
The Christ Bearer

Newsletter of St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

Vol. 15, No. 10

October 2009

From the Rector:

Almost everyone has heard of St. Francis of Assisi (1182-1226) whose feast day we celebrate on Sunday, the fourth of October, this year. He is known for his special relationship with various animals and is frequently portrayed with a bird sitting on his hand or surrounded by an assortment of God's creatures. I have a stone sculpture of the saint with a bird nestled in his arms in my own back garden.

Knowledge of St. Francis' affinity for those of feather, fur, and fin date back to stories recorded by Thomas de Celano in the 13th Century, shortly after the saint's death. He wrote how Francis and his traveling companions spotted a huge flock of assorted birds, doves, crows, and many other varieties while crossing the Spoleto Valley. Francis left the road and ran to get closer. The birds, rather than flying off, remained on the ground as he walked among them, his cloak brushing their heads and backs. Francis blessed them all and, as he made the sign of the cross over them, they took to the air. From that day on he made it a habit to preach to the birds and to all animals urging them to love and praise their Creator. In other stories he released a rabbit from a trap whereupon the bunny jumped into his lap. He put fish that his companions had caught back into the water (the origin of "catch and release"?) warning the fish not to get caught again. Perhaps the most popular story concerned a wolf that had terrorized the town of Gubbio. The Saint went into the fields to seek out the wolf and when it charged him he made the sign of the cross causing the wolf to become obedient and pliant. The wolf accompanied Francis back to the village where the Saint preached to all the people about the amazing and transforming love of God and of the necessity to repent and set aside sinful ways.

Less well-known today, but famous for his rapport with animals during the Middle Ages in Britain, was St. Cuthbert (625-687) of Lindisfarne. We will visit the Holy Island off the coast of Scotland where St. Cuthbert served as prior before becoming a solitary (hermit) monk when our St. Christopher's group makes the "Anglican Heritage Tour" next June. Cuthbert was reported to wade neck-deep into the icy North Atlantic to say the prayers of the Daily Office after which otters would come to him on the shore to dry his feet and legs with their fur and warm him with their breath. Once he banished a pair of ravens who had been pulling thatch from the roof of his hut but when they repented he forgave and blessed them and they brought him a lump of suet to eat. Cuthbert also forbade the hunting of eider ducks for their soft warm down on Lindisfarne (the first bird-protection act on record) and to this day eiders nest there and are called "cuddy ducks" or "Cuthbert's ducks" in the local Scottish Gaelic dialect. We celebrate this animal-loving saint's day on March 20th. So, let us cuddle our pets and animal companions with love and remember these two inspirational saints and their harmony in Creation!

Edson+

The Christ Bearer

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.

a monthly publication of
St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

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

Rector - The Rev. J. Edson Way
Deacon - Melissa Wafer-Cross
Deacon - Les Jackson
Deacon - Kathleen Borsch



Income & Expenses
(through August 31, 2009)

	Budgeted	Actual
Plate	\$ 6,720.00	\$ 19,921.54
Pledge	108,696.68	109,955.00
Other	<u>7,800.00</u>	<u>9,729.03</u>
Total Income	\$ 123,216.68	\$ 139,605.57
Expenses	\$ 123,216.80	\$ 108,579.64
Balance: Inc.-Exp.	\$ - .12	\$ 31,025.93

Vestry Highlights - August

- Fr. Way's report indicated a steady attendance of approximately 115 - 125 at both Sunday services combined and 30 in Wednesday evenings.
- Deacon Kathleen Borsch's covenant letter will be completed next month.
- Deacon Les Jackson has resigned from the Commission on Ministry in order to proceed with his discernment process. His discernment committee is made up of Deacon Wafer-Cross, Wendell Aycok, Frances Lohmann-Smith and Fr. Way.
- The special offering taken up for Josh Rodriguez was \$651.78. There are always community needs, so there is always a need for contributions to the Rector's Discretionary Fund.
- Carole Wolf reported that the annual audit was completed and sent to the diocese.
- \$2000 - \$2500 has been spent in the area behind the church, where the barbeque pit used to be. Painting still needs to be completed.
- Keith Hart, our air conditioning man reports that there are problems with power surges that are burning out switches. LP&L has been asked to check it out. The Otis company repaired the elevator. Our contract with Otis expires in March 2010.
- Jan Kireilis will be putting features in the newsletter to explain the various parts of pastoral care and ask for volunteers.
- There will be a "Messy Night ... Quarterman-style" at All Saints School on September 26. This activity evening is for all youth in 2nd - 12th grades. Renee Haney is the contact person.

