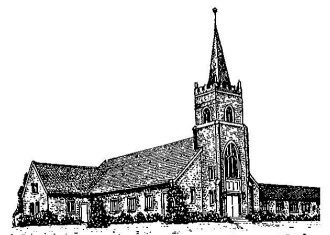


Christ Church Parish News

March 2017



Christ Church Parish

4001 Franklin Street, Kensington, MD 20895 • 301-942-4673 • Fax: 301-942-1762 • email: administrator@ccpk.org • website: www.ccpk.org

Lenten Journey

Lent invites us on a journey through pain and death into life and joy. This Lent at Christ Church our guidebook on the journey will be *The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World*, by Archbishop Desmond Tutu, the Dalai Lama, and Douglas Abrams. During Lent, we will focus on themes from the book during our adult forums on Sundays. Our Wednesday evening worship will incorporate practices described in the back of the book, and the Thursday book group will be reading and discussing the book.

The Book of Joy follows a week-long conversation with the two leaders who, despite years of exile and oppression remain among the most joyful people on earth. They explore the emerging science around joy and the practices we use to cultivate and set up obstacles to it.



Among the obstacles to joy are fear, adversity and anger. As the Archbishop said, "People would like to be able to take a pill that makes their fears and anxiety go away...this is impossible...one must have mental immunity...[and] it takes time to develop.

That immunity is cultivated by practicing the eight pillars of joy: Perspective, Humility, Humor, Acceptance, Forgiveness, Gratitude, Compassion, and Generosity.

sion, and Generosity.

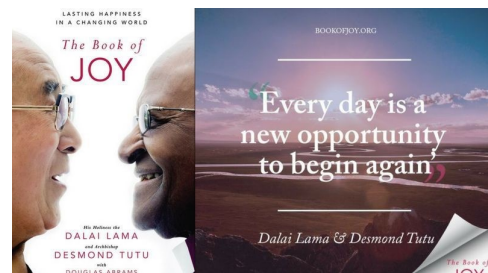
Perspective – "For every event in life, the Dalai Lama said, there are many different angles. When you look at the same event for a wider perspective, your sense of worry and anxiety reduces, and you have greater joy."

Humor – Archbishop Tutu said that "...when we were conducting funerals of people killed by the police...people were really angry and you'd have the police not standing far away – and it was an explosive situation...my weaponry, if you can call it that, was almost always to use humor, and especially self-denigrating humor."

Generosity – "We are fundamentally good. The aberration is not the good person; the aberrations is the bad person. We are made for goodness. And when we get opportunities, we mostly respond with generosity."

Please join us this Lent on an exploration to discover the joys this life can offer and the joys we can offer to others.

The Book of Joy is available in hard copy and for e-readers. There is also *A Summary of the Book of Joy*, in hard copy and e-readers as well.



If you have questions, please contact Lee Puricelli (leepuricelli@yahoo.com).

Parish Life



Please sign up to bring treats to a **coffee hour** on the sign up on the easel in the undercroft every Sunday.

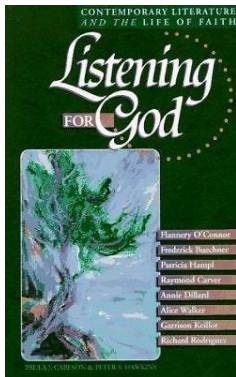
We're Looking for folks to be part of the celebration team which will be organizing the Easter reception. Your help is needed.

Contact Gail Troussoff Marks [301-455-5323](tel:301-455-5323) or at gailtroussoff@gmail.com if you have any questions .

The Young Adult Group at Christ Church Kensington is a group of 20 and 30 some-things that gather the second Sunday of each month for food and fellowship. For more information or to join the list-serve, please contact Karen Fowle



CCPK Book Group



The CCPK Book Group will meet on Thursday, March 9, 2017, from 7:30 to 9 PM to discuss a book recommended by our Rector-**Listening for God: Contemporary Literature and the Life of Faith, Volume 1**. The group will discuss chapters 6, 7, and 8, which include writings by Alice Walker, Garrison Keillor, and Richard Rodriguez.

On March 23, we'll begin reading **The Book of Joy** by the Dalai Lama and Desmond Tutu. The CCPK adult forums and Wednesday evening worship will also address themes and incorporate some practices from the book.

