

the COURIER

Established
1866

The Newsletter of Christ Episcopal Church
Dearborn, Michigan

SUMMER 2020
VOLUME 54.06

My Sabbatical

For the first time in twenty years of ordained ministry, I planned to take a sabbatical this summer. I had accumulated 14 weeks of sabbatical, and used portions of it in 2018 and 2019 for training and education to support the Partnership in Faith initiative between Christ Church and Mother of the Savior. This included training in Portland, OR to become a Qualified Administrator of the IDI, the Intercultural Development Inventory; training on Diversity in Context with Eric Law; becoming an Accredited Facilitator with the Kaleidoscope Institute in intercultural work; and training with Eating Together Faithfully, whose material we are using in the Baptized for Life project as we build relationships between Christ Church people and Mother of the Savior people. With all of that training behind me, and with leaders in the parish picking up the work for the summer, I had planned to use the rest of my sabbatical time for rest and renewal.

The sabbatical was to begin with twelve days in Ireland and Northern Ireland. Eight of the twelve days would have included a retreat with Gareth Higgins and Kathleen Norris focused on storytelling. The rest of the summer was to be spent, primarily in solitude, writing, reading, and learning to create icons. It was to be a peaceful, creative time of renewal.

The trip to Ireland has been postponed to next summer. Other portions of the sabbatical may still happen, assuming we don't have another stay at home order from new cases of the virus. So, for now I plan to be in the office for most of June, and part of July, and August. The end of June and beginning of July I plan to go to the UP for about 8 days, staying in an apartment in Marquette, near Lake Superior. I will read, rest, paint, and hike. Then I hope to drive to Sister Bay, Wisconsin to visit with a friend. If possible I will continue my drive, in a

southern direction along the western edge of Lake Michigan into Chicago where I hope to go to a few museums and see family.

In August I have rented an Airbnb on Lake Eire between Monroe and Toledo. Again, I plan to read, write, and paint.

I have several books on self-guided Icon writing retreats, and I downloaded an icon class created by a Roman Catholic nun from Greece. These will be my guide as I enter into the story of icons and this Christian practice of prayer.

There are a variety of summer online gatherings planned, including perhaps a conversation on racism that Jeanne Martens is exploring, a course that Carolyn Blackmore is organizing using video clips by Irish poet, Padraig O'Tuoma on Conflict and the Gospels (he's lovely to listen too), activities for kids, and worship. There is a chance that the staff will be back in the office by early July. And hopefully you all are safe and sound and able to enjoy the summer, however you are able.

Since I could not go to Ireland I have found solace in the poems of Irish poets, especially Padraig O'Tuoma and John O'Donohue. Here is an excerpt from a blessing, "For One Who Is Exhausted..." by John O'Donohue:

When the rhythm of the heart becomes hectic,
Time takes on the strain until it breaks;
Then all the unattended stress falls in
On the mind like an endless, increasing weight...

The light in the mind becomes dim.
Things you could take in your stride before
Now become labor-some events of will.
Weariness invades your spirit.

Continued on page 2

Continued from front page

Gravity begins falling inside you,
Dragging down every bone...

There is nothing else to do now but rest
And patiently learn to receive the self
You have forsaken in the race of days...

Take refuge in your senses, open up
To all the small miracles you rushed through...

Imitate the habit of twilight,
Taking time to open the well of color
That fostered the brightness of day...
Draw alongside the silence of stone
Until its calmness can claim you.
Be excessively gentle with yourself...

Gradually, you will return to yourself,
Having learned a new respect for your heart
And the joy that dwells far within slow time

*In Peace,
Pastor Terri*

INVITATION TO JOIN REFLECTION AND CONVERSATION, OVER 4 WEEKS IN JULY 2020

READING THE BIBLE THROUGH THE LENS OF CONFLICT A COURSE FOR SMALL GROUP REFLECTION AND CONVERSATION

Do you miss connecting with other parishioners; exploring how our Christianity can inform and support us?

Carolyn Blackmore (Christ Church, Dearborn) will facilitate a 4-lesson series on Zoom, entitled: READING THE BIBLE THROUGH THE LENS OF CONFLICT. Sessions will be on Monday evenings: July 6, 13, 20 and 27, starting at 6:55PM; each session lasts approximately an hour.