WOW! Martha Robinson's garage sale in August made \$579.25 for



LaRue Parramore, a former member of St. Christopher's, died suddenly at her home in Granbury, TX the end of August. A memorial service was held for LaRue on September 6 at St. Christopher's. Please keep all of her family, especially her granddaughters, April & Bobbi Richey in your prayers.

* Allen Todd died on September 14, following an extended illness. We share in the sadness at his loss with Blanche and his family. Services for Allen will be held at St. Christopher's on September 28, Allen's 89th birthday.

Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them

Thank You!

To all the people of St. Christopher's

A thank you for the kindness and thoughtfulness given to my family and me on the death of my son John. You helped us manage a time of great sorrow.

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

Bob Cope



October Food Pantry Needs

graham crackers
peanut butter

If anyone can help pack boxes on Sundays after the 10:00 am service, please consider donating your time and energy. Ask Susie Broome how you can help.



Membership Transfers

Transfers Out:

E.L. (Sarge) & Ruth Morton, to Agape Methodist, Lubbock



v
c

The Rt. Rev. J. Scott Mayer Bishop of the Diocese of Northwest Texas will make his first official to St. Christopher's on October 11.



Deacon's Corner

GLEANERS

He (Jesus) is the Image (Icon) of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible.....and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things ... Colossians 1:15-19

Paul's letter to the Church at Colossae was written to address certain popular beliefs and practices of that time that were a distraction from the gospel of Christ's Lordship and his power to transform and reconcile people's lives. The Church was influenced by such things as Gnosticism with its insistence on a remote supreme, unknowable divine being and on a philosophy that supported such things as pantheism, magic, and rationalism. This approach denied a personal God and saw Christ as purely human.

Paul, in this very short, poetic and powerful letter, reminds us that Jesus is the very image of God revealed to us. It is Christ himself, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. When our lives are filled with questions and distractions Paul tells us to set our minds on things above, and not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. Surely our salvation comes from God who can and will answer all we have need to know in due season.

Yours in Christ

Les



Pastoral Care Committee
Hospitality and Social Functions

St. Christopher's Pastoral Care Committee wants to highlight the Hospitality and Social Functions committee this month. Some of the social functions of this committee are the Sunday coffee hours, the Foyer Families, and the Wednesday potluck suppers.

Jane Seaver schedules the coffee hour following the 10:00 am service with usually three hosts and hostesses. Jane is hopeful that everyone will take a turn so that no one is obligated more often than once a quarter. The schedule is in a binder in the Nelson Room, and Jane's contact information can be found in the Church Directory if anyone has questions.

The 9:00 am Rector's Forum includes a simpler and smaller coffee hour usually requiring just one host or hostess. A schedule is available in the downstairs kitchen if anyone is interested in providing those refreshments. Martha Robinson is always available to answer questions about this.

Paula Purkeypile is the chair of the Foyer Families, which is an opportunity for groups of about eight to gather for a meal and fellowship in the different participants' homes over the course of about 6 months. It is almost time for the semi-annual rotation of the Foyer Families, so don't miss out on this opportunity to really get to know the members of your church family. Give Paula a call or send her an email to get in the next round of Foyer Families.

Finally Jane and Mel Barnes, with the help of some wonderful volunteers, coordinate the Wednesday evening potluck suppers after the 5:30 pm Wednesday Eucharist and healing service. This group has grown and grown over the last few years and is a great mid-week opportunity for worship, fellowship, and of course, delicious food. Feel free to drop in with a covered dish and join this active group.

These are just a few of the hospitality and social functions at St. Christopher's. It goes without saying that all who enter and worship here are more than welcome at any or all of the activities. Come and see for yourself!

Sundays & Wednesdays & Holy Days in October

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.



Sunday, October 4 - Proper 22 (Year B)

Job 1, 2:1-10

Psalm 26

Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12

Mark 10:2-16

*Feast of St. Francis of Assisi
Blessing of the Animals - 1:30 pm - Courtyard*

Wednesday, October 7 - William Tyndale (transferred)

James 1:21-25

Psalm 1

John 12:44-50

Service of Holy Eucharist & Unction at 5:30 pm - Agape supper at 6:00 pm

Sunday, October 11 - Proper 23 (Year B)

Job 23:1-9, 16-17

Psalm 22:1-5

Hebrews 4:12-16

Mark 10:17-31

*Wednesday, October 14 - Samuel Isaac Joseph Schereschewsky
2 Corinthians 4:11-18 Psalm 84:1-6 Luke 24:44-48
Service of Holy Eucharist & Unction at 5:30 pm - Agape supper at 6:00 pm*

