact Pam Zuhl at (330) 687-1257 or [zuhlfamily@aol.com](mailto:zuhlfamily@aol.com) with questions.

## **Monday Morning Bible Study**

Bible Study meets at Laurel Lake at 8:00 Monday mornings to look at the gospel reading for the upcoming Sunday. Everyone is welcome! For more information contact Jim Lang at [jglang00@gmail.com](mailto:jglang00@gmail.com).





## WORDS AND WISDOM BOOK DISCUSSION

**March 21st at 8:00 p.m. on Zoom**

Women of Christ Church and First Presbyterian are invited to join Sarah Bhatia monthly for a book discussion. For the month of March, we will discuss Speaking of Faith by Krista Tippett. Host of the NPR program, *On Being*, offers a challenging book that is part intellectual autobiography, part rumination on the issues of the day.

Matching with the Christian Education theme for March of faithfulness, we will spend Lent ruminating on what it means to be faithful and how to exercise the spiritual discipline of speaking about our faith using Tippett's book as a starting place for contemplation and discussion. Email Sarah Bhatia to sign up at [sbhatia@christchurchhudson.org](mailto:sbhatia@christchurchhudson.org).

## Children's Corner

### Fruits of the Spirit

We know a tree by the type of fruit it gives. In the same way, people will know we are Christians by how we live and act in the world—our fruit! So what are the Fruits of the Spirit? Galatians tells us they are: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Generosity, Faithfulness, Gentleness and Self-control. This year, we will continue to explore one fruit during each month of the program calendar. Join us to learn more! Our March Faith Formation schedule is below.



### Children's Chapel

For children 3-years old through 2nd grade  
**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH  
DURING THE 10:30 SERVICE.**

Children 3-year-olds through 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade join a leader during the Hymn of Praise at the 10:30 service for a Montessori-based bible lesson and return to their families at the Peace.

#### March 5

- Children's Chapel during the 10:30 service for 3 years –2nd grade
- Youth Group at 4:30p in Youth Room

#### March 12

- Sunday School at 10:15 on Lower Level for PreK-5<sup>th</sup> Grade

#### March 19

- Sunday School at 10:15 on Lower Level for PreK-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade
- Youth Group at 4:30p in Youth Room

#### March 26

- SPRING BREAK**
- Children's Chapel at 10:30 for PreK-5th**



### March 5th & 19th at 4:30 p.m.

Youth Group is an opportunity for students in grades 6-12 to gather for age specific faith formation and fellowship. At each Youth Group, we will do community building activities, take a close look at a Bible passage that explores the month's fruit, discuss how we can live like Jesus, and end our evening with dinner together.

**Notes**  **From**  
*the*  
**Music Director**

**Mario Buchanan, Director of Music and Organist**  
[mario.buchanan@christchurchudson.org](mailto:mario.buchanan@christchurchudson.org)



Photo credit: Andrew Le

Friends,

We are so fortunate to have a lot going on at Christ Church. I would like to invite all of you to our regular Compline services. It is a great time just to be present in the moment with the choir singing, candles lit, and tune out the world. It's sort of like spiritual yoga without stretching! We also have a lot of other people using the building for musical events, including the University of Akron Trumpet Ensemble coming on March 10 at 7pm. Music from the Western Reserve also uses our building regularly. We are so blest with such a wonderful acoustical space!

I am also overjoyed to announce that we will be having brass quintet for Easter Sunday. However, this isn't any ordinary brass quintet. This will be a brass quintet of all of the principal players of The Cleveland Orchestra. Yes, you heard me right. They will be making fantastic music at our Easter services, including an extended prelude before our 11am service. I do hope you can be there to hear these wonderful players and our fantastic choirs!

Always my best,

Mario

Thank you so much to everyone who graciously provided gift cards for food and other sweet gifts as well as sent well wishes on the birth of Suhani. We are truly blessed. I would like to extend a special thank you to all the volunteers who helped keep Christian education going while I was out::

- Marcie Harvey and Sarah Kiener for wonderfully leading the preK-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade class
- Our amazing Vestry members who all took turns spending an evening with our youth at Youth Group
- Each of the amazing cooks who provided food for youth group and Lego Church. I did not see the list of sign-ups so cannot thank you by name, but you know who you are and I hope you know how very thankful I am for your service to the kids!
- Most especially to Courtney Bixby, who fearlessly jumped in to bring together the pageant. Not only did Courtney lead the pageant, she has been teaching our 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grade class and helping to lead Sunday School twice-a-month.



Thank you, thank you, thank you from the bottom of my heart. I am forever grateful for your kindness and care.