The course uses short videos by Padraig O Tuama, a poet and theologian who lived through the Troubles in Northern Ireland. Padraig approaches conflict with a deep spiritual sensibility, offering different insights into recognizing and managing conflict. Each week we will use the Gospel reading from the Sunday lectionary (day before), as a way to explore how the Bible can infuse and inform our responses to the conflicts we may be experiencing.

Please register your interest by contacting Christ Church, Dearborn office: tel: 313 565 8450, or email: christd@comcast.net

To ensure time for all members of the group to participate, registration is limited to 12 people.

Details of the Zoom meeting link will be sent in early July to those who register.

A WORD FROM OUR CURATE

REFLECTION ON MATHEW 14:22-33

By Curate Halim Shukair

“Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds” Matthew 14:22

In Mathew’s Gospel 14: 22-33, Jesus makes the disciples, get into a boat and head out across the other side of the lake. Jesus would meet up with them again, but first, he was going to take some time by himself to pray. Jesus is the one who “made the disciples get into the boat”, Jesus is the one who told them to “go on ahead to the other side.”

The boat has, from very early days in Christianity, been a symbol for the church. Think of a ship, a vessel large enough that it takes several people doing diverse things to make it move.

A ship is a great symbol for the church. The ship can travel through calm water, wind, and storms.

When sailing, the ship is subject to storm and wind and waves. What makes the ship overcome all these hard conditions is the cooperation between the sailors and the captain. Sometimes the life on the ship can get routine, the same chores need doing every day. A large crew means a variety of people, which means a variety of ideas and personalities. A ship’s mission can be threatened by those who tempted to set sail alone or jump overboard. But any problems on the ship have more to do with the sailors than the captain.

In this passage the Captain, Christ, has made the disciples get into a boat and head across the sea.

But a storm blow in! As storms come into our lives in different ways striking individuals, families, churches, nations, and the world. The storm hit the world in February 2020, Covid-19, the economic storms that blow because of unemployment, the storm of anger that blow after the death of George Floyd, the storm of isolation, sickness, and despair. Add to these the storms that hit individuals and nations: cancer, divorce, famine, war, broken relationships, loss of a job, and loss of loved ones.

All of us have stories about storms striking in our own lives and the life of the community.

Storms and troubles come into our life like “Ghosts”, they frighten us and our plans and hopes get destroyed. And these “ghosts” will put us in doubt.

Do we have faith? Do we have the right kind of faith? Do we have enough faith?

And we are faced with a quick and easy answer! “You just need faith. If you had more faith you would get what you prayed for. If your faith was stronger you wouldn’t doubt, struggle, or question “

So, I wonder about what would happen to Peter if he had more faith, enough faith, a different kind of faith. The usual answer is that Peter’s fear would have disappeared.

This kind of faith will not carry us through the storms of life.

In this time of the pandemic, a lot of faithful people, people of prayers have lost their lives. Death has come to people and

their families, people who had an express deep faith, and faithful families have lost their loved ones.

Maybe the usual answer we present that “If you had more faith” it is simply wrong! Maybe faith is not about walking on the water through the storms of our life but simply staying in the boat.

Maybe the question Jesus is asking Peter why did you get out of the boat?

I say this as one who has experienced himself in Peter, as one who wants to walk on the water and escape the storms of my own life. I say this as one who wants to escape this nightmare of Corona Virus and wake up to and go back to our normal life before Corona. I have said this as one who had to express the same desire as Peter to go out of the boat and come to Jesus.

I have experienced the need to go ahead to a different kind of faith.

The disciple’s journey in the boat across the sea is like a passage from one kind of faith to another. It’s a journey from faith used to escape life’s storms to a faith that carries us through them.

Today’s lessons take us from a get-out of the boat kind of faith to stay-in the boat kind of faith. This transition of faith happens in the darkest time of our life, it’s in the midst of our storms that we experience that faith is not a way to escape the storms, winds, and waves of life. It is the way through the storms of life. Sometimes faith means staying in the boat and simply knowing that Christ is always coming to us.