For additional information please contact Jim Kennedy at jekennedy@mac.com

2017 Mission and Ministry Grants

The Endowment Committee has awarded these Mission and Ministry Grants for Spring 2017:

Outreach-Financial Peace University - \$1,500.00 awarded for a special one-time project to fund expenses and scholarships for the presentation of the personal finance course. Kurt Ellison, administrator, is the project coordinator. Kurt will lead a group of parishioners who will teach the course over several weeks to build attendees' knowledge and skills in personal finance.

Special One Time Project-CenMoCo Youth Council - \$1,500.00 awarded for a special one-time project to our new Diocesan regional group Central Montgomery County (CenMoCo) to fund the start-up of a regional youth council for our 10-member parishes to use a resource for youth activities at the parish level and regional level. Madi Chase, youth minister, and Emily Guthrie, rector, are the project's coordinator.

Special One Time Project-Music New Choir Robes - \$2,250.00 awarded for a special one-time project to purchase 10 new robes for choir members. Teddy Guerant, organist and choir master, is the project's coordinator.

Kitchen Renovation – \$1,500.00. This application requested authorized use of previously approved grant for a kitchen designer to plan and recommend new kitchen cabinets to replace old, broker cabinets in the kitchen. Gail Marks, Vestry member-Parish Life, is the project's coordinator.

Rector's Reflections



From the 1st century onward, one of the core questions for the followers of Jesus is this: How do we make choices, live out our lives, in ways consistent with the teachings and example of Jesus? How is our faith relevant to our current reality? These are deeply challenging questions, especially because a centerpiece of Jesus' teachings embraced the prophetic call to serve the least among us. Arguably his core teaching – the Sermon on the Mount (or Plain!) - turned every notion of power on its head then and now. Jesus was neither meek nor mild. He confronted both the religious and political leaders of his day, and paid the ultimate price for doing so.

We can't get away from the implications of following Jesus. He begs us to ask ourselves heart rendering questions; for example, 'what does it mean that we welcome Jesus when we welcome the stranger'? When we open our hearts and arms to the "unclean" of our day – the modern equivalents of prostitutes, tax collectors and lepers? These were not apolitical questions then, and they are not now. But we cannot avoid asking the questions *and* figuring out responses as followers of Christ, as a church, as a denomination.

OK, that brings me to our church community, our expression of the Jesus Movement here in Kensington. Our faith confronts us and calls to us no matter what our contemporary political affiliations. So how do we love one another, listen to one another, extend mercy to one another in the community? How do we lovingly hold each other accountable to the mandates of our faith?

It's always difficult to preach the Gospel, and it's impossible to preach the Gospel without offending anyone. The gospel is simply too powerful. Of course, I bring my own history, lens, blind spots and passions. We each have those. (Clearly God loves diversity!) Here's what I can assure you: I am not a mouthpiece for a particular political party or agenda. And I will not shy away from the implications of our faith for the common good. For example, it is impossible to preach the Gospel of Jesus, who according to the Gospel of Matthew was himself a refugee, without asking myself and you what it means for us to welcome the stranger. Without asking myself and you what it means to be compassionate neighbors to our Jewish, Muslim and immigrant brothers and sisters. Without asking myself and you 'what would Jesus do?' and wrestling with the answer(s) that we hear in our hearts and souls and minds.

Bishop Gene Sutton of the Diocese of Maryland sent out a pastoral letter that discussed in part the difficulty of negotiating how to preach and how to listen to sermons as well as how to have conversations with one another about faith, politics, and the current climate. You can read the entire letter here- <https://episcopalmaryland.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/132/2017/02/2017-02-24-one-nation-under-god.pdf>

. In it he reiterated his guidelines for preachers and listeners. I hope you'll join me in *attempting* to follow them!

A guideline for preachers

- ✦ Always preach the gospel. Respect the pulpit; don't view it as your personal political platform.
- ✦ Speak as *one* informed witness to Christ's gospel, acknowledging there are other witnesses.
- ✦ Remind your listeners that this is the beginning of a conversation you want to have with them, not the end of a needed conversation.
- ✦ Show some courage. It's easier in the long run for your pastoral ministry than cowardice.

Be willing to listen, be willing to change your mind, be willing to repent.

A word to listeners

- ✦ Cut your preachers some slack. They really are trying to say and do the right thing.
- ✦ Acknowledge in yourself that Jesus was both a spiritual and a political teacher.
- ✦ Read the cited Scriptures, and have the conversation with God and with others that the preacher is inviting you to have.

Be willing to listen, be willing to change your mind, be willing to repent.

Music Notes

Once again, it seems that I am thanking someone for something ("yea a joyful and pleasant thing it is to be thankful!"). This time I am again grateful for another generous gift from our Endowment Fund committee, headed by Ted Seale, for ten new choir robes. One of the weak areas I identified upon arriving at Christ Church was the condition of our choir robes, not to mention that our choir has grown in numbers from 8 to about 20 at present. Almy is having a 15% off sale on choir robes (choir robes are not cheap -- they average about \$225 per robe), so we are able to order these new robes while even saving a little money at the same time!



Progress continues to be made on our sanctuary Knabe grand piano (through another generous gift from anonymous donors). Our piano technician, Joyce Meekins, has installed a touch rail system to lighten the action, and continues to regulate and adjust the mechanism to make the instrument more responsive and user-friendly. She has also installed a short stick so that we can raise the lid part-way without having to raise it to its full height (thereby blocking the choir when they sing from the chancel steps). The downstairs Kawai studio piano now has a lock for its keyboard so that we may better monitor and control who plays it (the key is available from the church office).

Our harpsichord has also had some much needed repairs by Mark Adler, and will be played some during Lent (particularly during the preludes to the 10 a.m. service) as a quieter way to meditate and reflect during this holy season.

I remain thankful for this loving, supportive, generous church family.

Teddy

Youth Group-Vermont-I Gras



After a brief winter hiatus, the youth of Christ Church sprang back into action in February! They kicked off the month with their signature Super Bowl chili fundraiser (editor's note—BEST CHILI EVER), which brought in over \$1000 for their mission trip.

In youth group, they reviewed important parts of Jesus' teachings, such as the Beatitudes and Jesus' expansions on the Ten Commandments. There was a break for fun in the middle of the month with laser tagging, but the youth got right back down to work for Vermonti Gras, which was a great hit! The jury's still out on how much money was raised, but youths and adults alike had a marvelous time eating pancakes, playing with beach balls, and bidding on some great items.

As March begins, so does the Lenten season. The youth will be focusing on living out the Lord's Prayer in a weekly Lenten challenge, as well as doing some more service to the community. By the end of the month, some of them will begin confirmation classes where they will be encouraged to "Confirm, Not Conform" and explore their individual faiths in the context of the Episcopal Church. March promises to be a reflective but active month for the youth of Christ Church.

Library News

News from the Library!



The Book of Psalms mystery series by Kate Charles has arrived and is being enjoyed. We hear from some that they cannot put the book down.

Also, new in the library is a book recommended by our Rector, Emily - **THE BOOK OF JOY** by His Holiness, the Dalai Lama and Archbishop, Desmond Tutu. This book is being read by the Reading Group during Lent.

The CCPK Library is in its sixth year. We have over 1100 books for both adult, youth and children. A wide collection of books to be read for study, reflection and some for pleasure.

Check us out!



A Look at Criminal Justice Reform

North Chevy Chase Christian Church (8814 Kensington Pkwy) invites us to join them on Sunday, March 19th at 4pm for a viewing of *"Incarcerating US"* (2016) and a discussion following the film. The documentary explores America's prison problem and why we would want to consider participating in criminal justice reform.

If you are interested in attending the movie and discussion, contact Emily Barry via e-mail to emilybarry@me.com.

Sunday Bible Study In the Library



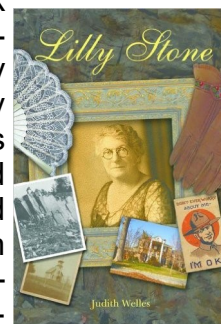
Please join the 4:00 pm Sunday Bible study. Please feel free to drop-in any week. There is no prior preparation needed.

Contact Lee Puricelli at leepuricli@yahoo.com for more information.

PrimeTimers

The Prime Timers will meet **the second Thursday of March, March 9th**, in order to accommodate our special speaker. The topic will be the remarkable Lilly Stone.

The Power Point presentation is based on the speaker's 2012 book (available for sale and signing). The book states that Lilly Stone's life "...covered nearly a century of change. She was born during the Civil War, and she died during the Cold War. In her lifetime, women got to vote, rural areas became suburbs, housing development and industry replaced farms, dirt roads were paved, and highways cross-crossed the land. At the stage of her life when most people retire, and at time when women stayed at home, Lilly was not only doing men's work, but starting and operating an industry of men's work. In 1924, she ran a business generally considered "men's work" operating a quarry in Bethesda and remarkably, World War II brings German POWs to work in her quarry.



This is a story of a strong-willed woman whose contributions impacted the social, cultural and economic life of her time."

Please RSVP to Nora Buckley at norabee@live.com or 301-564-0689 by Tuesday, March 7th.

Episcopal Relief and Development Sunday and Lenten Devotions Booklet



The first Sunday of Lent, March 5 this year, has been designated Episcopal Relief and Development (ER-D) Sunday. Our Presiding Bishop, The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry says: "On Episcopal Relief & Development Sunday, we focus on how we engage life and the world more deeply, to truly heal a hurting world, to truly pray and work for social, economic and environmental justice and to truly respond to acute human suffering. I invite everyone across our Church, as our Prayer Book says, to the observance 'of a holy Lent by prayer, fasting and self denial,' and by works of compassion, justice and mercy, like those carried out through Episcopal Relief & Development."

Again this year, printed copies of the ER-D Lenten Daily Devotions booklet are being made available for you to pick up and use during Lent. Or, you can download the devotions from the ER-D website. You can also sign up there to receive them day by day by email. The web site is <http://www.episcopalrelief.org/church-in-action/church-campaigns/lent>.

Get Involved in Worship

Interested in getting more involved with Worship at CCPK?

Participating in the Choir, as an User, Chaliceist, or Acolyte, serving on the Flower Guild, Altar Guild or Bread team is a great way to meet other members in a small group setting and to perform activities essential to the meaningful liturgy we enjoy. Please call or text Emily Barry 301.758.3456 and I'll get you connected with a team lead in the area of your interest to answer questions and invite you to give it a try.

Low time investment (1 - 3 hrs. per month), no long-term commitment, big payoff!

Support Science and Education

If you would like to participate in **the March for Science on April 22** - and other similar actions or educational opportunities in the meantime - with other Christ Church parishioners, contact Eva Nye purinye9@rcn.com. Eva is forming a network of parishioners to share information about and participate together in such activities. This is not a committee, no long meetings or visioning, just a group of people who feel called to learn more and speak out.

2017 Parish Election

Congratulations to new Vestry members Virginia Blackman (3 yr. term); Ken Amaditz (3 yr. term); Yvonne Bryan (3 year term); and Barbara Ferry (3 year term); and Diocesan Delegates Ray Barry (2 year term); Kathy McKay (1year term); and Bill Bruce (Alternate- 2 year term)

Our sincerest thanks to all for their dedication to the parish and their willingness to serve.



We believe we have something special here at Christ Church. The banner, "Alive with Joy!" is more than a slogan, it's the pulse of this parish. Why not let others know about your love for this parish and your commitment to it—"like us" on Facebook, better yet, post a comment that tells others about your love for this place, its traditions and its open, welcoming spirit.

March Celebrations



William Bruce Jr. 03/02
Lewie Hoffeditz 03/03
Katherine Cowan 03/05
Diane Mand 03/07
Casey Kilpatrick 03/10
Nancy Maxwell 03/11
Erin T. Lakey 03/13
Julianne Clarke 03/14
Richard Parsons 03/14
Nora Duchelle-Smith 03/15
Marguerite Sayles 03/15
Katie Wallace 03/17
Charles Briggs 03/20
Eva Marie Nye 03/21
Victoria Thanos 03/21
Ann Hagan 03/22
Steven Holbrooke 03/22
Dylan LaCroix 03/22
David Robbins 03/22
Elizabeth Robinson 03/22
William Steel 03/22
Peter Bartram 03/23
Isabell May 03/23
Philip Padgett 03/23
Sarah Haskell 03/24
Robert Mand 03/24
Edythe Anderson 03/25
Yvonne Bryan 03/25
Charles Eckert 03/25
Marcia Coe 03/26
Elizabeth A. Lakey 03/26
Susan Barrett 03/27
Virginia Blackman 03/28
Grace Brown 03/30
David May 03/30
Elin Wackernagel-Slotten 03/30
Ronald Leung 03/31



John & Julianne Clarke 03/04
Constance Miner & Gregory Lalley 03/16
Robert & Teodora Salow 03/19
Ramzi Nemo & Sasha Gottlieb 03/28

Exploring the Lenten Season with Children

Our **CCPK Children's Ministry** members are looking forward to sharing in our families' Lenten journeys and to helping our children learn about and explore this beautiful liturgical season as we move towards celebrating Christ's resurrection on Easter Sunday. Whether at Chapel, in the classroom, or at a special event we love coming together as a community. **Please know that children of your friends, family and neighbors will always receive a warm welcome from us.** Questions? Email Children's Minister Ann Enkiri: sundayschool@ccpk.org.

Throughout the six Sundays of Lent:

Chapel assistants Cynthia Winder and Barbara Ferry will join Ann Enkiri to offer meaningful, community-building gathering activities and worship experiences at Children's Chapel. We will explore some beautiful symbols of Lent, shared with our parish community on posters: Sand, Rock, Human Being, Light, Shell, and Seeds.

