

# *The Chart*

## *Christ Church*

### *September, 2006*

#### **Letter from the Rector**

September 1, 2006

Dear Friends,

In this edition of the Christ Church *Chart*, I wish to share with you the program for the church during the 2006-2007 school year. I hope our worship, Christian education, fellowship, youth, in-reach and out-reach programs will have many things to offer to you, your families and the community. Please also know that I am available for pastoral care visits, spiritual direction and counseling. Finally, when you are going into hospital, please call the church office. Because of privacy regulations, clergy can no longer go to hospitals to 'search' for parishioners, so a call to the office is necessary to start the hospital call process.

I also wish to let you know about the process of shoring-up the short-and-long-term finances of Christ Church. Through the sale of a portion of the Christ Church campus, we wish to create a reasonable endowment for the church. Currently our 'endowment' contains just over \$600,000. Obviously, this is not sufficient for a church with a budget of \$500,000 a year and a campus of nearly five and one-half acres—especially one with buildings in need of substantial repair and general upkeep. We hope the endowment will grow to \$4 million.

The sale agreement for approximately one and one-third acres of the Christ Church property will provide the funds for the endowment. Regrettably, it will also necessitate the building of a new parish house since the current parish house is located so centrally on the property that no sale of land could be made that did not impact the parish house. We wish to undertake a capital campaign to pay for the new parish house. Our goal is to raise \$3 million for the parish house. You will hear much more about the capital campaign in the coming months.

The purchaser of the land at Christ Church plans to build 'senior housing.' Although the design for land use and buildings is still preliminary, it is most interesting and should be a positive addition to Christ Church and the community.

Finally, a word about church growth: Christ Church has been gently growing over the past several years. We want to keep growing. We believe there are many things at Christ Church that will interest those looking for a church home. You can help by letting friends and neighbors know about Christ Church and by inviting them to join you on Sundays or for other programs during the year.

This comes with my best wishes.

Sincerely,

DAVID B. LOWRY, RECTOR

## Adult Education

There will be three education programs offered at Christ Church in 2006-2007: *Science and Religion*; *Religious Biography* and *Music and Theology in Handel's Messiah*.

The main offering is a study of the issues in which science and religion interact. In the fall, the course will focus on creation and evolution as religious/scientific issues. In the spring (during Lent), the course will turn its attention to the moral (religious and secular) implications of religion and science on medicine, sexuality, and the environment (including global warming). The fall sessions will be held on Wednesdays, October 4, 11 and 18 at 7:30 pm. The Lenten sessions will be held on Wednesdays, February 28, and March 7, 14, 21 and 28 at 7:30 pm. A soup and salad dinner will precede the lecture/discussion.

The second program will focus on religious biography. The figures to be considered include Moses, David, Peter, Paul, Mary Magdalene, Augustine, Martin Luther and Mother Theresa. Biographies will be available for participants. The six sessions are spread on Wednesdays at 7:30 pm through the year as follows: September 27 (Moses); November 1 (King David); November 29 (Peter, Paul and Mary Magdalene); January 24 (Augustine of Hippo); April 18 (Martin Luther); and May 16 (Mother Theresa). Participants are asked to order their books through the church office four weeks in advance; books will be available three weeks prior to the session.

Since the first session will take place in September, a little more about Moses and his biography called for. The Biblical text that deals with Moses' remarkable history is the book of Exodus. There are no other texts that deal with Moses. Therefore a biographer of Moses must deal with events and parallel histories during Moses lifetime to create a fuller picture of Moses and what his history means. In fact, many scholars doubt that Moses ever existed, so a biographer must make the case for a 'real' Moses as part of any biography. Jonathan Kirsh, a California-based Jewish lawyer, undertook the task of writing a biography of Moses in 1999. Although the resulting book raises as many questions as it answers, reading and discussing *Moses: A Life* proves fascinating and enlightening.

The final offering will take place during Advent on Sunday afternoons. In it we will look at the use of scripture, theology and music in Handel's Messiah. Handel's librettist (The Rev'd Charles Jennens) chose carefully the Hebrew Scripture texts for the first portion of *Messiah* from the Prophets of the Hebrew Scriptures, with special emphasis of Isaiah.

On Sunday afternoons, December 3, 10 and 17 at 3:00 pm we will look at the underlying scripture, the implied theology and the musical treatment of the texts that make up *Messiah*. We will use a variety of recordings of *Messiah*, ranging from Sir Malcolm Sargeant's classic interpretation to Nicholas Harnoncourt's new, revisionist recording to listen to Handel's masterpiece—and possibly we will sing along a little.

## Christian Education – Sunday School

Hooray for Sunday School! We're back in session on September 10 at 9:30 and again this year we will have our annual Welcome Back "Ice Cream Sunday" party during coffee hour on that day.

