



**Christ Church**  
Sixth and Main Streets  
Clarksburg, WV

# The Good News Weekly

## Christ Episcopal Church

April 21, 2019



**St. Barnabas Chapel**  
721 Hall Street  
Bridgeport, WV

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... to know, live, and share The Good News Story of Jesus Christ

### Upcoming Events

- 4/18/19 Washing Feet and Stripping of Altar** at 6:30 p.m. at CEC  
**4/19/19 Good Friday Holy Eucharist** at 6:30 p.m. at St. Barnabas  
**4/20/19 Easter Vigil** at 6:30 p.m. at Christ Church  
**4/21/19 Easter Holy Eucharist** at 10:00 a.m. at Christ Church  
**4/21/19 Easter Holy Eucharist** at 5:30 p.m. at St. Barnabas  
**4/23/19 The Way of Love Dinner and Study** at Christ Church  
 5:30 Soup dinner 6:00 p.m. Study (the final event in this series)  
**4/28/19 Holy Eucharist** at 10:00 a.m. at Christ Church  
**4/28/19 Holy Eucharist** at 5:30 p.m. at St. Barnabas

### Backpack Blessings Schedule

Pack after church on April 21

Driver to deliver bags April 25 – Ben Barksdale

Shop for food on April 25 – Pam Critchfield

### Easter Food Baskets

Thanks to all who gave food, monetary donations, and helped pack the eight food baskets. Eight families will be enjoying the



hams, potatoes, green beans, canned peas, canned pears, applesauce, fresh carrots, lettuce, celery, salad dressing, canned milk, butter, rolls, eggs, raw apples, peeps, jelly beans, and chocolate eggs.

### Holy Week Services Online

The Episcopal Church invites all to virtually join the congregations of [St. Paul's/San Pablo Episcopal Church](#) in Kansas City, Kansas, and [St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church](#), in Mission, Kansas, for their Holy Week services. Beginning on April 18, you may watch from the links above (live stream or on demand) or from The Episcopal Church's facebook page, [www.facebook.com/episcopalian](https://www.facebook.com/episcopalian). These digital offerings make Holy Week worship accessible to those not able to attend a service or program at a local church.

The text of Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's Easter 2019 message is printed on page 2 of this newsletter. To view the video of his message press the control key and click to follow this link, [Presiding Bishop Curry's Easter 2019 Message](#).

### Serving Ministries

**April 21, 2019**

**Easter Sunday**

**9:30 a.m. Choir warmup**

**10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II** at Christ Church

Lector: Chuck Critchfield

Ushers: Kitty Clovis and Ben Hardesty

Acolyte: Nate Critchfield

Altar Guild: Kitty Clovis, Jody Morse, Vicky Ashby

**11:00 a.m. Pack Backpacks**

**11:00 a.m. Coffee hour** in the parlor

Coffee hour host: Mary Beth Paugh

**11:30 a.m. Choir rehearsal**

**5:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II** at St. Barnabas

Lector: Nancy Cotten

Ushers: Joe Martin

Altar Guild: Nancy Cotten



**The Lord is risen indeed.  
Alleluia!**

**April 28, 2019**

**Second Sunday of Easter**

**9:30 a.m. Choir warmup**

**10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II** at Christ Church

Lector: Ira Richardson and Jody Morse

Ushers: Dee Trimbach and Zac Steed

Acolyte: Nate Critchfield

Altar Guild: Kitty Clovis, Jody Morse, Vicky Ashby

**11:00 a.m. Pack Backpacks**

**11:00 a.m. Coffee hour** in the parlor

Coffee hour host: Open

**11:30 a.m. Choir rehearsal**

**5:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II** at St. Barnabas

Lector: Kipp Martin

Ushers: Nancy Cotten

Altar Guild: Kipp Martin



## Presiding Bishop Curry: Easter 2019 Message

The Rt. Reverend Barbara Harris was the first woman ordained and consecrated a bishop in The Episcopal Church and in the Anglican Communion. In her memoir, entitled *Hallelujah, Anyhow!* [she] quotes an old Gospel hymn that says it this way:

Hallelujah anyhow  
Never let your troubles get you down  
When your troubles come your way  
Hold your hands up high and say  
Hallelujah anyhow!

When I get to Heaven, I want to meet one person, and her name is Mary Magdalene. Because if ever there was another Hallelujah, Anyhow sister, it was Mary Magdalene. And her life, and her example, tells us what it means to follow in the way of Jesus, in the Way of Love. Mary Magdalene showed up when others would not. Mary Magdalene spoke up when others remained silent. Mary Magdalene stood up when others sat down. John's Gospel tells us that when many of the disciples fled and abandoned Jesus, Mary Magdalene stood by him at the cross. Hallelujah, Anyhow. Against the odds, swimming against the current, Mary Magdalene was there.

John's Gospel says in the 20<sup>th</sup> chapter, early in the morning, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene and some of the other women went to the tomb. Hallelujah, Anyhow. They went to the tomb when it didn't make any sense. They went to the tomb when the evidence was against them. Jesus was dead. They knew that. The power of the Empire had crushed the hope of love. They knew that. And they got up in the morning and went to the tomb anyhow. Hallelujah, Anyhow.

But more than that, John's Gospel says it was dark. It was dark. That's not just the time of day in John's Gospel. The darkness in John is the domain of evil. In John's Gospel when Judas leaves the Last Supper to betray Jesus, John inserts a parenthetical remark. When Judas leaves to betray him, John says, "And it was night." The darkness is the domain of wrong, of hatred, of bigotry, of violence, the domain of sin and death and horror.

And early in the morning while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb, Hallelujah, Anyhow. The truth is, she didn't know that Jesus was alive. She was just doing what love does. Caring for her beloved, her Savior, her friend, in his time of death, to give him the last rites of burial. And when she got to the tomb, and the other women with them, they eventually discovered that Jesus was alive, and in the silence of the night, in the moments of despair, in the moments of the worst darkness, God had done something incredible. God had raised Jesus from the dead. The truth is, nobody saw Jesus rise from the dead, because God had done it secretly and quietly, when nobody was looking.

When I was in high school, I learned a poem composed by James Russell Lowell. He wrote it in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, in one of the darkest periods in American history, when this country was torn asunder by the existence of chattel slavery in our midst. In this great land of freedom, there were slaves being held in bondage. And this nation literally went to war, tearing itself apart, trying to find the way to do what was right. And James Russell Lowell wrote, in the midst of this darkness, in this dark hour:

Though the cause of evil prosper, yet 'tis truth alone and strong . . .  
Though her portion be a scaffold, and upon the throne be wrong  
Yet that scaffold sways the future, and behind the dim unknown  
Standeth God within the shadow, keeping watch above his own.

Hallelujah, Anyhow. Christ is risen. The Lord is risen, indeed.

God love you, God bless you, and may God hold us all in those almighty hands of love.

