
The Christ Bearer

Newsletter of St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

Vol. 15, No. 9

September 2009

From the Rector:

Several of you have commented to me recently about how pleased you are to have Father Charles Bowyer helping out in a liturgical role at the 10:00 AM service on Sundays. Father Charles, a fixture in Episcopal circles in Lubbock since the 1970's, is well known to many of you, first as the Assistant Rector to Jacque Washington over at St. Paul's, or later through his lengthy ministry as a hospital chaplain. He is a man of many gifts, chief among them, his modesty. So when I told him that I thought that I would write something about him this month, he initially tried to deflect my interest in another, any other, direction.

I first met Charles in the summer of 2007 when I was invited along with other hospital chaplains to a "musicale" at his home. A Julliard-trained pianist, he performed five classical pieces after first detailing some of the history of each, some of the intricacies in each, or the different ways in which certain passages in each could be interpreted. He would talk a little, whip off a few bars to demonstrate his point, and then present the piece in its entirety. It was an amazing evening, and as I have since learned, typical of this man.

Despite his musical gifts, Father Charles' greatest calling has been to the religious life and the service of others in furtherance of the Kingdom of Christ on earth. And therein lies the answer to one of the common questions I receive about Charles, "What's all that other stuff he wears when he serves on Sundays?" Father Charles is an Episcopal priest who is also a confrater in the Confraternity of the Order of St. Benedict and is affiliated with the Episcopal Abby of St. Gregory in Three Rivers, Michigan. Thus he wears the black Benedictine cowl or scapular over his white alb and a medallion of St. Benedict on a chain around his neck in addition to his priestly stole. But more important than what he wears is his commitment to strive to live his life according to the ancient "Rule of St. Benedict" which was written early in the Sixth Century by Benedict of Nursia as a way of regulating life in the monasteries he founded. While Father Charles' life is not cloistered as it is for a monk living in a monastery, nonetheless he aspires to live a life in the world which balances love of God and His service, work, prayer, study, and recreation. The work in the world should reflect and give witness to all of the other attributes listed for this way of living. The primary characteristic of the Benedictine way of life is moderation, balance and stability, which accounts for the survival of this Rule for the past fourteen hundred years and its practice in monasteries, abbeys, and private homes all around the world today. You can read all about the Abbey of St. Gregory and the Benedictine tradition as practiced in the Episcopal Community under the supervision of Abbot Andrew there at: saintgregorysthreerivers.org.

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](http://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 July 31, 2009)

| | Budgeted | Actual |
|---------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Plate | \$ 5,880.00 | \$ 16,868.42 |
| Pledge | 95,109.60 | 93,882.00 |
| Other | <u>6,825.00</u> | <u>6,899.27</u> |
| Total Income | \$ 107,814.60 | \$ 117,649.69 |
| Expenses | \$ 107,814.75 | \$ 96,213.88 |
| Balance: Inc.-Exp. | \$ - .15 | \$ 21,435.81 |

Vestry Highlights - July

- Les Jackson's discernment committee will be made up of Wendell Aycock, Melissa Wafer-Cross and one other person. Fr. Way will be Les' mentor during his discernment.
- Fr. Way will serve as spiritual advisor for a Church of Christ minister and will also mentor a prison minister.
- The Columbarium committee concluded the bylaw change to allow members of the clergy to purchase niches in our columbarium.
- Fr. Way's discretionary fund is doing okay, but it can always use more donations.
- Carole Wolf reported that Linda Swartz is preparing mid-year pledge statements.
- Larry Beavers has supervised work on renovating the BBQ area, erecting a fence and replacing some of the metal roof. Mel Barnes and John Wolf have begun painting in that area and along the back of the building. Costs have been about \$1000, and the Adult Day Activity Center will reimburse us \$500 of that.
- Donnie Evans reported on repairs to the air conditioners. He looked into concerns about the safety of the front lawn area. The vestry will appoint a committee to work with the Columbarium Committee to develop a landscaping plan for these areas.
- The Personnel Committee presented a draft of the job descriptions for Elaine Howard and Linda Swartz. The vestry voted to give Elaine a raise.
- Claire Randolph proposes having a 2-day vacation bible school August 4 -5.
- Fr. Way reported that Melissa Wafer-Cross' covenant letter has been completed.
- The deadline for registration for diocesan convention is August 11. The vestry approved payment of \$50 per person toward



* Tomas Rosas died on August 10. Tomas was a member of this parish for many years since moving to Lubbock from El Paso. Our sympathy to his daughter, Marta Rosas, and to all who loved him. Services for Tomas were held in El Paso on August 14.

