
The Christ Bearer

Newsletter of St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

Vol. 17, No. 10

October 2011

From the Rector:

October is the month when we at St. Christopher's launch our annual Stewardship Campaign during which we encourage our members and regular attenders to consider the many blessings of this life with which God has showered us. It is a time of reflection on our own state of physical health, relational richness, spiritual maturation, and financial condition. And, of course, to remember the role of St. Christopher's parish and our St. Christopher's family in the enhancement of our enjoyment of each of these areas in our lives. I know for myself that my life in every one of those areas has been enriched by my association with this parish and with the faithful Christian people who call it their church home.

But more than all that, it is a time when we reflect, in a corporate fashion as the People of God who gather at His Table week by week, and celebrate the marvelous works we see being performed to further the Kingdom of Heaven right here by the ministries of this church: feeding the hungry; helping the poor and dispossessed; providing support for the teachers in our local community; giving respite in the country for children in our neighborhood; building brotherhood among the men; empowering women to support each other and the causes that motivate them; educating our parish children in the Faith; and participating in the life of The Church in our Diocese, in The Episcopal Church, and across the Anglican Communion. We do this by volunteering our time, by contributing our talents and experience, and by giving back to God, through this church, some of the money that He has afforded us to earn by the blessings He has provided to us. Under the guidance of your elected Vestry and called Clergy these funds are used to keep our mission going forth.

The people of St. Christopher's have an amazing tradition of faithful stewardship that is the envy of many of my clerical colleagues. The lay leadership in this important area of our parish life has been consistently outstanding, and the response of the people has been so very gratifying. Let's join together again to consider our many blessings and to reflect God's love for us and all His Creation in our Stewardship of 2011, for 2012.

Blessings abounding! *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.

Weekly Services

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

Sunday – 8:00, 10:00 am Holy Eucharist
Wednesday – 5:30 pm – 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 August 31, 2011**

	Budgeted	Actual
Plate	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,390.97
Pledge	138,000.00	133,369.00
Other	4,800.00	4,800.00
Total Income	\$ 152,800.00	\$ 148,559.97
Expenses	152,800.00	138,858.69
Balance: Inc-Exp.	0.00	\$ 9,701.28

Vestry Highlights – August

- Routine business items were approved – minutes of the last meeting, treasurer’s report and monthly audit report.
- Jr. Warden, John Edwards updated the vestry on the roof situation as a result of a recent rain. The vesting room ceiling continues to leak, however, the roof in the sanctuary did not leak.
- Paula Evans provided an update on the work on the church sign. Premier Media will be providing two possible options.
- The vestry decided to designate Sunday, September 11 as our Family Fall Picnic. Church members will have an opportunity to sign up to participate in different church activities and groups. Focus will be on our church family returning from the summer.
- The vestry unanimously agreed for Doug Cashell to visit with Mel Barnes and to encourage Mel to continue his work on the Audit Committee.

Memorial Service & Interment

The children of Art & Ada Wre Foster invite members of St. Christopher’s and other friends to join them in a memorial service for Arthur James Foster at St. Christopher’s on Saturday, October 29, at 2:00 pm.

Interment of the ashes of both Art and Ada Wre in St. Christopher’s columbarium will take place after the memorial service for Art. Following the interment, there will be a reception for family and friends at St. Christopher’s.

If you would like to make a contribution in Art and Ada Wre’s memory, in lieu of flowers, please consider the Alzheimer’s Association: www.alz.org.



**Food Pantry Requests
for October**

**peanut butter &
canned soup**

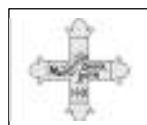
The Food Pantry crew expresses their thanks to everyone for their donations and support.

Prayer Shawls

The Prayer Shawl group will meet on Monday, October 3 at Jane Barnes’ home, 3816 56th Street. Please bring any completed shawls and plan to sit and visit for a while.

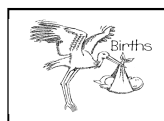
There is a good supply, in many colors, of completed shawls in the credenza outside the church office. Everyone is encouraged to share these warm, cozy symbols of our prayers with those who are in need of comfort and blessing. Just take the one you like and be sure to add the person’s name to the book in the cabinet. We have now given away 200 shawls!

I would encourage those of you who have created shawls to read some of the thank you notes in the plastic bag in the drawer with the book. The sentiments expressed will remind you why we do this work.



Daughters of the King

St. Christopher’s chapter of Daughters of the King will meet Sunday, October 2nd, following the 10:00 service. Daughters – your input is desperately needed as to the direction our chapter needs to be taking in the coming year. Please plan to be in attendance at this meeting.



Laden Kitcher Jones was born on August 23 to Keisha and Cody Jones. This was a difficult and high-risk delivery, but baby and mom are doing well. Proud grandparents are Janis and Jim Haney.

Roof Replacement Fund

Goal - \$125,000.00

Presently in fund - \$20,100.00

Your vestry would welcome any donations to this fund to replace our aged roof.



Deacon's Corner

Recently I found this story and liked it so much that I want to share it with you:

Author Saul Bellow wrote about a rabbi who lived in a small Jewish town in Russia. The rabbi had a secret. Every Friday morning the rabbi disappeared for several hours. The people of his congregation liked to tell people that during his absence from them their rabbi went up to heaven and talked to God. When a stranger moved into town and heard this explanation for the rabbi's weekly departure, he was not convinced. So he decided to find out what was really going on. The next Friday morning, he hid by the rabbi's house, waiting and watching. As usual, the rabbi got up and said his prayers. But unlike other mornings of the week, he then dressed in peasant clothes. He grabbed an ax and wandered off into the woods to cut some firewood. With the man watching from afar, the rabbi then hauled the wood to a shack on the outskirts of the village where an old woman and her sick son lived. He left them the wood, enough for a week, and then went quietly back home.

After seeing what the rabbi did, the stranger decided to stay in the village and join the congregation. From then on, whenever he heard one of the villagers say, "On Friday morning our rabbi ascends all the way to heaven," the newcomer quietly added, "If not higher."

This rabbi reminds me of Jesus' words immediately preceding his instructions on how to pray (the Lord's Prayer, in Matthew 4), where he suggests the right attitude we should have when giving to the needy. I know of several individuals in our parish who, like the rabbi, quietly go about doing things for the needy in our community. May we all learn this way of ascending "all the way to heaven."

Kathleen

Notes from the Senior Warden

...as I write this note, the evening air is beginning to cool (sure helps me to forget the triple digits days) and there are rain showers around the area...they are God's blue threads of moisture blessing someone's life...Thanks Be to God!!!

Many of us had an opportunity to attend the annual fundraiser for St. Benedict's Mission on September 15th...what a story of love and caring for these children of God. Many thanks to the breakfast teams who prepare for the Sunday morning meals and to Melissa and Kathleen who assist with the Sunday services.

So as we move forward into the harvest time of the year...May God Bless You with Bountiful Fruits of His Love. Thank you all for holding up our church and our church family in prayer.

Steve



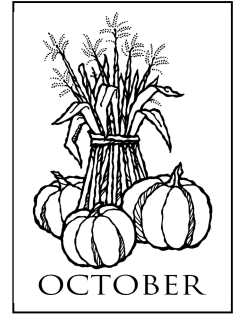
Bluegrass Bash & Chili Cook-off
Saturday, November 5th

Dinner starts at 6:00
Music from 6:00 – 9:00

\$10.00 donation per adult (Kids eat free)
Proceeds to ECW and Brotherhood Outreach Projects

Sundays & Wednesdays 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 2nd

Proper 22

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

Psalms 19

Philippians 3:4b-14

Matthew 21:33-46

Wednesday, October 5th – William Tyndale, Priest, 1536

James 1:21-25

Psalms 1

John 12:44-50

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

Sunday, October 9th

Proper 23

Exodus 132:1-14

Psalms 32:1-14

Philippians 4:1-9

Matthew 22:1-14

Wednesday, October 12th – Philip, Deacon and Evangelist

Acts 8:26-40

Psalms 67

Matthew 28:18-20

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

Sunday, October 16th

Proper 24

Exodus 33:12-23

Psalms 99

I Thessalonians 1:1-10

Matthew 22:15-22

Wednesday, October 19th – Henry Martyn, Missionary, 1812

Isaiah 49:1-6

Psalms 98:1-4

John 4:22-26

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

Sunday, October 23rd

Proper 25

Deuteronomy 34:1-12

Psalms 90:1-6, 13-17

I Thessalonians 2:1-8

Matthew 22:34-46

Wednesday, October 26th – Alfred the Great, King, 899

Wisdom 6:1-3, 9-12, 24-25

Psalms 1:1-7

Luke 6:43-49

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

Sunday, October 30th

Proper 26

Joshua 3:7-17

Psalms 107:1-7, 33-37

I Thessalonians 2:9-13

Matthew 23:1-12



ECW Happenings

Vacations are over, and, if you were fortunate, yours was spent somewhere "cool. ECW celebrated the cooler weather and the gathering of all on Monday night, September 12th, with our Ladies' (Girls') Night Out at Cattle Baron's Steakhouse. What a great night it was – 22 of us just had fun (what happened at Cattle Baron's stays at Cattle Baron's). Father Edson, I did not see anyone from "Girls Gone Wild" filming!!

Now, we will be getting down to business, and there is a lot of that before the end of the year. Mark your calendars!

- Sunday, October 9th – ECW Luncheon meeting, following the 10:00 service.
- Friday, November 4th – we are hosting the Church Women's United Day of Prayer.
- Saturday, November 5th - combined with the Brotherhood, we will host our annual Bluegrass Fest/Chili Cook-off. There will be a special performer, Larry Ford, who has played on the Grand Ole Opry.
- Wednesday, November 23rd – Annual Parish Thanksgiving Service and Dinner.
- Sunday, December 11th – the last ECW luncheon meeting of the year.
- Sunday, December 18th – Hanging of the Greens reception.
-

We are also responsible for dinners for the Canterbury group in November. Carol Agnew is again going to head up this ministry.

Jenny Way is beginning the program of recognition and thanks for the teachers and staff at Wheelock Elementary; she will be contacting volunteers for assistance.

I have heard on many occasions, from many sources, that St. Christopher's ECW is the most active women's group with the largest membership in the diocese. I cannot tell you how very proud and humbled I am to be a part of this ECW.

Serving St. Christopher's and our community through God's Grace and Love, we are ECW!

Missy



Trunk or Treat

The Lubbock Episcopal Youth Community will be hosting a Trunk or Treat Tailgating Party on Sunday, October 30th from 5:00 – 7:00 pm at St. Christopher's. Decorating and set-up will begin at 4:15 pm.

The youth invite all church members (of all ages) to decorate your cars and join in the fun. Last year we had a wide variety of cars (and characters) having a blast with the youngsters who visited.

Can't join in the fun that night? You can still help make this Trunk or Treat sweeter than ever. Drop off a bag (or three) of individually wrapped candy to the church, and we will pass it out to the ghosts, princesses and goblins who visit.

Don't forget to bring your children, grandchildren and neighbors on the 30th. This is a safe alternative to the traditional trick-or-treating that takes place on Halloween. Contact Renee Haney for more information, 445-3667.



Reader's Corner

By Candia Welch Thew

This Flowing Toward Me: A Story of God Arriving in Strangers by Marilyn Lacey. Notre Dame, IN: Ava Maria Press, 2009. (207p.)

This is the personal memoir of Sister Marilyn Lacey, a Catholic nun who was called out of her cloistered life to minister to refugees from Asia, Africa, Eastern Europe and Latin America. For the past twenty-five years, she has worked in their camps overseas and shepherded refugee families when they came to this country. This book is filled with her stories, and theirs.

Beginning with her response to an ad on her church bulletin board to assist newly arriving refugees from Southeast Asia, she finds that she is just as confused as they are when she tries to communicate to a family of seven who only speak Hmong and who has never been exposed to American customs or living conditions. From here she writes lovingly of her experiences and challenges when she tries to help other families from different countries find their way in this new world. She also writes (with humor) of her own difficulties when trying to wend her way through foreign refugee camps and villages, her role reversed! Chapters on "a new way of loving", the "God who weeps", "God does not kill", offer a new way for us, the readers, to understand the circumstances and the hope of many whose lives are so different from our own. Written with compassion and with love, Sister Lacey introduces us to a new world of desperate and brave people willing to risk all for the survival of their families. In the last three chapters, she describes how she has tried to cultivate "a new way of loving" and how her spiritual philosophy has become enmeshed in this giving love.

Notes in the back of the book refer to further reading, if the reader is so inclined.

From the Web: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr/data/00arc10appendixC.htm> :

"Episcopal Migration Ministries (EMM), a program of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church, responds to refugees, immigrants and displaced persons both domestically and internationally. EMM operates a national resettlement program through 26 diocesan programs that agree to organize parish sponsorships and community resources as part of their commitment to ensure the provision of reception and placement services to refugees. Programs range in size and scope from multi-service centers in major urban areas to smaller diocesan programs and refugee ministry units of state councils of churches. In FY 2000, EMM resettled 2,433 refugees from [several] regions". There is not an overseas refugee assistance program here in Lubbock that I could find. However, there are church groups who are working with Catholic Services to assist the Mexican migrants who are struggling over citizenship and immigration issues.

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).



Lubbock Episcopal Youth Community Activities

- Saturday, October 1st – Brownfield Harvest Festival – we are going to work at the festival with the youth from Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, Brownfield.
- Sunday, October 16th – At'I Do Corn Maze – we will meet at St. Paul's at 4:00 pm to head out to the corn maze, Cost: \$8:00 (plus snack money, if you want). We will return around 6:30 pm.
- October 28th – 30th – Diocesan Youth Gathering at Quarterman Ranch
- Sunday, October 30th – Trunk or Treat at St. Christopher's from 5:00 – 7:00 pm.



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Lilly Brock	October 1	Becky DelHotal	October 7
Doug Cashell	October 1	Carolyn Jones	October 9
Steve Finley	October 3	Donna Beavers	October 10
Alvin Stofel	October 4	Charlotte Brown	October 12
Hoot Thomas	October 5	Rosemary Lyman	October 14
Teresa Thomas	October 6	Melissa Barnes	October 16
Joyce White	October 6	Joan Morris	October 22
Keisha Jones	October 7	Jacob Way	October 28

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Allan & Cindy Dorsett	October 11	John & Carole Wolf	October 21
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This 'n That

- **PRAYER REQUESTS** – Submit prayer needs via the Daughters of the King prayer cards in the pews. Put the cards in the offering plate or in the little box on the credence shelf at the back of the church.
 - **FELLOWSHIP REFRESHMENTS** – Always, we really need one or two people each Sunday to bring “goodies” for the Adult Forum group, following the 8:00 service, and three people are needed each week to prepare coffee and treats for the fellowship time following the 10:00 service. There are sign-up sheets in the basement and in the Nelson Room in white notebooks. Please keep the refreshments simple. There is a basket present during the 9:00 hour for donations. On Sundays when no one has signed up, Martha Robinson will use the donated money to purchase cookies or other goodies for the group. Please be generous.
 - **NAMETAGS** – If each of us wears our nametag each week, it makes it easier for newcomers (and for those of us with failing memories) to put names with faces. Karen Hodges does a great job of preparing the name tags and putting them on the bulletin board in the Narthex. It’s your job to take it off the board and put it on each week. If you need a nametag, see Karen.
 - **CANS FOR CAMP** – Bring empty aluminum drink cans, tied up in bags, to the church. The money from cashing in these cans goes into a fund to help send children from St. Christopher’s to Camp Quarterman. Jenny Way is in charge of collecting the cans.
 - **FAIR TRADE COFFEE** - Jane Ann Wilson will be placing an order for Fair Trade Coffee on the first of each month. If you want her to order some for you, contact her by the first Sunday of each month.
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Food for Thought:

The Parable of the Pencil Maker

Author unknown

The pencil maker told the pencil five important lessons before putting it in the box:

Everything you do will always leave a mark.

You can always correct the mistakes you make.

What is important is what is inside of you.

In life you will undergo painful sharpenings, which will only make you better.

To be the best pencil, you must allow yourself to be held and guided by the hand that holds you.

We all need to be constantly sharpened. This parable may encourage you to know that you are a special person with unique God-given talents and abilities. Only you can fulfill the purpose which you were born to accomplish. Never allow yourself to get discouraged and think your life is insignificant and cannot be changed and, like the pencil, always remember that the most important part of who you are is what’s inside of you, and then allow yourself to be guided by the hand of God.

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Kathleen Borsch, Deacon
Melissa Wafer-Cross, Deacon

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

Josh Rodriguez, Seminarian

The Vestry

Steve Maines, Senior Warden

John Edwards, Junior Warden

Nancy McReynolds, Clerk

Luann "Podi" Stofel, Treasurer

Doug Cashell
Karen Hodges

Paul Driscoll

Paula Evans
Jan Kireilis

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