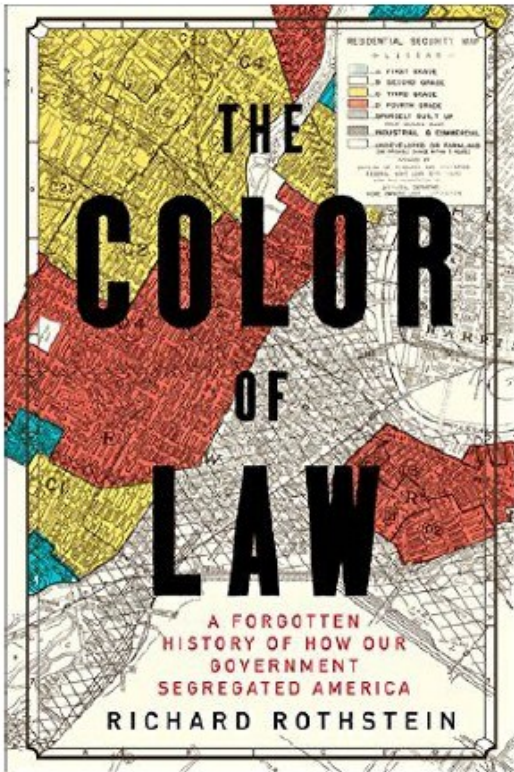
There is no storm we go through in which Christ is not with us, amid our fears and doubts, Jesus will tell us to get into the ship and go ahead, He will never leave us alone

Jesus is telling us today and every day” Take heart, it is I, do not be afraid.”

Jesus will take our hand and get into the boat with us. The wind will cease and we will truly worship him saying, “Truly you are the Son of God”.

Mathew’s Gospel tells us that storms will come to our lives. But Jesus has not left us alone. The one who calms the storms and makes the winds to cease is still with us. It means that we step out in faith, but not getting out of the boat, not going it alone, not leaving the community of disciples.

To stay in the boat of faith means never giving up because Jesus never gives upon us. With every storm in our life, Jesus comes to us saying” Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid” He will get in the boat with us, and the winds cease. The greatest miracle in today’s Gospel is not Jesus walking on the water. The miracle is that Jesus is stronger than any storm that comes to our lives. The miracle is that Jesus is in the boat we pass through the storms of life to a new shore and new life.



A four part book study to learn about ways in which the U.S. government has intentionally imposed racial segregation throughout the nation and examine the impact that has on the modern-day racial makeups of communities and schools.

Interested? Contact Ally Barone

BARONEA@UMICH.EDU

Summer Celebrations

BIRTHDAYS

Charles Bell	June 4	Sally Dalton
Emmett Pawa	June 7	Mason Stanis
Carolyn Blackmore	June 8	Morgan Ross
Frank Kery	June 9	Spencer McCallum
Lawrence Crane	June 11	Marcia Shelton
Ken Serwatowski	June 13	Margaret Owens
Frederick Brandenburg	June 18	Jerry Behm
Dennis Kirchoff	June 18	Megan Lewis
Margaret Green	June 19	Doug Phillips
Kelly Jabbusch	June 19	Roger Fox
Jonathan Cotter	June 21	Melissa Zimmerman
Ike Sanderson-Price	June 23	Robert Villa
Kristin Hipp	June 24	Paulsen Vandevent
Nancy Lehnert	June 25	Jill Poske
Shane Cotter	June 28	Kevin Green
John Vandevent	June 29	Joseph Pellegrino
Doulems Pawa	July 2	Harriette Pawa
Shirley Damps	July 3	Eleanor Bell
JoAnn Serwatowski	July 7	Bonnie Sheill
Julie Patterson	July 8	
Nathaniel Boyar	July 10	
Kerry Manseau	July 10	

ANNIVERSARIES

Jonathan Cotter & Helena Thornton	June 22 (29)
Frederick & Bonnie Sheill	June 29 (57)
Hardy & Marcia Shelton	June 29 (52)
Larry & Mary Jo Crane	July 1 (22)
Dale Taylor & Susan Gregg	July 2 (29)
Thomas Trimble & Monica McLeod	July 16 (26)
William & Peggy Owens	July 21 (64)
Dan & Terri Pilarski	Aug 17 (35)
Andrew & Jean Angel	Aug 18 (24)
Bob & Sharon Smith	Aug 24 (52)
	July 12
	July 15
	July 19
	July 24
	July 25
	July 26
	Aug 3
	Aug 7
	Aug 7
	Aug 8
	Aug 9
	Aug 9
	Aug 10
	Aug 13
	Aug 16
	Aug 26
	Aug 27
	Aug 31
	Aug 31

REOPENING PHASE II

The bishops in the dioceses of Michigan have announced that we are entering Phase II of re-opening church buildings beginning June 29. The first Sunday for in-person worship will be July 5.