* Mickey Clark, sister of Betty Hodgson, died on August 8. Services for Mickey were held in Snyder. Our sympathy to Betty and all of her family.

* Our condolences to Bob Cope and his family on the death of his son, John Hardeman Cope II. John died on August 16, and his funeral service was held at St. Christopher's on August 19.

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



Dear St. Christopher's family,

Thank you so much for your generous gift of money to help with my moving expenses. I have continually been overwhelmed by your love and generosity. You have all been such a huge blessing to me. You continue to be in my thoughts and prayers.

*Christ's peace,
Josh Rodriguez*

Thank you to all the members of St. Christopher's for your support and love following the recent death of my sister Mickey Clark.

Betty Hodgson

September Food Pantry Needs



muffin mixes
jelly

The Food Pantry always welcomes monetary donations, as well, as they can purchase food items at the Food Bank for REALLY LOW prices.



Welcome to:

Tom & Grace Rogers, from St. Stephen's, Lubbock.



Deacon's Corner

GLEANERS

In ancient days in Israel, the people were given a plan to take care of their economically disadvantaged citizens. Harvesters in the field were required to leave the corners and edges of the field untouched, masters of the vineyard were to leave some grapes on the vine, and workers beating the olives off the trees were to leave a few. Any of these crops that were scattered on the ground or forgotten during harvest were to be left (Lev. 19:9-10; Deut. 24:19-22). Then the poor, orphans, widows, and aliens were allowed to go through and pick up the wheat, grapes, and olives, a process called "gleaning". This is what Ruth did when she arrived in Israel with her mother-in-law Naomi (Ruth 2:2).

Similar programs exist in the Lubbock area today, sponsored by the South Plains Food Bank. Their Produce for the Plains program provides edible but unsellable fresh produce from local wholesalers to low-income families and senior citizens. Another program, Second Helpings, recovers quality unused food from local restaurants and uses this food to serve 1,000 meals per week at different soup kitchen locations in the community.

Do you have a vegetable garden that produces more than you can eat? Ask around in your neighborhood, the local school, or a church, and find a family that is struggling to feed their kids, or cook up some veggies for a senior citizen. Let's go a little further with this: Is there anything that you have in abundance from which someone could "glean"?

Peace,
Kathleen



Pastoral Care Committee

St. Christopher's Pastoral Care Committee covers a wide range of activities and services, and we want all members (new and otherwise) to know about the many opportunities this particular ministry makes available to everyone. Some of the committees under the Pastoral Care umbrella are Hospitality and Social Functions, Newcomers, Communication, Pastoral Visits, and Care and Concern. Each month we will describe a committee and invite interested members to participate.

Care and Concern Committee

This month we are showcasing the Care and Concern committee. Care and Concern is chaired by Doug Cashell, and Doug is assisted by Wendell Aycock, Jan Kireillis and Nancy McReynolds. The focus of this group is to be aware of regular members who have not been attending services lately or whose health issues keep them from coming to church. The Care and Concern group welcomes anyone who would enjoy making occasional telephone contact with members who haven't been in attendance or who might have a pastoral need. If communicating with others is one of your gifts, we encourage you to join this group by emailing Jan Kireillis at tjkireillis@suddenlink.net to volunteer your time and talent.

Fall Fun Family Festival Sunday, September 27

Mark your calendars now for the first ever St. Christopher's Fall Fun Family Festival immediately following the 10:00 service on September 27. Dress will be casual; food will be plentiful, and fun for all ages will be fantastic!! Details will follow in the weekly pew sheets, but this



Sundays & Wednesdays & Holy Days in September

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, September 2 - The Martyrs of New Guinea
Revelation 7:13-17 Psalm 116:1-8 Luke 12:4-12
Service of Holy Eucharist & Unction at 5:30 pm - Agape supper at 6:00

Sunday, September 6 - Proper 18 (Year B)

Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23
Psalm 125
James 2:1-17
Mark 7:24-37

Wednesday, September 9 - The Martyrs of Memphis
2 Corinthians 1:3-5 Psalm 116:10-17 John 12:24-28
Service of Holy Eucharist & Unction at 5:30 pm - Agape supper at 6:00

