



Christ Church
Sixth and Main Streets
Clarksburg

The Good News Weekly

of

Christ Episcopal Church

January 20, 2019



St. Barnabas Chapel
721 Hall Street
Bridgeport

www.christchurchclarksburg.com
www.stbarnabaschapel.com
Office phone: 304-622-3694
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<https://www.facebook.com/Episcopalparishinclarksburg/>

Upcoming Events

- 1/20/19 Holy Eucharist Rite II at 10:00 a.m. at Christ Church
- 1/20/19 Holy Eucharist Rite II at 5:30 p.m. at St. Barnabas
- 1/21/19 Martin Luther King Day – Office Closed
- 1/23/19 Bible Study at 10:30 a.m. at Christ Church
- 1/27/19 Holy Eucharist Rite II at 10:00 a.m. at Christ Church
- 1/27/19 Holy Eucharist Rite II at 5:30 p.m. at St. Barnabas

Backpack Blessings Schedule

- Pack after church on January 20
- Driver to deliver bags January 24 – Beth Sickles
- Shopper for January 24 – Beth Sickles
- Pack after church on January 27
- Driver to deliver bags on January 31 – Ben Barksdale



Friday, January 25 and Saturday, January 26

The suspense is building!
The hosts have been determined!
One dinner will be held on Friday and one on Saturday!
Where am I going?
Who else will be there?
What are we going to eat?

Did you get your name on the signup sheet? If not, you need to call or email the church office or Jody Morse a.s.a.p. if you would like to attend one of the dinners.



Serving Ministries

January 20, 2019

2nd Sunday After Epiphany

- 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: Suzanne Wilson & Carol Johnson
- 11:00 a.m. Coffee hour in the parlor
Coffee hour hostess: OPEN
- 11:30 a.m. Choir rehearsal
- 5:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II at St. Barnabas
Lector: Ron LaNeve
Ushers: Joe Martin
Altar Guild: Kipp Martin

January 27, 2019

3rd Sunday After Epiphany

- 9:30 a.m. Choir warmup
- 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II at Christ Church
Lector: Ira Richardson & Jody Morse
Ushers: Dee Trimbach & Zac Steed
Acolyte: Nate Critchfield
Altar Guild: Suzanne Wilson & Carol Johnson
- 11:00 a.m. Coffee hour in the parlor
Coffee hour hostess: Ashley Nutter
- 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: Nancy Cotten

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

The Good Book Club – Epiphany 2019

WEEK 3: JANUARY 21-27, 2019

The Rev. Ranjit Mathews, Rector of St. James, Diocese of Connecticut

READ: ROMANS 6:1-8:8

REFLECT: I am thankful for how the death-dealing ways of the world have been overcome through the cross of Jesus Christ. It gives the people of Jesus this incredible ministry of “repairing the breach” of the world as it is, and the world as it should be. I am beyond grateful for the opportunity to walk with the disciples of Jesus Christ here at St. James, in New London, Connecticut, as we walk this journey of racial reconciliation within our community and the broader community of New London and southeastern Connecticut. It’s a matter of being pieces of scripture, as the great biblical scholar Verna Dozier said so well, pieces of scripture out in the world. It takes boldness to step into the power of the Holy Spirit, which has been so mightily given to us through the gift of baptism. We are disciples of the Jesus Movement and endeavor to dismantle the ongoing, systemic realities of racism in our local and broader society. I believe that this is, more broadly, the very calling of baptized Christians. And we should not be afraid of stepping out and claiming through the Holy Spirit the new eschatological reality – the realm of God breaking into the world, as C. H. Dodd has aptly put it.

I wonder if, as Episcopalians, we take on the power of being alive in Jesus Christ. This may sound evangelical, but that is the calling: to be dead to sin and alive in Christ. And that’s the genius of Paul’s letter to the Romans. He’s exhorting them to cast off sin, but also to be alive in Christ. That means, then, that our lives are qualitatively different from where they once were and our life should take on a distinct saltiness. I am beyond grateful for the transformation that we have been invited into through Jesus Christ. Too often, as Episcopalians, our lives don’t give off that saltiness, and yet this is the ministry that has been entrusted to us as the Body of Christ.

My sincere hope is that our group of disciples can dare to believe that the Holy Spirit is actually leading us out and about onto the streets of New London and into the neighborhood to BE the people that we so often pray we were. My prayer is that we take our calling seriously enough to venture outside our comfort zone and repair the breach through the power of the Holy Spirit.

DIG DEEPER:

1. What is stopping you from being BOLD in defying the death-dealing principalities of this world, and leaning into the vision of the realm of God that is ever before us?
2. Who are the partners in ministry that will join you out in the neighborhood, boldly living into the call of Jesus Christ?
3. How can you partner with other Gospel value-oriented organizations that are doing this work in your own city or town?
4. Public ministry is inherently political because of the nature of being people out in the public square. Are you willing to take on the slings and arrows of being called “political” for the sake of the Gospel?

About the Author: The Rev. Ranjit K. Mathews is the 22nd rector of St. James Episcopal Church in New London, Connecticut. Prior to serving at St. James, Ranjit served on the Presiding Bishop’s staff for three and a half years as the partnership officer for Africa. He loves being a priest of the Episcopal branch of the Jesus Movement! He is married to Johanna Kuruvilla, and together they have a son named Dhruv and a puppy named Samara, and they all live in New London.

About the Grant Site: Bridging the Racial Divide St. James Episcopal Church of New London will hold community conversations with area churches and nonprofits addressing racial discrimination, racism, and strategies to support those impacted by racism. Community conversations can often be courageous conversations, especially if across racial and ethnic lines. Our hope is that these conversations would also help to serve the youth that we hope to engage with over the summer, in similar conversations. The project includes a five-day camp for young people to discuss identity, culture, ethnicity, and racial justice issues. Conversations across difference may be what the Gospel looks like here for disciples here in New London. With the racial differences, it can be easy to stick to our own groups and to what is comfortable or safe, and yet the Gospel is always calling to go beyond our own comfort. To learn more about this project, please visit stjamesnl.org

GRATITUDE JOURNAL

THIS WEEK I AM THANKFUL FOR:
