
The Christ Bearer

Newsletter of St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

Vol. 17, No. 2

February 2011

From the Rector:

In June of 1998, officials of the Church of England, in the presence of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh, unveiled the statues of ten 20th Century Martyrs of the Faith displayed in ten niches located over the West Gate, the main doorway into Westminster Abby in London. The niches had stood empty since the Middle Ages, almost a thousand years, and received the statues of the 20th Century Martyrs as part of a restoration program for the Abbey. The ten persons commemorated there include: the Grand Duchess Saint Elizabeth of Russia, buried alive by the Bolsheviks in 1918; Manche Masemola, a sixteen-year-old killed by her parents in South Africa in 1928 for converting to Anglicanism; Maximilian Kolbe, the Polish priest who took the place of a Jewish man in a death line in Auschwitz in 1941; Lucian Tapiede, a Papuan Anglican teacher killed by Japanese invaders in New Guinea in 1942; Dietrich Bonhoeffer, the German theologian hanged by the Nazis in 1945; Esther John, a Presbyterian missionary killed by a Muslim fanatic in Pakistan in 1960; Martin Luther King, the Baptist civil rights leader shot in the U.S. in 1969; Wang Zhiming, a pastor killed during the Cultural Revolution in China in 1972; Janani Luwum, Anglican Archbishop of Uganda, killed by Idi Amin in 1977; and Archbishop Oscar Romero of El Salvador, killed by government troops in 1980. These ten represent the thousands and thousands who kept the faith to the end around the world over the course of that most violent century.

We will commemorate the life of one of these, Janani Luwum, on Wednesday, February 16th. I was first touched by the life of Archbishop Luwum one day at Morning Prayer while in seminary. It was the day of his commemoration in the Episcopal Book of Lesser Feasts and Fasts, and the Interim Dean, Philip Turner, who had spent much time working in Africa, rose to speak. Dean Turner had served as an assistant to the Archbishop, admired him greatly, and with tears running down his face, told how his friend had been shot through the mouth and three times in the chest, probably by Idi Amin personally. That day I learned that all martyrs were in fact real human beings, beloved members of families and communities, and not merely plaster or marble saints. We celebrate another beloved saint on Wednesday, February 23rd. Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, was martyred in 156 because he wouldn't burn incense in front of a statue of the emperor. A student of John the Apostle, he commented, "eighty-six years I have served Him (Jesus). How then can I blaspheme my King and Savior?" He was burned at the stake for his faith.

+Edson

The Christ Bearer

a monthly publication of
St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

As members of St. Christopher's, we seek to act as a part of the body of Christ in response to God's love and grace by:
• praising God together in Christ-centered worship
• providing opportunities for education and spiritual growth for all
• loving and supporting each other in our life together, and
• reaching out to our community and larger world in love and service.

2807 42nd Street
Lubbock, TX 79413
806)799-8208
website:www.stchristophers.org

Weekly Services
Sunday - 8:00, 10:00 Holy Eucharist
Wednesday - 5:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist
w/ Holy Unction

The Rt. Rev. J. Scott Mayer., Bishop
Rector - The Rev. J. Edson Way
Deacon - Melissa Wafer-Cross
Deacon - Kathleen Borsch



**Income & Expenses
(through December 31, 2010)**

	Budgeted	Actual
Plate	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 16,306.32
Pledge	187,855.00	194,439.79
Other	7,200.00	6,725.00
Budget Revision	0.00	11,902.62
Total Income	\$ 220,055.00	\$ 229,373.73
Expenses	\$ 229,200.00	\$ 223,736.54
Balance: Inc.-Exp.	(\$9,145.00)	\$5,637.19

Vestry Highlights - December

- Fr. Way presented the schedule of Christmas services.
- John Edwards, Junior Warden, reported on several projects. The Columbarium area remodel came in \$1,800 under budget; the project is complete except for the openings. They will be completed soon. The roof repairs are complete, the watering system is updated, and the sacristy leak has been repaired.
- Fr. Way will attend the ECW meeting on January 9 and will address his desire to send monies to the Dominican Republic.
- There was a review of Fr. Way's letter of agreement. Goals and objectives have been established and reviewed. More discussion and review will continue next year.
- Donnie Evans presented the draft of the 2011 budget based on a pledged amount of \$207,000. More work will continue on it before approval at the January vestry meeting.
- The following people have agreed to be presented as nominees for vestry: Paul Driscoll, Martha Robinson, Karl Morris, Podi Stofel, and Karen Hodges.
- A date needs to be set for the annual parish meeting.
- John Edwards will begin work on an estimate for restroom renovations downstairs.



It was with sadness that we

of the death of Arthur J. Foster.

and his wife Ada Wre were charter members of St. Christopher's. He was living with his son in Mexico at the time of his death. A memorial service for Art will be held at a later date. Our condolences go out to all of the Foster family.

We were sad to learn of the death of Edie Riche's father, Marvin Grohman, on January 19, in Pflugerville, TX. May the sympathy of this parish be of comfort to Edie and John.



**Food Pantry Requests
for February**

canned and powdered milk
and crackers



On January 9, the First Sunday after Epiphany, Fr. Way baptized Allison Rae Carpenter and Samantha Paige Carpenter, the granddaughters of Randall & Dolores Carpenter. The girls parents are James Kent Carpenter and Joann Carpenter. We welcome these girls into the body of Christ.

Annual Meeting News

St. Christopher's Annual Parish Meeting was held on Sunday, January 23. Stewardship Committee chairman, Steve Maines, announced the most successful pledge campaign in parish history with pledges totalling \$206,990.

The following people were elected for 3-year terms on the vestry - Paul Driscoll, Karen Hodges, and Podi Stofel.

Fr. Way named David Bartl as the Senior Warden for 2011. John Edwards will continue to serve as Junior Warden, Nancy McReynolds will continue as Clerk, and Podi Stofel will take over the Treasurer's position.



Deacon's Corner

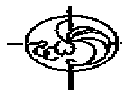
CO-CREATIVITY WITH GOD

Humanity was created in the image of God, and because of that, we all contain a spark of the creativity of God. In a sense, we are invited to be “co-creators” with God when he gives us gifts and talents and then asks us to share them with others. This co-creativity at St. Christopher’s manifests itself in many ways: knitting and crocheting prayer shawls and winter scarves; cooking for college students, the homeless, and our church family; performing music; and writing (painting) icons – just to name a few.

Not feeling particularly creative? Author, songwriter, and performer Mary Beth Maziarz writes about unleashing your creativity. She advises us to welcome all forms of creativity into our lives and ask ourselves what kind of activities and experiences draw it out of us. Limit distractions, spend some quiet time each day for inspiration to penetrate, and learn when to say no to some demands on our energy. She cautions us to resist the urge to be so serious and to use our creative urges as clues in a game of self-discovery.

Notice how the creative activities mentioned above are all intensely “hands-on”. God desires to be involved with people and wants us to join in as well, with our hands. After you read this article, look down at your hands – yes, YOUR hands – and marvel how God has chosen to use them. Picture your hands cooking your favorite dish (or just a batch of cookies from a mix) for the hungry. Picture them crafting something warm and comforting for the sick or homeless. See them helping out with the church flower garden or picking vegetables out of your own to donate to the food pantry. Can you picture your hands playing an instrument or painting a picture? Now, lift your hands up or spread them out, offer them once again to God, and let the co-creativity begin.

Kathleen



The Episcopal Church Women

ECW News

At our first salad/business meeting of the year Fr. Way spoke to us about the need for donations to the work of the Episcopal Diocese of the Dominican Republic, our partner diocese. The group voted to donate \$1000 toward travel expenses for students from the Canterbury organization at Texas Tech as they travel to the Dominican Republic during Spring Break on a work trip. An additional donation of \$1,000 was designated for Happy/Promise Camps, and \$2,000 was designated to the national ECW Social Justice program for women’s and children’s health programs in the Dominican Republic. These donations come from the entire parish, as the money for the donations come from your generosity in supporting our luncheons and other projects.

A committee was appointed, led by Jenny Way, to plan ways we can provide support for the staff and faculty of our neighborhood school, Wheelock Elementary.

Officers for 2011 were elected. Missy Ratcliff will continue as President, Betsy Brock will serve as President-elect, Joan Morris is the new Secretary, and Carole Wolf fills the Treasurer spot. We offer a big THANK YOU to Edie Rische and Podi Stofel, out-going Secretary and Treasurer. These ladies have done a great job for us for several years.

Please watch for dates for our first outreach luncheon and Ladies Night Out. I am looking forward to serving our parish through ECW for another year. Thank you all for your support of our programs.

Missy Ratcliff

Sundays & Wednesdays in February

You will get more out of our worship together if you take a little time beforehand to look at the Scripture lessons and think about our special prayer intentions.



Wednesday, February 2nd - The Presentation in the Temple (white)

Malachi 3:1-4

Psalm 84

Hebrews 2:14-18

Luke 2:22-40

Service of Holy Eucharist & Unction at 5:30 pm - Agape supper following service

Sunday, February 6th

Isaiah 58:1-12

Psalm 112:1-10

I Corinthians 2:1-16

Matthew 5:13-20

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Wednesday, February 9th

Readings of the Previous Sunday

Service of Holy Eucharist & Unction at 5:30 pm - Agape supper following service

Sunday, February 13th

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Psalm 119:1-8

I Corinthians 3:1-9

Matthew 5:21-37

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

Wednesday, February 16th - Janani Luwum, Archbishop, Martyr

Ecclesiasticus 4:20-28

Psalm 119:41-48

John 12:24-32

Service of Holy Eucharist & Unction at 5:30 pm - Agape supper following service

Sunday, February 20th

Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18

Psalm 119:33-40

I Corinthians 3:10-11, 16-23

Matthew 5:38-48

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

Wednesday, February 23rd - Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna

Revelation 2:8-11

Psalm 116:10-17

Matthew 20:20-23

Service of Holy Eucharist & Unction at 5:30 pm - Agape supper following service

Sunday, February 27th

Isaiah 49:8-16a

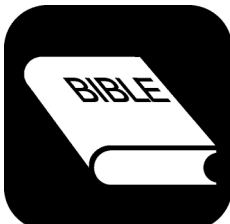
Psalm 131

I Corinthians 4:1-5

Matthew 6:24-34

Eighth Sunday after Epiphany

400th Anniversary of King James Version



2011 marks the 400th anniversary of the King James Bible, one of the most persistent, beloved and influential translations of the Bible into English. The impact that this translation has had on both the Christian faith and the English language cannot be overestimated. There are all sorts of events and publications about this going on or being planned. One source of information is <http://www.kingjamesbibletrust.org>.

Notes from the Senior Warden

Thank you for the opportunity to serve on vestry and as senior warden this past year. It has been a pleasure to serve with such fine folks who truly have the best interest of our church at heart. Thank you also for your patience through the remodeling and improvements. We have grown in many ways, but the most important growth has been in the sense of community within our church family. It has been an honor to work with outstanding folks whom I have known for a short time and others for many years.

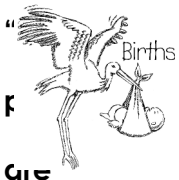
Our stewardship committee, under the leadership of Steve Maines, has delivered one of the largest pledge drives we have ever had, even in troubling economic times. Your giving doesn't stop with your pledges, but it continues with your support of our Food Pantry, Christmas for Wheelock children, Saint Benedict's, Hope Shalom, Food For The Poor and many others. In other ways your giving continues as spiritual aid through the prayer shawl ministry, lay ministries and our wonderful choir and music under Jane Ann Wilson's direction.

Your generous contributions will reach out in many ways through our apportionment to the diocese. Out of 100 domestic dioceses in the Episcopal Church, the Diocese of Northwest Texas ranks about tenth in per capita giving. Bishop Meyer, after working with the Standing Committee, the Trustees of the Diocese, the Executive Council, and the Budget Committee proposed a 3-year-plan to the 2010 convention. The Trustees agreed to make contributions from our diocesan endowments in amounts beyond the standard spend rate. \$50,000.00 beyond the norm will be contributed each year for three years from diocesan endowments, and likewise \$25,000.00 per year will be contributed to support Quarterman Ranch. The Bishop ask us to, "...imagine the lives that could be impacted by expanding our Outreach Camps (Happy Camp and Promise Camp)". "Imagine further that we plant seeds literally on that 240 acres - maybe planting an orchard to provide fresh fruit and produce to the High Plains Food Bank".

I mention this only to let you know that your giving does change lives, not just at Saint Christopher's, but all over the world. During Spring Break Deacon Melissa Wafer-Cross will lead a group of students on a mission to assist the Diocese of the Dominican Republic. They will be working to improve the lives of folks who have been so terribly affected by the earthquake. Our diocese is a companion diocese to the Dominican Republic. Melissa promises to give us a full report during several Adult Forums before the ten o'clock service this Spring.

We have many exciting things going on here at Saint Christopher's Church, and I am so pleased to be a part of it. I continue to be amazed at how God has blessed us. He has sent us Father Edson and Jenny, grown our family and made us closer. May the peace of the Lord be with you always.

Donnie



*Congratulations to Steve and Debbie Maines on the birth of Caroline Elise

Jastrow, their third granddaughter, on December 21. Proud, and tired, are Stephanie and Corby Jastrow of Austin. Coco's delighted big sisters Kennedy and Claire Jastrow.

* Blanche Todd has a new great-grandson, Kai Johnly Bailey, born December 27, 2010 in Honolulu, Hawaii. Kai is a Marshallese (Marshall Islands) baby who joins his big sister, Amara Tihun Bailey, who was born November 24, 2008 in Ethiopia on Blanche & Allen Todd's wedding



A Reader's Corner

by Candia Welch Thew

Wintz, Jack. *Will I See My Dog in Heaven? God's Saving Love For the Whole Family of Creation*. Brewster, Mass.: Paraclete Press, 2009. (140p.)

Being an animal lover with a houseful of pets and having outlived many beloved dogs, cats, a canary and a geriatric iguana named Mango, I have always hoped that their love and goodness would earn them a place in heaven.

Friar Jack, a Franciscan monk, offers his explanation as to why he thinks that our pets – in fact, all creatures – will be given the gift of a second life through “God’s saving love”. Quoting the Bible, he begins with Genesis and writes of how all creation was considered “good” in God’s sight (Genesis 1:4, 1:10, 1:12, 1:18, 1:21, 1:25, 1:31). He continues on to retell Noah’s story – the saving not only of Noah and his family, but also the representatives of all creatures – the story culminating with God giving the sign of the covenant between Him and Noah and “every living creature” (Genesis 9:12-13). Other Biblical stories, both in the Old Testament and in the New, including Psalms, are quoted to show God’s love for all creation – human as well as non-human – the “whole family of creation”. Friar Jack’s premise is primarily that if God so loves us as well as his creatures, why would he deny them heaven? In Mark (16:15), Jesus tells his disciples to “go into the world and proclaim the gospel to every creature”. Friar Jack tells of how St. Francis took this literally, preaching to the birds and calling all creatures, as well as the sun and the moon, Brother and Sister. Animals in the Psalms (Psalm 148) and in the songs of St. Francis (“Canticle of the Creatures”, for example) are invited to sing God’s praises. Thus, in harmony and in love, Friar Jack argues, we may be brought closer to creation and to the Creator, Himself. He also poses the question, “... what might it mean, if we came to understand humans and animals as helping each other on the way to union with God”? (p.23). If we and all God’s creatures are invited and encouraged to praise God why, Friar Jack contends, “in heaven the holiness of all God’s creatures will be apparent” (p.135).

A chapter on the Resurrection and the Book of Revelation adds more to his argument.

An appendix offers three loving prayers of blessing for any animal or creature: “For Any of God’s Creatures”, “For One or More Sick Creatures”, and, “For an Animal that Has Died or Is About to Die”.

An open invitation:

I would like to invite any reader or viewer to join me in this column. If you have read a book or seen a movie that you wish to recommend to other readers/viewers, please email me (candia.thew@fhsc.edu) with your suggestion. I can also submit a “guest” review or I can add an addendum to my own contribution by naming the book or movie (title) and recommended by (your name).