The Vestry, along with Pastor Terri, and the staff have been working on our reopening plan. The Ushers will use the guidelines to assess how they function within these guidelines for Sunday morning. The following are based on the diocesan guidelines, adjusted for this building and community. These guidelines are under review by the diocese and may be adjusted by the Bishop and or by clergy/ushers as needed.

In the three months that the building that houses Christ Church and Mother of the Savior has been closed, John has cleaned and disinfected every surface. It will be crucial in the days ahead that people entering the building practice using hand sanitizer before they touch a surface and/or use sanitizing wipes to clean surfaces after they have touched them including doorknobs, stair railings, bathroom doors and faucets. We each need to help keep the building safe for ourselves and others. John will continue to sanitize surfaces as well.

Staff can come back to work in the building, so long as proper distancing is maintained, and only to do essential work. Staff members must work in their own offices and wear a mask when present with other staff members and parishioners.

Signs will be posted to remind all of us to keep six feet apart.

Building usage groups are also allowed back in so long as they maintain proper distancing and safety protocol:

- Piano lessons but no voice
 - Phone numbers and email addresses for all who come in for lessons including parents
- Stretching and martial arts, if there is no physical contact, people are spaced six feet apart, and masks are worn
 - Phone numbers and email addresses for all who come in for lessons
- AA if they sit 6 feet apart and wear masks. Groups must be no more than 25% of room capacity. People should bring their own coffee.
 - Phone numbers and email addresses for all attend meetings – must be kept by person(s) in charge of each meeting and held for a month
- LWV and AAUW may return for essential work, no group meetings larger than 25% of room capacity
 - Phone numbers and email addresses for all attend meetings – must be kept by person(s) in charge of each meeting and held for a month
- Food pantry will remain curbside only
- No food may be prepared or served in the building unless it is brown-bag

Worship:

- A. Chapel – people will enter parking lot from the Chapel entrance, then walk into the chapel and sit in pews, first person in sit in the first pew, others follow suit, filling in from the front to back and avoiding cross traffic.
 - Phone numbers and email addresses for all attending must be collected by usher and given to Erin in the office and held for a month
 - Exiting chapel – people will leave in reverse order, beginning with the back pew and out the chapel door
 - Leave one row at a time
 - We will avoid cross traffic
 - No congregating in the church building.
 - People may speak to one another outside, if they wear masks and keep six feet apart.
 - Clergy will record who is in attendance in case we need to contact people
 - Hymnals and BCP's will be removed from the pews
 - People will have hand sanitizer and wipes to clean their hands and to clean any surface they touch
 - Collection plate will be in available for no-touch process of dropping envelopes into the plate
 - Money/envelopes will be counted and held in the safe per our usual procedure, with proper hand sanitizing
 - Only one service a week will be in the chapel, Sunday, 8 a.m.

Continued on page 6

Reopening Phase II continued from page 4

B. Main Church 10 a.m. and Noon- people will enter from the front door of the church and sit in pews beginning closest to the altar and working their way back to the entrance

- CECD people will sit on the lectern side only (10 a.m.). Mother of the Savior will sit on the pulpit side only (noon service)
- Watch for signs that signal proper distancing.
 - Pew closest to altar person(s) sit near the aisle; second pew person sits near the window; third pew person sits near the aisle in a zig-zag pattern front to back
- Ushers will direct people to the front and fill in moving to the back
- People will be encouraged to bring digital devices with the service bulletin on their device
- Hymnals and BCP's will be removed from the pews
- A small number of single use paper bulletins will be available, an usher who is wearing a mask, and having used hand sanitizer before picking up and distributing bulletins. Ushers will hand people a bulletin if needed
 - If hands touch both parties will need to use hand sanitizer
- Congregation members must wear masks, a limited number of masks will be available for distribution. We will keep them in single use zip lock bags which ushers will distribute
- Ushers will record who is in attendance, phone numbers and email addresses, in case we need to contact people

C. The 10 a.m. service will be simultaneously offered in-person; and over zoom; and Facebook live as well as adding a recording of the 10 a.m. service to the website

D. Following the service ushers will have people exit in reverse order, from the back pew and out the front door

E. A collection plate will be placed in the narthex for people to place envelope, although online giving will continue to be encouraged

- Money/envelopes will be counted and held in the safe per our usual procedure, with proper hand sanitizing

F. No live singing in church. Pre-recorded music will be provided which may be sung by people in the recording, no one may sing in the church or in public. You may hum if you can do so with your mouth closed.

Holy Communion is allowed in Phase II – but only wafers – and only if the clergy are comfortable providing Holy Communion. **For the time being we have decided to not offer Holy Communion.** When we do, these are the guidelines we must follow:

- Some risk of transmitting COVID-19 exists with distributing Holy Communion, even with the best practices being maintained
- Priest must wash hands with soap and water before coming to the altar
- Priest stands alone at the altar, the priest's wafer and chalice (for the priest only) are on the altar.
- Holy Communion for the people are on the altar in a covered ciborium, which remains covered for the Eucharistic prayer
- During consecration the Priest touches the ciborium while covered but does not touch the wafers, except for priest's host.
- People receiving communion must use hand sanitizer before receiving and after placing the wafer in one's mouth.
- The priest and the communicant must maintain six feet between, offering the wafer from an extended arm into the extended arm/hand of the communicant. Both must be wearing masks. No hand to hand contact should be made. If there is, then both must use hand sanitizer before continuing.
- To consume the wafer the communicant must walk back to one's pew, lift one's mask, and consume the wafer. Then use hand sanitizer again.

These guidelines are under review by the diocese and may be adjusted by the Bishop and or by clergy/ushers as needed

SEPTEMBER COURIER SUBMISSIONS

Submit news and articles for the September issue of the Courier by August 20th to office@christchurchdearborn.org. Please add Courier to the subject line.

RESOURCES FOR THE SUMMER

Children

Summer online Vacation Bible Stuff (VBS our way)

June 24, July 8, July 22, August 5: 10 a.m. Watch for zoom links in your email. We will use an adapted version of the SparkHouse Curriculum for VBS, focusing on gardens, planting, farming, and creation. There will be music, some time together so the kids can visit, a little teaching, and activities to do on your own

Families and Race

Raising White Kids by Jennifer Harvey. Dr. Harvey is a professor at Drake University. Her work focuses on racial justice and white anti-racism.

How to talk to children about race: <https://www.edomi.org/yaya/yaya-resources/talking-to-children-and-youth-about-race/>

Adults

“For Sama” an evening viewing and discussin of this academy award nominated documentary about the war in Syria. Filmed by journalist Waad Al Kataeb, she documented her life with her husband, a medical doctor, and their newborn daughter, Sama, as they lived and worked in the only hospital that remained in section of Aleppo as it was being attacked by the government. A powerful story of love and survival and brave commitment to helping people under extreme duress. July 16, 7-9:30 p.m. Look for a Zoom link to come.

Webinar on policing:

Absalom Jones Episcopal Center for Racial Healing: a three part webinar on policing, June 18, June 25, July 2 – register here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMudeGhpzotH9xflv982gOGrf5nXeVAdnTq?fbclid=IwAR2dXCmtaXUVkE-2Gz3Hqq92-KwL2heuYCLojQSQtZYEd4207heMCXEWAYw>

Send Erin other resources you know of so we can share what we are doing and learning.



OPEN ENROLLMENT

Do you have a friend or family member looking for a preschool this fall? Chapel Day Preschool, housed here at Christ Church has open enrollment for the 2020-2021 school year for both the 3-year-old class (Tu/Th 9-11 a.m.) and the 4-year-old class (M/W/F 9 a.m. - noon).

For more information, please visit

www.chapeldaypreschool.com or call (313) 565-2444.



120 N. Military
Dearborn, Michigan 48124
Phone: 313-565-8450
Fax: 313-565-8515
E-mail:
office@christchurchdearborn.org
Website:
www.christchurchdearborn.org



OFFICERS OF THE CHURCH

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Bonnie A. Perry, Bishop
The Rev. Terri Pilarski, Rector
Lynn Becker, Sr. Warden
Dale Taylor, Jr. Warden
Kevin Green, Treasurer
Matthew Sallman, Clerk

STAFF

Allison Barone, Music Director
Erin Biggs, Office Manager
Tess Dowgiallo, Children's Choir Director
John Jones, Sexton
The Rev. Halim Shukair, Curate

VESTRY

Jean Angel
Lynn Becker
Barbara Hall
Stephanie Mulkern
Jill Poske
Holly Schanz
Dale Taylor
James Thornton