Sunday, September 13 - Proper 19 (Year B)

Proverbs 1:20-33
Psalm 19
James 3:1-12
Mark 8:27-38

Wednesday, September 16 - Ninian, Bishop of Galloway
Isaiah 49:1-6 Psalm 97:1-2, 7-12 Matthew 28:16-20
Service of Holy Eucharist & Unction at 5:30 pm - Agape supper at 6:00

Sunday, September 20 - Proper 20 (Year B)

Proverbs 31:10-31
Psalm 1
James 3:13 - 4:3, 7-8a
Mark 9:30-37

Wednesday, September 23 - Philander Chase, Bishop (transferred)
Isaiah 44:1-6, 8 Psalm 108:1-6 Luke 9:1-6
Service of Holy Eucharist & Unction at 5:30 pm - Agape supper at 6:00

Sunday, September 27 - Proper 21 (Year B)

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10, 9:20-22
Psalm 124
James 5:13-20
Mark 9:38-50

Wednesday, September 30 - Jerome, Priest and Monk of Bethlehem
2 Timothy 3:14-17 Psalm 19:7-14 Luke 24:44-48
Service of Holy Eucharist & Unction at 5:30 pm - Agape supper at 6:00



NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE

September 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:

Nancy and Don McReynolds for help in planting ground cover in the courtyard

Altar Guild members who get the altar ready for all the weekly services

Tom and Mandy Wiley for their faithful delivery of boxes for the Food Pantry

All those who provide donations of food and money for the Food Pantry

Betty Hodgson and Missy Ratcliff for teaching Mah Jongg classes

Gail McEachern for the beautiful solo on August 9

Jane Ann and members of the choir for their part of the worship

Our young people and children for their roles in our church family

Claire Randolph and all the adult volunteers who work in our Sunday school program

Our deacons Kathleen Borsch, Melissa Cross, and Les Jackson for their service to us

Our newsletter team

Our Wednesday night layreaders and the faithful Wednesday night congregation who join in the eucharist, support each other in the healing service, and share the meal afterward together

Members of the Brotherhood of St. Christopher's, Daughters of the King, and Episcopal Church Women for what each group does to enhance the life of this congregation

Edson for the work he does in the deanery as well as in our parish

All who provide donations for the discretionary funds

Everyone for being part of the fellowship we share

David and Melissa Cross for venison that they donated to the Food Pantry

Jo and John Edwards for donating fresh vegetables to the Food Pantry

Those who help to pack the food boxes on Sundays

To those who continue to support the Food Pantry with monetary donations

Carole



Annual ECW Conference
September 18 - 20, 2009

Featured Speaker - Debbie Taylor Williams

The annual diocesan Episcopal Church Women's Conference will be held September 18 - 20 at the Bishop Quarterman Conference Center. There will be lots of time for prayer and fellowship, with a little bit of business thrown in. One of the attractive features of this weekend is always the presence of a dynamic speaker and teacher. For information on costs, shared rides, etc. contact Debbie Maines.

This year's featured speaker is Debbie Taylor Williams, an author and retreat leader from Kerrville, TX. Before establishing Hill Country Ministries in 1999, Debbie served as the Teaching Leader for Bible Study Fellowship, where she led a class of 450 women. She later co-founded and taught Women's Bible Study at her church involving more than 300 multi-denominational women.

Debbie's most recent book, and the theme of this weekend is *Pray With Purpose, Live With Passion*. Come, join the fun and meet Debbie Williams (who just happens to be a Texas Tech



Environmental Stewardship

Recycling in Lubbock, Texas

Information provided by City of Lubbock Solid Waste Services

Several sites are provided by the City of Lubbock for the recycling of various materials. Items must be sorted and placed in the appropriate, labeled dumpsters at these sites. The drop-off locations include: Elmwood - 2002 Elmwood Avenue, Southside - 1631 84th Street, and Northside - 208 Municipal Drive. There are also drop-off locations at all United Supermarkets. Dumpsters are provided at each of these locations for the following materials: computer and office paper, newspaper, glass bottles & jars, aluminum cans, steel/tin food & beverage cans, and plastic bottles and jugs that have the recycle code numbers of 1 or 2. Cardboard & pasteboard boxes can also be dropped off in large containers at the City of Lubbock sites. The city sites are open Monday - Friday from 8:00 am - 5:30 pm and Saturday from 8:00 am - 2:00 pm.