Parents, please note that chapel begins each Sunday at **9:30** and the children will all have their chapel assignments shortly so they can be prepared. We ask that those children assigned as chapel acolytes, lector, offertory and particularly usher be **ON TIME** each Sunday.

A current registration form must be submitted for each student so that we can update our database and keep our classroom records current. Forms have been sent home and extras will be available on the September 10.

The Sunday School children, their parents and their teachers will have a picnic on the back lawn on Sunday September 24th after church. We are excited to have new families join our church and look forward to this opportunity for them to get to know each other better. It is also a chance for teachers to get to know their students' parents and for the parents to discuss any questions they may have with the teachers. There will be a sign up sheet in the back of church and ask that each family bring a small salad or dessert.

We will be celebrating the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi with the Blessing of the Animals on October 8th. Children may bring their pets into class if the pets are contained; i.e.; fish, lizards.

Finally please do check the schedule for the Sunday school which appears elsewhere in The Chart.

## **Youth Group – Youth Work**

Our program for Junior High School students will continue this year under the leadership of Penny Tadler. The *Cherubim* meet Thursday evenings at 5pm for dinner, discussion, fellowship and outreach activities. This year Father Lowry will join the *Cherubim* at 6:15pm to add Christian Education to the work of the *Cherubim*. Father Lowry and Penny Tadler will work to help establish an enjoyable and rewarding Christian Education experience for all. The first meeting of the *Cherubim* will be on Thursday, October 5, mailings will be going out to all Junior High School students over the coming weeks.

## **Fellowship**

The Fellowship has scheduled the Progressive Dinner for Saturday evening October 14. The Progressive Dinner is a long standing Christ Church Tradition. It begins with hors' d'oeuvres and cocktails at the home of one the church members and then participants go to several different homes for dinner. At the completion of dinner everyone comes together again in a single home for dessert. It is a wonderful way for members of the congregation to get to know each other and to enjoy a more intimate time of dinner and discussion as well, in addition, the Fellowship Committee is planning a Christmas get-together, a spring informal party and activities for new comers at Christ Church. Please further editions of The Chart for details.

## **Notes from the Organ Loft 🎵**

I am pleased to have this opportunity to write to you to introduce myself to the parish of Christ Church. I am Kyle Babin and I am pleased to assume the position of Organist, Choir Master at Christ Church. I am a doctoral candidate for the Degree of Doctor of Musical Arts (DMA) at the Manhattan School of Music where I study with McNeil Robinson whom some of you know as he wrote a piece of music for the bicentenary of Christ Church and was the teacher of Maxine Thevenot. I come to New York from Texas where I graduated from Rice University with a Bachelor of Music degree and Yale University where I earned a Masters Degree in Music. I have served as Organist, Choir Master at two churches in the New York metropolitan area prior to coming to Christ Church. Before coming to New York and while a student at Yale, I served as assistant to Paul Halley both at Trinity Church in Torrington and with his professional choral group, Chorus Angelicus and Gaudeamus. Paul Halley was previously Organist, Choir Master at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City.

I have equal interest in choral and organ music and I look forward to continuing the strong choral tradition which was rekindled by my predecessor Nancy Ludwig. In addition I hope to present to Christ Church and the community the finest of the organ repertoire with preludes and postludes ranging from Bach to Marcel Dupré and beyond.

I hope you will choose to come to church a little early so that you might prepare for worship and enjoy the organ music of the great masters.

I would also like to urge any of you with interest, even you who are short on experience and education, to consider joining the choirs of Christ Church. Please also feel free to invite your friends from outside the church to be part of what I hope will be a very rewarding musical as well as religious experience at Christ Church.

The Senior Choir will rehearse on Thursday evenings at 7:30pm and again on Sunday mornings at 9am. The Junior Choir will meet on Tuesday afternoons at 5:30pm. We will be flexible with age groups for the Choirs and will be quite willing to make changes wherever possible to adjust ourselves to your busy schedules.

Please do take a moment to introduce yourself to me before or after services and if you would like me to call on you, please leave a message at the office and I will be in contact with you.

## **Around the Parish**

**In appreciation of Doris Finn from the Rector** – In 1971 when I first arrived at Christ Church in preparation for my ordination, I recognized that there were some very special people who were the soul of Christ Church. I would like to focus on one of those people whose quiet friendship I have treasured, not only at my time at Christ Church, but also during the nearly 30 years I spent away from Christ Church. Doris Finn is that very special person. When I think back on my early years at Christ Church the Altar Guild revolved around Elizabeth Hopkins, Eva Mae Jensen and Doris Finn. There were great similarities between and among these three devoted workers for the church. They were quiet, understanding and selfless and, at the same time, exacting.

