



THE COURIER FOR JUNE 2015

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The Rev. David M. Carter, Rector



Musings

One of the themes of my CREDO Conference at the end of April (not to be confused with the Credo Statements that our Seniors may present) was the theme of Pilgrimage. We were encouraged to think like Paul, to see ourselves as "running a race for Christ" (or slow jogging!). All 30 of us, from all over the country, shared the concerns of modern ministry, folks coming and going in our parishes, failures and challenges. It seemed to many that we were standing still or even going backwards but the Faculty provided positive feedback and affirmation. We were moving in our lives-in-Christ and we were invited to reflect before, during and after our time in North Carolina.

Pilgrimage has been a theme of our Adult Forums this year and in some ways this has been a prelude to sending our young people out this summer. Each Forum may have masqueraded as a "travelogue" but from each presenter, from Phillippa, Mitzi, Sandy & George, Jon & Judy, we heard more. Beyond the photos and the stories we heard about the "meaning" of the trip that allowed them not only to learn about where they had gone *but about where they were now*. I once heard a wise person say that there were no other journeys but "journeys of the heart", in other words, Pilgrimages. To be *away* is to find out more about the meaning of being *home*. Dave

Worship & Formation

Reschedule! Wednesday Services on June 3, 10, 17 & 24; Names for **The Prayer Chain?** Call the office and leave a message.

Readers & Acolyte Notes - if you are not assigned you can often help out. Let Dayna Flath 974-3276 know if you will not be around!

Senior Credo Time- Graduating Seniors who have applied for a Koerner- Von Conta Scholarship will be doing CREDO statements through the month of June.

Specials! June 7th: Youth Sunday and Parish Picnic; June 21st Baptisms!; June 28th Hesler Baptism

Youth Sunday & Church Picnic



June 7, 2015



Youth will be participating in the 10:15 service - then all are invited to the picnic after or come back for the fun if you come to the 8 a.m. service.

Spirituality Workshops:

The Rev. Oscar Brockmeyer will continue offering a once a month presentation on spiritual practice starting again in the Fall. The more frequent Group Spiritual Direction gatherings will continue on a once a month basis during the Summer.

Next Group Spiritual Direction meeting is June 23, 2015 at 6 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Nineteen at the Bean

June 13, 2015 8 p.m.-10 pm.

Tickets \$22 per person

Benefits Deary Memorial Cancer Fund

Tickets available at the Vanilla Bean or Longmeadow Automotive

Church School News - On June 7, we celebrate "Youth Sunday"! We will all meet in church that day, and will process in together singing with the choir to be seated up front together. The children of our parish will provide the music, readings and prayers for the service. We will also say "goodbye & thank you" to Amy Landis, who has been a co-director for the past three years. The service will be followed by the annual parish potluck picnic behind the great hall- Always *great* fun! (Sunblock, hat or sunglasses recommended!) Church School will then be on hiatus until September's "Welcome Back" Sunday, but Nursery care will continue for our youngest members.

As this Church School year wraps up, we wish to acknowledge *everyone* who helped make this a terrific year! There were many talented and dedicated volunteers, both "veteran" and new, who helped out, and several who volunteered all year long. This is a remarkable gift to our youth, as it provides stability and continuity...and the building of lasting relationships! Our grade 5/6 leaders were especially patient (having had very low student attendance), managing to provide a fieldtrip, Pageant help, Bible Trivia game, the Heifer Living Market, and now a Family Vine picture directory. We are sure it means as much to parish families as it does to us personally- THANK YOU ONE AND ALL!!!

Have a safe and relaxing Summer Vacation,
Nicole Nichols and Amy Landis

Please email cchurchschoolpomfret@gmail.com if you are interested in (or have any questions about) the church school programs/activities.

A Special Message from Amy Landis: As of July 1, I will be stepping down as Co-Church School Director. My last three years in this position have been a rewarding and fulfilling experience. I was able to work during the hours that my children were at school, and on Sunday mornings share my faith and commitment to religious education with them and the rest of the Christ Church youth. I am thankful that I had the opportunity to serve as Church School Director to help teach and nurture our youngest parishioners each Sunday morning.

Respectfully submitted - Amy Landis

Teen Program News (Journey to Adulthood) - We will be looking for new leaders for the upcoming Teen Groups. If you think you'd like to do this, please contact Fr. Dave or DeeDee. **ALSO-Safe Church Training coming this Fall to Christ Church. Date TBD**

Fundraiser Info: Done until start up in September

Rite-13 - The outgoing class of Rite 13ers - there will be a **New J2A Welcome dinner Sept 19th**. Coming up in September for the new class of J2Aers...**CSO Dinner on September 26th**, is for the new J2A. It will feature a Harvest Feast with local faire from Adam's farm and guest cooks Joanne Fagan & Dee Dee Markes

J2A - Thank you to all who have supported our J2A fundraising for the last two years. You are amazing and the most generous group of people I know. We are all very excited to be going on our Pilgrimage August 6th-12th, and look forward to sharing our adventure with you.

YAC - Congratulations and Best Wishes in your new adventures! Looking forward to re-connecting!

If you have any questions about the Teen Program contact DeeDee Markes at 860-963-0846 or email at deedespa@charter.net



Building and Grounds / Projects Notes - Our current plan is to repair the floor in the kitchen around the dishwasher over the summer as a volunteer initiative (Rich DiBonaventura). We have some roofing work to do where there was winter damage on the church roof outside the Sacristy (the Roofing Store). The Roofing Store is also checking renewed leaking in one of the Rectory chimneys. The snow blower went off to Tractors to Trimmers for oil change and tune up. We will be switching over to Charter for internet and phone lines at the church but the plan is still being worked out. We have received some quotes for work on the organ which we are currently sorting through; Dennis Patton is helping assess this with the Foley Baker company. Still to go, plumbing items in the upstairs Rectory bathroom and a blown pipe in the wall (sounds bad, probably is not as the access is from the basement). Thanks to Jeff Page for cutting up the tree on the north end of the property. Also to Tim Bates who worked on one of our graves out back that had winter damage.

Christian Social Outreach - CSO disbursements later in June. *Special Mission*: We have scheduled a trip to Guatemala with PID (Partners in Development) for the start of 2016, probably leaving on January 2nd or 3rd. There are 4 participants so far. We are offering up to \$600 of the \$1300 cost of the trip. Another Special Mission is continuing to work with the Rev. Oscar Brockmeyer, see the front cover of the Courier and the Reminder; *Community Kitchen* on June 29th. Speak with Pauline Phillips (through office). *Access News* - General food supplies, nutritious snack type foods for children would be appreciated OR send checks to: Access Danielson - 231 Broad Street, Danielson, CT 06239.

Music in June- Pickup *Choir through the month of June*; the final *Contemporary Music service* of the season was May 31st! We thank all our music folks for their hard work this academic year!

Parish Life Activities -*Thanks for all your participation. The Coffee Hour Schedule at the 10:15 continues through June. After that sign ups for July and August at the 9:15 service.*

Vestry Notes - Vestry had our Meeting with Bishop Ian Douglas on May 10th. The next Vestry meeting will be Wednesday, June 10th in the Library at 7 p.m.

Warmer weather leads to cleaning. As you are tidying & decluttering, please keep the Christ Church Library in mind with an eye out for any Christ Church Library books hanging around your house & bringing them back as soon as possible. Also, feel free to offload some of your old DVDs for others in the Christ Church DVD Swap (temporarily located on the Book Swap cart outside the library).

Adult: My Monastery is a Minivan: Where the Daily is Divine and the Routine Becomes prayer by Denise Roy. As a young woman the author almost became a nun but decided against this idea because she wanted to get married and have children. Now a busy working mother of four, the author has written a series of personal anecdotes about her life and family and demonstrates that even one's mundane, daily tasks can lead to spiritual rewards. Who knew that picking up toys and folding laundry could be a religious experience?

Young Adult: Dead End in Norvelt by Jack Gantos. In the summer of 1962, the twelve-year-old Jack Gantos finds himself grounded for the summer. The one freedom he is allowed is visiting his elderly neighbor, whom Jack must help with her household tasks which include, among other things, typing out obituaries about the town's original founders. And that's only the tip of the iceberg.

Children: The Incredible Life of Balto by Meghan McCarthy. Balto, the famous celebrity dog, was well known for leading a dogsled team that traveled through a blizzard to deliver a lifesaving serum to the people of Nome Alaska. This comical picture book describes what happened to Balto once the excitement died down.