All materials should be dry and unsoiled. Caps should be removed from glass and plastic bottles and jars. Cans, bottles and jugs should be rinsed out and dry. All boxes should be broken down and flattened.

The following things are not welcome at the recycling centers - magazines or slick inserts from the newspaper, fluorescent or cardstock papers, light bulbs or window glass, foil wrap or tin pie pans, motor oil containers, margarine or other tub-type containers, plastic sacks, poison or pesticide bottles, automotive product containers.

Other items are accepted for recycling, but require drop-off with an attendant and sign-in as proof of residence. These items include used motor oil & filters and used antifreeze - under 5 gallons; vehicle batteries; auto tires; household cooking grease; computers and cell phones.



ICON WORKSHOP BEGINS FALL SEASON

Deacon Les Jackson is pleased to announce the schedule and the Icon for the 2009 Fall Icon Workshop. Our Icon workshop this fall will be Our Lady of Perpetual Help. This is a large Icon. Participants will be

w

on a panel that is 16"x20" in size. Although this is a larger project

than

we've attempted before, I believe that it is accessible for most people who would like to join the class. Just remember that it's one prayer and brush stroke at a time. The workshop is open to anyone who would like to know more about icons, their meaning and use, and would like to write (paint) an icon for their own personal devotions. All sessions begin in prayer and meditation. The fee of \$40 is requested to assist in covering supplies (art panel, paint, and golf leaf). For more information, please feel free to contact Deacon Jackson via email at lesval@att.net or at 543-3298. The Fall Workshop will begin on Friday, September 18, from 6:30 - 8:30 pm with an introduction and general class information and will continue

ei: ning through mid-December.



On August 15, Kelli Renee Van Deusen and Joshua Mark Haxel were wed at St. Christopher's by Fr. Way. The bride's parents are Kevin & Kathy Van Deusen, former members of St. Christopher's, and the groom is the son of Ted & Leslie Haxel of Oklahoma City.





A Reader's Corner

When Faith Meets Reason: Religion Scholars Reflect on Their Spiritual Journeys, edited by Charles W. Hedrick. Santa Rosa, CA: Polebridge Press, 2008. (168p.)

Charles Hedrick (PhD, Claremont Graduate University) writes in his introduction, "What happens to traditional faith when old creeds and confessions can no longer be squared with an empirical worldview? The contributors to this volume have faced that question and found ways to accommodate faith, human reason, and modern science. Their views have changed over a lifetime of critical study into the roots of the Christian tradition". (p.xvii)

Having questioned traditional theological teachings as they've evolved spiritually, thirteen religious scholars candidly write of where and why they've struggled with their original beliefs, who and what have influenced them along their "faith adventure" (Nigel Leaves, p.25) and where they are now, and why. Most admit that theirs is a lifetime journey, as they agree that it should be for all. As Nigel Price writes, "It is the one who hungers and thirsts, not the one who is filled, who receives the gospel beatitude" (p.43). Of course, hungering and thirsting can be a painful process (in my mind), especially over a lifetime process, but very fulfilling (even temporarily) when truth and insight appear to assuage the "hunger" left by a spiritual doubt or a biblical confusion.

Some of these articles are dry (in spots), some are stimulating, some I disagreed and argued with, and some I howled, "yes!" All thirteen are provocative and worthy of consideration and debate, whether in the quiet of your reading chair or in a group discussion.

The thirteen contributors are: Susan M. Elliot (PhD, Loyola University), David Galston (PhD, McGill University), Glenna S. Jackson (PhD, Marquette University), Paul Alan Laughlin (PhD, Emory University), Nigel Leaves (PhD, Murdock University), Darren J. N. Middleton (PhD, University of Glasgow), Robert M. Price (PhD, Drew University), James M. Robinson (DTh, University of Basel and PhD, Princeton Theological Seminary), Mahlon H. Smith (MSL, Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies, Toronto), Hal Taussig (PhD, Union Institute), Theodore J. Weeden, Sr. (PhD, Claremont Graduate University and Walter Wink (ThD, Union Theological Seminary). Most have authored several books. Notes and extensive bibliographies follow each article.

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).