Returning 28 years later Eva Mae had died, Elizabeth Hopkins had moved to Jackson, Michigan but Doris was still there doing the same quiet, unassuming and virtually perfect job preparing the church for services on Sundays and on Thursdays. Now Doris has decided to that it is time for her to move nearer to her daughter Sharon and so this week she departs for Tacoma, Washington. She will be very much missed not only by me but all of Christ Church. So it is appropriate we memorialize the many years of devoted service to Christ Church given by Doris Finn and wish her every best wish as she moves to Tacoma. It is clear that some very lucky church in the Diocese of Washington will be blessed by having Doris as a part of their congregation. Thank you, Doris, for all that you have done.

## **The Word of the Month**

This month's word is 'church.' Although we all know what church means, we are probably less aware of its origins and the interesting etymological history that the word has. The word church comes from the Greek word 'kyriakon' (Κυριακόν), which means something that belongs to the Lord. The word 'Lord' in Greek is 'Kyrios,' but we know it best in its vocative form as 'Kyrie,' which can be found in the beginning of our liturgy in the "Lord, have mercy". The word moved through the German (Kirche) and Dutch (Kerke), before coming to English as 'Church' and to Scottish as 'Kirk.' Most properly 'church' refers to a building, not to a group of Christians.

The other Greek word that is associated with church is 'ecclesia,' which literally means those who are called-out. We know the word mostly through the English term 'ecclesiastical.' In French and Italian 'ecclesia' predominated over 'kyriakon' in providing the root for the word for an ecclesiastic building, so the French word for church is 'eglise' and the Italian is 'chiesa.'

## **CHURCH SCHOOL CALENDAR – Fall 2006**

<b>September 10</b>	<b>Class – Ice Cream Sunday Welcome Back Celebration</b>
<b>September 17</b>	<b>Class</b>
<b>September 24</b>	<b>Class – Student, teacher, parent picnic</b>
<b>October 1</b>	<b>Class</b>
<b>October 8</b>	<b>Class - Blessing of the Animals</b>
<b>October 15</b>	<b>Class</b>
<b>October 22</b>	<b>Class</b>
<b>October 29</b>	<b>Class</b>
<b>November 5</b>	<b>Class – All Saints' Day celebrated</b>
	<b>Wrap shoeboxes for Samaritan's Purse</b>
<b>November 12</b>	<b>Class – Samaritan's Purse project</b>
<b>November 19</b>	<b>Class</b>
<b>November 26</b>	<b>No Class</b>

*Christ the King Family Service*

December 3	Class – 1st Advent
December 10	Class – 2nd Advent
December 17	Class – 3rd Advent Sunday School Pageant
December 24	No Class – 4th Advent <i>Christmas Eve Service 5:00</i>
December 31	No Class

## Happy Birthday!!

*We are pleased to congratulate these friends and parishioners this month on their birthdays...*

Robert Pavlovich , Lauren Koch, Alexander Bennett, Hope Whalen, Janet Rider, Marissa Mazek, Andy Phillips, Ted Beinecke, Julianne Scherer, Walter Stackler , Michelle Deosaran, Harold Olson, Dylan Field, Michael Henahan, Hannah Pavlovich, Matthew Horne, Walter Edward Stackler, Lucinda Pavlovich, Elizabeth Hegyesi, Katherine Allen, Bradford Lightcap, Graham Siener, Phyllis Sternemann.

## Happy Anniversary!!!

*Our congratulations to all those friends and parishioners celebrating their wedding anniversaries this month...*

Walter and Lesley Stackler, Tom and Lucy Chaly, Nicholas and Oriana Cyprus, Jeff and Jane Lightcap, Jerome and Arlene Blocker.

***SUNDAY READINGS AND ALTAR FLOWER MEMORIALS FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER:***

**THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – SEPTEMBER 3, 2006**

*Deuteronomy 4: 1-9; Psalm 15; Ephesians 6: 10-20; Mark 7: 1-8, 15-15, 21-23*

**THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – SEPTEMBER 10, 2006**

*Isaiah 35: 35: 4-7; Psalm 146; James 1: 17-27; Mark 7: 31-37*

Altar flowers are given in memory of Milton Hopkins  
by Elizabeth Hopkins

**THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – SEPTEMBER 17, 2006**

*Isaiah 50: 4-9; Psalm 116; James 2: 1-5, 8-10, 14-18; Mark 8: 27-38*

*There is an opening for altar flowers on this Sunday  
The flowers may be given as a memorial or thank offering. If you would like  
to make a donation to the flowers please call the office at 627-2184  
or Mrs. Diana Tadler at 627-0128.*

**THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – SEPTEMBER 24, 2006**

***Wisdom 1: 16-2: 1, 6-22; Psalm 54; James 3: 16-4: 6; Mark 9: 30-37***

Altar flowers are given in memory of Steve Kambourian  
by Blanche Kambourian and Family

+ + +

**CHRIST CHURCH STAFF**

The Rev. David B. Lowry, Rector, Residence: 516-570-0318  
Mr. Kyle Babin, Organist/Choir Master  
Ms. Kathy Hoffmann, Administrator Church Office: 627-2184  
Mr. Enrique Valdes, Sexton