Our Sunday School teachers are busy preparing their lessons for the weeks ahead. **Godly Play teachers Karen Fowle and Stephanie Feller** will be teaching about Jesus' life and his actions as healer, teacher, and savior through the Faces of Easter Lessons.

Living the Good News teachers Kitty Shuler, Liz Quinn, Shannon Finn and Ann Enkiri will focus on major Gospel themes as we read and learn about Jesus resisting temptation in the desert, inviting Nicodemus to be born anew, offering living water to a Samaritan woman, restoring vision to a blind man, raising his friend Lazarus to life, suffering and overcoming his own death to rise on Easter Sunday.

On **Easter Sunday**, Children's Chapel features the **Easter Egg homily** as a way to revisit Jesus' life and teachings. After the 10 AM Service, children of all ages enjoy an **Easter Egg Hunt** organized by our CCPK Youth as the parish gathers for a celebratory Easter Reception.

Outreach

"Agnes the Lamb" sits patiently every year during the Lenten season on the Outreach table waiting for people to "feed" her so she can continue the work of **Heifer International** with their philosophy of "teach a man to fish" that inspires our work to end world hunger and poverty throughout the world once and for all.

For over 20 years, the children of our parish and their families have fed Agnes their pennies in hopes that the monies collected will buy a cow, a goat or even a basket of chicks for **Heifer International** whose goal is to help families achieve self-reliance by providing them the tools they need to sustain themselves. Agnes reminds us that we have the power to give a hungry family the training it takes to feed themselves and their children; to give a young girl a chance at an education; to empower a woman to have a voice in her community. To change the world, one family, one community, at a time. So as you walk pass Agnes, feel free to "feed" her and help us *"pass the gift."*

March 2017

| 3Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|-----|--|---|--|-----|---|
| | | | 1 ASH WEDNESDAY 11:00 AM Staff Meeting 7:00 PM Holy Eucharist 7:30PM Needlework Ministry 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal | 2 4:00 PM African Women's Prayer Group 6:30 Writer's work-shop 7:30 PM Book Group | 3 | 4 9:30 AM Flower Guild |
| 5 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 9:00 AM Choir Rehearsal 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist 11:15 AM Sunday School/Youth Group/Adult Forum 4:00 PM Bible Study 5:00 PM Holy Eucharist | 6 | 7 6:30 EFM 6:30 Writer's work-shop 7:30 PM Zumba | 8 11:00 AM Staff Meeting 6:30 PM Holy Eucharist 7:10 PM Needlework Ministry 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal | 9 4:00 PM African Women's Prayer Group 7:30 PM Worship Committee | 10 | 11 9:30 AM Flower Guild |
| 12 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 9:00 AM Choir Rehearsal 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist 11:15 AM Sunday School/Youth Group/Adult Forum 2:00 PM Parents Encouragement Program 4:00 PM Bible Study 5:00 PM Holy Eucharist | 13 | 14 6:30 EFM 6:30 Writer's work-shop 7:30 PM Zumba | 15 11:00 AM Staff Meeting 6:30 PM Holy Eucharist 7:10 PM Needlework Ministry 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal | 16 4:00 PM African Women's Prayer Group 7:30 PM Book Group | 17 | 18 9:30 AM Flower Guild |
| 19 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 9:00 AM Choir Rehearsal 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist 11:15 AM Sunday School/Youth Group/Adult Forum 4:00 PM Bible Study 5:00 PM Holy Eucharist | 20 | 21 6:30 EFM 6:30 Writer's work-shop 7:30 PM Zumba | 22 11:00 AM Staff Meeting 6:30 PM Holy Eucharist 7:00 M Potluck Supper 7:10 PM Needlework Ministry 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal | 23 4:00 PM African Women's Prayer Group 7:30 PM Vestry Meeting | 24 | 25 9:30 AM Flower Guild 10:00 Writer's workshop |
| 26 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 9:00 AM Choir Rehearsal 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist 11:15 AM Sunday School/Youth Group/Adult Forum 4:00 PM Bible Study | 27 | 28 6:30 EFM 6:30 Writer's work-shop 7:30 PM Zumba | 29 11:00 AM Staff Meeting 6:30 PM Holy Eucharist 7:00 M Potluck Supper 7:10 PM Needlework Ministry 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal | 30 4:00 PM African Women's Prayer Group 7:30 PM Book Group | 31 | |