- Sarah Bhatia

## Upcoming Music Events at Christ Church

# MUSIC FROM THE WESTERN RESERVE

**SUNDAY, MARCH 12 AT 5:00 P.M.**

**THE CALLISTO STRING QUARTET**

Gregory Lewis, *Violin*      Eva Kennedy, *Cello*  
Hannah Moses, *Cello*      Cameron Daly, *Violin*

Concerts feature a pre-concert chat at 4:30 and a reception following the concert. Single tickets \$25; Laurel Lake residents \$20; under 18 and Student Admission is always free. Purchase tickets online at [www.musicwr.org](http://www.musicwr.org) or at the door the night of the concert. Contact Zsolt Bognár for information at [info@musicwr.org](mailto:info@musicwr.org) or visit their website [www.musicwr.org](http://www.musicwr.org).

### Andrew Le in Concert at Christ Church March 4th at 7:00 pm

Our own Drew Le will be presenting a concert on our Boston baby grand piano on March 4th. We are so fortunate to have such a gifted musician as a parishioner. This concert, along with the concert in May by pianist Kirsten Homdrom (below), will serve as a fundraiser for scholarships for our Young Choristers. These scholarships will be used for them to attend RSCM (Royal School of Church Music) training courses in the summer. More information about those courses can be found on their website: <https://www.rscmamerica.org/summer-2022>.



### Kirsten Homdrom, pianist, in Concert at Christ Church May 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm

Kirsten Homdrom will be returning to Christ Church to give a piano recital on Friday, May 12 at 6:00. Kirsten was a Trinity Scholar at Christ Church from 2007-2009. Kirsten joined the White Memorial staff in May 2015. As Associate Director of Music, Kirsten shares responsibility for the music ministry along with the Director of Music. In addition to playing both the piano and organ during worship, Kirsten directs choral and instrumental ensembles, and accompanies a variety of soloists and groups.

Previously, Kirsten served churches in Indiana and Ohio in both organist and director of music roles. Kirsten has also taught piano and organ to students of all ages, and has performed both in the United States and abroad. She has a passion for ministering to people by sharing God's gift of music in fellowship and faith. Kirsten holds a B.M. in piano performance from Baldwin-Wallace University Conservatory of Music, and a M.M. and D.M.A. in piano performance from the University of Cincinnati College, Conservatory of Music.



## Getting to Know You

Each month we feature a little “getting to know” you vignette of a Christ Church parishioner or family in the Communicant. If you would like to be featured in an issue of The Communicant or know someone who would, please let us know. This month, Eileen Gaston helps us get to know a little bit more about Peter and Nan Ryerson. We look forward to getting to know you better, too!

### Get to Know The Ryersons

The beautiful Good Shepherd stained glass window is the focal point in our new Parish Hall. But have you noticed the small gray plaque on the wall near it? The restoration of the window was a donation from Peter and Nan Ryerson, in memory of their son David. He was a student at the University of Toledo College of Medicine when he died in a plane crash in 1994. The Ryersons have funded a first-year scholarship to the medical school ever since, but they wanted a lasting memorial here at Christ Church. The window (1894) was in the basement, in disrepair. During the Capital Campaign, Guy Wylie asked if its restoration might be a suitable gift. They agreed, the window was shipped to Texas for repair, and the results are here for all to enjoy. Thank you, Ryersons!



Peter, a lifelong Episcopalian, grew up in a suburb of Philadelphia. Out of high school, he served with the U.S. Army in Korea for 14 months. Then he was stationed in Virginia, where he visited a distant relative for Christmas and met Nan, home from college. A mutual fondness for his VW bug and for ice-skating was the happy beginning.

Nan’s childhood included four years in Egypt, when her father served in the OSS (now CIA). She has strong memories of that time, especially being taken to see a belly dancer as a birthday treat. Her parents were Unitarians, but she immediately felt at home in the Episcopal church after she began attending with Peter.

They were married on March 30, 1963 at the Episcopal church in Falls Church, VA, where George Washington worshipped. That’s right - 1963 - they will celebrate their 60th anniversary this month!

Nan and Peter took turns working and going to college. In 1979, he was hired by Akron City Hospital in management systems. In 1989, they formed Ryerson Health Care Consulting, which provided management for emergency and operating rooms in hospitals in 49 states. They shared responsibilities for sales, personnel, oversight, reporting, etc. They retired in 2011.

In 2017, they were seeking a new church home. Nan’s mother lived at Laurel Lake and the first church they visited was Christ Church. They immediately “felt a sense of family” and appreciated the “warm and welcoming atmosphere.” They also liked Charlotte’s caring leadership.

Peter and Nan have a son and family in Dublin, OH. Peter is very active in the VFW and also in SCORE, an organization of retired professionals who advise start-up companies. Nan assists the University of Akron Women’s Committee with scholarship funding and other projects. She’s also interested in historical preservation, antiques, and gardening.

They have two goals for Christ Church: to see the church full, especially with an outreach to veterans. They also encourage a stronger endowment fund, to provide long-term financial stability.

Thank you for the window, and for all else you do for the greater good.

# EASTER FLOWER DONATIONS



Donations for sanctuary flowers are welcome from individuals or families in celebration, as a memorial, or in thanksgiving.

Your gift will be noted in the Easter bulletins provided the necessary information is received in the church office by

**Monday, April 3rd**

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## Christ Church 2023 Easter Flower Donation

NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNT: \_\_\_\_\_

As a memorial to...      In celebration of...      In thanksgiving for...

*(please circle one of the above and provide the details below)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please return with your check payable to Christ Church with  
“Easter Flowers” on the memo line to the office by:

**Monday, April 3rd**





March  
BIRTHDAYS

- Maria Metoki ~ 3/1
- Tom Clark ~ 3/3
- Pat Schron ~ 3/3
- Alexandra Coombs ~ 3/8
- Catherine Ewing ~ 3/9
- Ella Harvey ~ 3/9
- Tom Marks ~ 3/9
- Abigail Bailey ~ 3/10
- Tracey Vaughn ~ 3/10
- Katie Barger ~ 3/11
- Gretchen Green ~ 3/15
- Maxell Rees ~ 3/15
- Sarah Bhatia ~ 3/19
- Daniel Grossoehme ~ 3/20
- Matthew Le ~ 3/21
- Greg Schumacher ~ 3/21
- Ed Wiles ~ 3/21
- James Boazzo ~ 3/22
- John MacMillan ~ 3/22
- Mary Ann Balbach ~ 3/23
- Alex Lindenmeier ~ 3/23
- Sara Althouse ~ 3/24
- Todd Ewing ~ 3/24
- Adrian Ribovich ~ 3/26
- Ruth Anne Belton ~ 3/28
- Jacob Zingery ~ 3/28
- Tom Horner ~ 3/29
- Sarah Fulytar ~ 3/31



March  
Anniversaries

Peter & Nan Ryerson ~ 3/30

Thank you to...

- ... Heather Swift for organizing the Valentine's care packages for our college students and military members for Valentine's Day and to all who helped bake and donated supplies
- ... Tina Monreal for her help with the parochial report
- ... Heather Swift for once again creating the Lenten Devotion Booklets
- ... Linda Irving for baking the King Cakes and other goodies for Mardi Gras Sunday
- ... Len Harrison, the pancake flippers, and all who helped with our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
- ... Sallie Bear for her help covering the office
- ... Ellen Turner, and Jim & Dot Lang for providing meals to our Youth Group
- ... Cathy Agnor and Jeanne McKinny for providing dinner for Lego Church
- ... Doug Swift for cleaning the recessed lights in the church and Bob Zuhl for continuing to replace light bulbs in the building.
- ... Sallie Bear and Pam Zuhl for helping with Ashes to Go



**FOR THE RECORD...**  
Births: Simon Phillips  
Transfers In: Betsy Gianotti

February Vestry Meeting Highlights




The vestry will meet on Tuesday, February 28 at 6:00pm, after the publication of this issue of the Communicant. February vestry highlights will be noted in the April Communicant.



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Hudson, OH 44236

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Fax: 330-655-0695

**On the Web:**

 Find us on Facebook!

[www.christchurchudson.com](http://www.christchurchudson.com)

**Clergy**

The Rev. Charlotte Collins Reed, Rector  
[Charlotte.reed@christchurchudson.org](mailto:Charlotte.reed@christchurchudson.org)

**Affiliated Clergy**

The Rev. Allan Belton, Priest  
The Rev. Daniel Grosseehme, Priest  
The Rev. Gretchen Green, Deacon

**Staff**

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Mario Buchanan, Director of Music/Organist  
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Sarah Bhatia, Director of Christian Education and Youth Ministry,  
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Susie Vanaman, Parish Accountant  
[Svanaman@christchurchudson.org](mailto:Svanaman@christchurchudson.org)  
Gary Cook, Custodian  
Matt Baker, A/V Technician  
Phoebe Hilson, Nursery Attendant  
Lillian Ivey, Nursery Attendant

**Vestry**

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[jamesboazzo@yahoo.com](mailto:jamesboazzo@yahoo.com)

Judy Brookhart, Jr. Warden:  
[judyots@gmail.com](mailto:judyots@gmail.com)

Kathie Balcerzak  
Courtney Bixby  
Greg Daniels  
Andrew Le  
Mark Metoki  
Tina Monreal  
Jacob Phillips

**Christ Church Hudson  
is a Parish of the  
Episcopal Diocese of Ohio  
[www.dohio.org](http://www.dohio.org)**

**Hudson Food Pantry- Laundry Detergent Collection**



The Christ Church monthly offering to the Hudson Food Pantry is liquid or pod laundry detergent, which cannot be purchased with government assistance (SNAP). The Hudson Food Pantry has requested **35 jugs, packs of pod, or detergent sheets** by March 23 for the March distribution. Detergent can be left on the bench inside the back door, or outside the door if it is locked. Thank you for helping support the Hudson Food Pantry!