Sunday, October 18 - Proper 24 (Year B)

Job 38:1-7, 34-41

Psalm 104:1-9, 25, 37c

Hebrews 5:1-10

Mark 10:35-45

*Wednesday, October 21 - St. James of Jerusalem (trans.) (red)
Acts 15:12-22a Psalm 1 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 Matthew 13:54-58
Service of Holy Eucharist & Unction at 5:30 pm - Agape supper at 6:00 pm*

Sunday, October 25 - Proper 25 (Year B)

Job 42:1-6, 19-22

Psalm 34:1-8

Hebrews 7:23-28

Mark 10:46-52

*Wednesday, October 28 - St. Simon and St. Jude (red)
Deuteronomy 32:1-4 Psalm 119:89-96 Ephesians 2:13-22 John 15:17-27
Service of Holy Eucharist & Unction at 5:30 pm - Agape supper at 6:00 pm*

Saturday, October 31 - Hallowe'en



**NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE**

October 15
send all information to
jambbarnes@suddenlink.net

Notes from the Senior Warden

Eucharista

Let's remember what Eucharist is—thanksgiving, and let's celebrate the thanksgivings we have to offer each other. They are part of loving each other. Here are some for this month—not all—but some. In the future, please offer the thanks you know about for the newsletter each month, and let's show each other that we notice and appreciate each other's gifts.

Thank you to:

Claire Randolph and John Wolf for their solos

Debbie Maines for her continued delivery of the sandwiches to St. Benedict's and her willingness to continue to serve ECW

Mel Barnes for painting the back of the building almost single-handedly

Missy Ratcliff, et. al. for organizing and pulling off the 40th anniversary celebration for Fr. Edson and Jenny

Fr. Charles Bowyer for celebrating services while Fr. Edson was on vacation

Martha Walker and everyone who helped provide the meal for La Rue Parramore's memorial service

Jan Kireillis for her ministry to La Rue's granddaughter April

Fr. Jim Haney IV and Fr. Jim Haney V for celebrating at the memorial service for La Rue, and to Fr. Jim Haney IV for celebrating services at St. C's during Diocesan Convention

The Rt. Rev. Scott Mayer for his ministry to us as our Bishop, particularly for his gifts during our Diocesan Convention in Amarillo

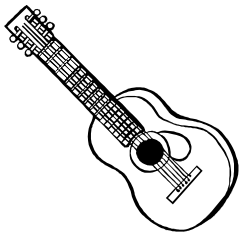
Rev. Melissa Wafer-Cross for her beautiful reading of the gospel in Spanish at Diocesan Convention

Carolyn Jones for serving as the diocesan UTO coordinator

Nancy McReynolds for serving as lay chair of the Llano Estacado Deanery

Claire Randolph and Becky DelHotal for planning and organizing the new Sunday School term.

Carole



BLUEGRASS NIGHT

October 17, 2009

St. Christopher's Parish Hall

Dinner at 6:00 pm

Music begins at 6:30 pm

Music by Fox on the Run*



This evening is an annual tradition and a fund-raiser for St. Christopher's ECW. Plan now to come and enjoy a delicious meal and a rousing night of foot tapping entertainment. Money raised will be used for outreach projects through the next year.

*Fox on the Run is composed of Doug Cashell and his fellow Bluegrass pickers.



Environmental Stewardship

Reduce, Reuse & Recycle

Source: *Ready, Set, Green - Eight Weeks to Modern Eco-Living*
by Graham Hill & Meaghan O'Neill

Everyone is talking about going “green” these days, but what does it really mean? Living green means reducing the impact we make on the planet, protecting and improving your health, and saving money. It doesn't necessarily demand a radical overhaul of your life -- just some simple adjustments, such as switching to healthier cleaning products and driving a fewer miles each week.

Here are some helpful tips for going green:

- Start using a reusable coffee cup or water bottle.
- Learn about your local recycling program and start recycling on a small scale.
- Bring your own shopping bags when you go grocery shopping. Don't use a bag at all if you only purchase one or two products.
- Try to consolidate any errands to the same area, and ask a neighbor or friend to share a ride while doing your errands together.
- Wash your clothes only in cold water and line dry as many articles of clothing as possible. This saves energy in addition to preserving your clothing.
- Create a compost pile from grass clippings and leaves. Plant drought-tolerant perennials instead of annuals -- this will save you time and money in the long run.
- Round up hazardous waste in your home (old paint, pesticides, insecticides and toxic cleaning agents) and dispose of them properly at your city's recycling centers.

Get up-to-the-minute tips and information on reducing, reusing and recycling at www.plantgreen.com. For news and global trends on this and a zillion other topics, visit www.treehugger.com.



There will be two weddings this month involving members of St.

On Saturday, October 3, Donna Ann Hall-Mize will marry James Larry Beavers in a ceremony at St. Christopher's. Fr. Way will celebrate this marriage.

Ann Marie (Annie) Bray and Christopher Spencer Cox will be married on Saturday, October 24 at Spirit Ranch, north of Lubbock. Fr. Way will preside at this ceremony, as well.

Congratulations and best wishes to both of these couples.

Suzanne Aker will have a display of icons and other art pieces at Art on Texas Avenue on Friday, October 2, as a part of the First Friday Art Trail. Art on Texas Avenue is located between 17th and 18th Streets on Texas Avenue. Go and enjoy Suzanne's beautiful artwork.



Save Those “Free” Calendars

You may have already begun receiving “free” calendars from various organizations. Even if you don't plan to use them, please don't throw them away. For several years we have collected these calendars and sent them to the Seaman's Institute in New York where they are



A Reader's Corner

Praying the Psalms With the Early Christians: Ancient Songs for Modern Hearts by Mike Aquilina and Christopher Bailey. Ijamsville, MD: The Word Among Us Press, 2009. (211p)

The Book of Psalms is the one book of the Bible that we find included in our Book of Common Prayer. They are beautiful “songs” and each Sunday we include a passage to be read among our prayers. Originally, the Israelites sang these sacred songs or poems in their Temples. In the centuries after Christ, the early Christians began to see Christ at the center of these psalms and, as Aquilina writes, “Christians came to see the psalms as the preeminent prayers of the New Covenant” (p.9). Early church fathers and saints wrote meditations on the psalms in honor of Christ and as instruction for others.

Thirty-eight psalms are included in this collection. Each has a short introduction to set the mood and to put it in context. Following the psalm, a brief passage is highlighted for us, the reader, to focus on and remember, if we wish, throughout the day. Then comes a selection, by one or two (or three) of the early Christian writers (such as St. Augustine of Hippo or St. John Chrysostom or St. Macrina the Younger, etc.). At the end, are two questions for us to think about that are relevant to the previous reading or to the psalm itself.

Twenty-two thumbnail sketches introduce the saints and Church elders (male and female) who authored the meditations. I found this helpful as my knowledge of these early Christian writers is very sketchy. Also helpful, is a list of sources where the reader can go to find their meditations in their full and original context.

All in all, it's an interesting little book where the psalms can be approached with renewed vigor and thoughtful guidance.

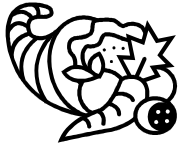
An open invitation:

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@ttuhsc.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).

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED...

Coming from Albuquerque, N.M., the Milagro Fellowship of the Third Order of the Society of Saint Francis (Episcopal) will be renewing their vows at St. Christopher's on Saturday, October 10th at 10:30.am. Candia Welch Thew will also be formally reinstated as a second-year novice. The Rev. J. Edson Way will celebrate the Eucharist. Everyone is invited. Refreshments will follow. Pace et bonem.

P.S. If anyone is curious about the Third Order (the lay or secular order) of the Franciscans, this would be a wonderful time to ask questions and to meet a few of us. Some from the Secular Order of St. Francis here in Lubbock (Catholic) will also be coming.



OCTOBERFAST

Yes, I spelled it right. Using a play on words from the German *Oktoberfest*, the South Plains Food Bank holds its annual Octoberfast to raise funds for their Second Helpings program, raise awareness of the problem of hunger, and recognize groups and individuals in the area for their work to meet the needs of the hungry. Second Helpings is the program that coordinates collection of surplus, unused food from restaurants and distribution to soup kitchens. This year on October 16, World Hunger Day, groups and individuals who help feed the hungry will be honored at the Hunger Heroes Luncheon at Westminster Presbyterian Church from 11:30 to 1:30.

People honor Octoberfast in different ways. Some churches take up a special offering. An individual may decide to fast a meal and donate the cost of that meal to the Food Bank. Some companies distribute brown lunch bags to employees and ask them to bring their own lunch to work rather than go out to eat, then donate the savings. Is there a way you would like to take part in this? Listen for announcements in church, and be ready to put money in my special "German beer stein" Octoberfast collection containers. And... "Danke schoen"!

Deacon Kathleen

Thank You!

Dear Congregation of St. Christopher's,

We want to thank you all so much for the lovely reception that you gave us for our 40th wedding anniversary on September 6th. It was absolutely beautiful and filled with so much love, good food and chocolate cake!

This congregation just has an incredible capacity to make us feel so welcome and included. We feel truly blessed.

Thank you,

Stewardship Campaign 2009 - 2010

This year's stewardship commitment program will be much like those of the past several years. St. Christopher's members have been so responsive in the past, and the organizers of this year's program are confident these results will be even better.

In this newsletter you will find a copy of the letter from the Stewardship Committee. Please read this letter carefully and prayerfully consider making your commitment to St. Christopher's in the form of a monthly or annual pledge to support the ministry of this church.

There will be special talks on several Sundays by members of the parish, emphasizing the gift St. Christopher's is to them. Fr. Way will preach a "Stewardship Sermon" on September 27, and our bishop The Rt. Rev. Scott Mayer will likely offer his ideas on October 11.

This 'n That

- There is always a need for Coffee time hosts. Sign up on the lists in either kitchen.
- WEAR YOUR NAMETAG!!!!
- Please be sure to let Jane Barnes know whenever someone is ill, so she can spread the word to all the people in the parish via her email list. She would also LOVE to share good news through the same list. Thus, if you aren't already receiving Jane's emails, contact her at jambarnes@suddenlink.net and ask her to add you to the list.
- There are serving dishes in the basement kitchen that have been left behind following various dinners and functions. If you're missing something, chances are it's here. Please check on the center cabinet or the cabinet in the hallway outside the kitchen.
- Join the Sign Chi Do class on Thursdays at 5:30 pm in the basement. There is a core group of about 4 - 5 people, and we'd love to have more. Don't worry that you've missed important steps. We pretty much start over each time. Please give this class a try.
- Come join the Mah Jongg group that meets in the parish hall every Wednesday at 11:00. Bring a sack lunch and join this group. Keep your brain sharp by learning a new skill.
- Don't forget about the Phyllis Tickle lectures at St. Nicholas' in Midland on October 17. The program begins at 9:30 and ends at 3:30, so it will make a good day of learning. Let Jan Kireilis or Jane Barnes know if you're interested in going. The only cost is \$10 for lunch.
- Continue to save your aluminum cans for "Cans for Camp." Leave them in the Narthex or call Kathleen or Rebekah Borsch for pick up.

Where Are They Now?

We recently received a letter from John & Fran Anderson, who left St. Christopher's and Lubbock 22 years ago to move to Tyler. They are still in Tyler and are approaching their "retirement" years. Their 3 children, Eric, Angela, and Russell are spread all over the country - Eric and his wife are in Burbank, CA; Angela and her husband and 2 children are in Pauline, SC; and Russell and his wife are in Nashville, TN. If you would like more details, you can write John & Fran at this address:

4108 Beall Circle



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Lilly Brock	October 1
Doug Cashell	October 1
Steve Finley	October 3
Alvin Stofel	October 4
Hoot Thomas	October 5
Teresa Thomas	October 6
Joyce White	October 6
Keisha Copeland	October 7
Becky DelHotal	October 7
Carolyn Jones	October 9
Donna Mize	October 10
Charlotte Brown	October 12
Rosemary Lyman	October 14
Melissa Barnes	October 16
Joan Russell	October 22
Emma Adams	October 27

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Allan & Cindy Dorsett	October 11
John & Carole Wolf	October 21



St. Christopher's chapter of Daughters of the King will meet on Sunday, October 4, following the 10:00 service. The discussion of *Conversations With St. Francis* by James C. Howell will continue with Chapters 2 and 3. Any woman is welcome to visit this meeting.

Remember, when you or someone you love has a prayer need, the Daughters of the King want to pray for you. Fill out one of the prayer cards in the pew and put the card in the little wooden box on the shelf at the back of the church.



Adult Forum The Adult Forum, which meets at 9:00 a.m. each Sunday in the basement, will continue its study of The Apocrypha during the month of October. October 4 & 11 will involve a study of The Wisdom of Sirach, and on October 18 & 25

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

Elaine Howard, Administrative Assistant
Linda Swartz, Financial Assistant
Jane Barnes, Newsletter Editor
David Cross, WebMaster

The Vestry

Carole Wolf, Senior Warden
Donnie Evans, Junior Warden
Rebecca DelHotal, Clerk
Podi Stofel, *Ex officio*, Treasurer

Wendell Aycock
Jan Kireilis

Doug Cashell
Nancy McReynolds

Carolyn Jones
Jack Purkeypile

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