The Rt. Rev. J. Scott Mayer, Bishop of the Diocese of Northwest Texas will make his first official visitation to St. Christopher's on Sunday, October 11. At the time of his visit, Bishop Mayer will confirm and receive those people who desire to become members of the Episcopal Church. If you are not an Episcopalian and are interested in progressing toward confirmation or to being received from another denomination, please contact Fr.

W:

**Remember all the fun you had at
Camp Quarterman??**

Or do you want to know more about Camp Quarterman?

This is the place for YOU!!!

Bring a friend (or 2) and come to the

1st Annual

Messy Night - Quarterman Style

at All Saints Episcopal School

September 26

5:00 - 7:00 pm

**If you are entering grades 2 - 12 and are in Lubbock,
join us.**

**Please let Renee Haney know if you're planning to come -
at 445-3667 or nwtxyouth@suddenlink.net**



Guardian Angels of St. Christopher's

A new opportunity has presented itself to allow us to demonstrate our love and affection for our church buildings. The Guardian Angels of St. Christopher's is being organized to provide the little extra touches that will make our church home even more inviting, soothing, and comfortable to all who enter these doors for worship and community. We have a faithful Junior Warden who keeps our building in tip-top shape and a hardworking Sexton team that cleans our building weekly. We are blessed with wonderful Altar Guild members who take such loving care of the altar and all that it entails. So, a different kind of task awaits the Guardian Angels.

There have always been Guardian Angels at St. Christopher's. These angels are the ones who simply see a need and quietly take care of it. However, the Guardian Angels are organizing now so that no one has to do too much and so that all who want to can participate. The Guardian Angels will be on the look out for special things that they can provide. All ideas will be approved by the Decoration Committee before being implemented, and work has already begun in several areas. If you want to be a Guardian Angel, call Paula Evans or email her at

This 'n That

- There is always a need for Coffee time hosts. Sign up on the lists in either kitchen.
- WEAR YOUR NAMETAG!!!!
- Join the Wednesday evening Eucharist and supper group. There's always good food, and it's a great way to get to know folks.
- 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 ask Martha Robinson.
- Have you joined the diocesan team for the Susan B. Komen Race For the Cure on October 3? If you have, good for you! If not, there's still time. Most of us will be participating in the one-mile Fun Run, so don't think you have to run several miles to participate. Contact Nancy Igo at nigo@nwdiocese.org or 763-1370, extension 4 to sign up.
- The Sign Chi Do class is continuing 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 join us. Don't worry that you've missed important steps. We pretty much start over each time. Please give this class a try.
- The Mah Jongg group is meeting every Wednesday at 11:00. They are learning how to play the game, with the help of Betty Hodgson and Missy Ratcliff. Bring a sack lunch and join this group. Keep your brain sharp by learning a new skill. It's still early enough in the learning process that beginners won't feel overwhelmed, so come & join the fun.
- The Adult Forum continues its study of The Apocrypha at 9:00 am each Sunday. Come for refreshments and enjoy learning about a part of the bible that is not well known.
- 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. Plan to attend with some friends.



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|----------------------|--------------|
| Mary Catherine Jones | September 1 |
| Podi Stofel | September 1 |
| Sarah Wilson | September 4 |
| Judy Hanslik | September 7 |
| Marilou Harrison | September 7 |
| Mariah Knudson | September 8 |
| Madeline Jane Barnes | September 9 |
| Charles Welch | September 11 |
| Blake Perez | September 13 |
| Devin Powell | September 15 |
| Suzanne Aker | September 19 |
| Patricia Smithwick | September 22 |
| Allen Todd | September 28 |
| Caitlin Finley | September 28 |
| John Wolf | September 29 |

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

| | |
|----------------------|--------------|
| Mel & Jane Barnes | September 2 |
| Michael & K Landress | September 6 |
| Edson & Jenny Way | September 6 |
| Tom & Grace Rogers | September 7 |
| Hoot & Teresa Thomas | September 21 |

Your editor apologizes for omitting a few birthdays and anniversaries recently. Give the following people a belated shout-out for their special days recently past:

Worth Fullingim's birthday - July 24
 Nancy Bethea's birthday - August 27
 Rob & Nancy Bethea's anniversary - August 19

St. Christopher's chapter of Daughters of the King will meet on Sunday, September 6, following the 10:00 service. Since they didn't meet last month, the ladies will begin a discussion of *Conversations With St. Francis* by James C. Howell. 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.

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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
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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