February 15

send information to
jambarnes@suddenlink.net

This 'n That

- **ALTAR FLOWER CALENDAR** - There is a new Altar Flower Calendar in the Narthex for 2011. Please sign up to donate flowers on Sundays that have special meaning to you.
- **FELLOWSHIP REFRESHMENTS** - Sign up to provide snacks for the Sunday fellowship hours. These should not be elaborate feasts, just something simple to nibble on as you visit with other members and visitors.
- **WEAR YOUR NAMETAG!** If you need one - if you've lost yours or never had one, tell Karen Hodges, and she'll arrange for you to get one.
- **PRAYER SHAWL GROUP** - The prayer shawl group will meet on Monday, February 7 at 4:00 pm at Jane Barnes' home, 3816 56th Street. Please bring any shawls you have completed and plan to sit and knit or crochet and visit for a while.
- **PRAYER SHAWLS** - If you know of someone who is in need of comfort or support, consider giving them one of our prayer shawls. They are stored in the credenza outside the church office. Please be sure and record the person's name you give it to in the journal in the cabinet.
- **CANS FOR CAMP** - You may continue to bring your sacks of cans to the church or call Jenny Way at 783-8448.



St. Christopher's chapter of the Daughters of the King will on Sunday, February 6 after the 10:00 service. We will continue our study of Madeleine L'Engle's book *The Irrational Season*, covering chapters 5 and 6.

Everyone, please remember to use the prayer cards in the pews or email Jane Barnes with your prayer requests (jambarnes@suddenlink.net). The Daughters of the King maintains a parish prayer list, which is updated each month. Members pray for everyone on the list every day. The prayer cards may be placed in the offering plates or put in the little wooden box on the



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Jan Kireilis	February 1
Glenn Cummings	February 3
Wendell Aycok	February 8
Karen Hagee	February 11
Karen Barrington	February 15
Betty Brown	February 16
Martha Walker	February 16
Herbert Leaverton	February 17
Jenny Way	February 19
Mara Driscoll	February 24
Paula Evans	February 25
Clay Lawson	February 26
Ethan Morgan	February 26

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Doug & Annie Cashell	February 4
Steve & Kathleen Finley	February 5
Jack & Paula Purkeypile	February 9
Wayne & Rachel Huffaker	February 15
Donnie & Paula Evans	February 17

Lubbock EYC Events

The Lubbock EYC Youth will hold soup pots at our church doors on Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday, Feb. 6. They will join young people in churches across the country to collect money for those who are hungry and hurting. In 2010, \$10 million was collected by Souper Bowl of Caring participants for local charities. Last year, the Lubbock EYC Youth collected over \$1200.

All of the money collected is donated to a local charity selected by the participants - none of the money is sent to the Souper Bowl of Caring headquarters. The youth will decide at the January lock-in which local charity they would like to support. Since the Souper Bowl of Caring began in 1990, more than \$71 million has gone to help people in need. Please support the youth of our church in this effort to "love our neighbors" by dropping your dollar in the soup pot on



St. Christopher's Episcopal Church
2807 42nd Street (at Elgin)
Lubbock, Texas 79413
(806) 799-8208
e-mail: stcoff@nts-online.net
website: www.stchristophers.org

The Rt. Rev. J. Scott Mayer., Bishop
The Rev. J. Edson Way, PhD., Rector
Kathleen Borsch, Deacon
Editor
Melissa Wafer-Cross, Deacon
Les Jackson, Seminarian

Elaine Howard, Administrative Assistant
Linda Swartz, Financial Assistant
Jane Barnes, Newsletter

David Cross, WebMaster
Josh Rodriguez, Seminarian

The Vestry

David Bartl, Senior Warden
John Edwards, Junior Warden
Nancy McReynolds, Clerk
Luann "Podi" Stofel, Treasurer

Doug Cashell
Hodges
Jan Kireilis
Ratcliff

Paul Driscoll

Karen
Missy

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church
2807 42nd Street
Lubbock, TX 79413

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit #566
Lubbock, TX

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED
