



Christ Church
Sixth and Main Streets
Clarksburg

The Good News Weekly

Christ Episcopal Church

February 17, 2019

www.christchurchclarksburg.com

www.stbarnabaschapel.com

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St. Barnabas Chapel
721 Hall Street
Bridgeport

Upcoming Events

- 2/16/19 Trimbach Memorial** at 11:00 a.m. at Christ Church
2/17/19 Holy Eucharist Rite II at 10:00 a.m. at Christ Church
2/17/19 Holy Eucharist Rite II at 5:30 p.m. at St. Barnabas
2/20/19 Bible Study at 10:30 a.m. at Christ Church
2/21/19 B&G and Memorial Garden Meeting at 2:30 pm

If anyone has any questions concerning the Memorial Garden you can contact the Memorial Garden Chairperson Jeanie Hardesty or the Building and Grounds Assistant Chairperson Chuck Critchfield.

Backpack Blessings Schedule

- Pack after church on February 17
 Driver to deliver bags February 21 – Ben & Corliss Barksdale
 Shopper for February 21 – Beth Sickles
 Pack after church on February 24
 Driver to deliver bags February 28 – Ben Barksdale

Our Parish Family in Times of Loss

We all mourn the loss of our faithful servant, greeter, and usher, Bill Trimbach. A memorial service for Bill will be held this Saturday, February 16 at 11:00 a.m. at Christ Church. A reception will follow in the parish house. We pray for Dee and all the Trimbach children and grandchildren.

We also extend our sympathy to the Walsh family in the passing of Susan's mother, Carabelle, Sunday, February 10.

Our Parish Family in Times of Pain

We pray for healing of fractured arms of Ann Kennedy and Nichy LaNeve. Ann has been recovering for a few weeks and Nichy had surgery to repair hers this past Monday.

Our Parish Family in Times of Joy

Last week we showered Ira and Marisa Richardson with baby gifts.

Thanks to Ashley Nutter for hosting this event.



Serving Ministries

February 17, 2019

6th Sunday After Epiphany

9:30 a.m. Choir warmup

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

Lector: Jody Morse

Ushers: Kitty Clovis and Zac Steed

Acolyte: Nate Critchfield

Altar Guild: Jody Morse

11:00 a.m. Pack Backpacks

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

Coffee hour hostess: Sue Clovis and Pam Critchfield

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

February 24, 2019

7th Sunday After Epiphany

9:30 a.m. Choir warmup

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

Lector: Bill Saviers

Ushers: Ben Hardesty and Dee Trimbach

Acolyte: Nate Critchfield

Altar Guild: Jody Morse

11:00 a.m. Pack Backpacks

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: Nancy Cotten

Altar Guild: Nancy Cotten

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

Teresa Henry and Anne Skamarock, Colorado Haiti Project

REFLECT: Why not put off today what we can do tomorrow? This has long been part of the human condition, as even Paul in the first century is relaying. The time is NOW to start living into what God would have us be, “for salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers” (13:11) he tells the Roman followers of Christ (and us). And what does Paul say is required to bring us closer to God’s dream for us?

First Paul exhorts, “Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrel- ing and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires” (13:13-14). But what does this mean for our everyday interactions with one another? “Let us therefore no longer pass judgment on one another, but resolve instead never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of another” (14:13). There are two parts to this: one about judgment and the second about intentionally putting up roadblocks. For the Colorado Haiti Project, over our nearly 30 years working with the area of Petit Trou de Nippes, Haiti, we have learned that we don’t have all the answers. When we first arrived in Haiti, we wanted to share God’s gifts that we have been fortunate enough to be born into, like an education, health care, and all the privileges we take for granted living in the United States. At first, we felt that we knew what was best – that they needed education and health care, and they did. But we thought we knew what kind of education would help them the most. Fortunately, the people of this area were patient with us, and as the relationship grew, we started listening to one another. We found that just because they have different ways of addressing challenges in their own society doesn’t mean they are wrong and we are right. In fact, this interaction and this relationship have given us insight into how to address our own challenges in ways we had not thought of before. We listened to these people who primarily support themselves through the bounty of their crops and finally created an agriculture curriculum as part of St. Paul’s School.

Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall.

And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. – Romans 14:4

When meeting the people of Haiti, rather than reacting immediately to preconceptions and judgment, we need to have enough respect to honor each person and each culture and to understand at a deep level that we can learn from one other. We are all so blessed and grateful for the lessons we have learned from our brothers and sisters in Haiti. I have often heard Americans come home from a visit to this part of Haiti saying, “These people are so poor but are also so happy.” Truly, they may not always be happy, no one is. But they can be happy in their sense of community and family, which is so apparent when we are fortunate enough to visit. I think the Lord has made them stand together. They have grown where they were planted. The goal of the Colorado Haiti Project is to provide water and fertilizer so that they and we can grow together into what God would have us be, so that we can all stand together.

It is easy for us to fall into the complacency and the false comfort of tribalism, that is, believing our own group has all the answers for everyone else. However, we at the Colorado Haiti Project have found that, when we open ourselves to the Haitian culture and ways of doing things and we are able to do so without judgment, we are taking part in God’s call to us to truly love one another. “May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ” (15:5-6).

DIG DEEPER:

1. When have you met “the other” and immediately judged their clothes, living situation, or intellect before getting to know them? How did that make you feel?
2. When working with other cultures and peoples, like in Haiti, where access to medical, educational, and economic resources is limited or nonexistent, what is your motivation? Are you interested in truly being present and listening with respect to “resolve instead never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of another,” or just making yourself feel like you are doing good?
3. Reflect on a situation in the past where you have been fighting for a cause (it doesn’t have to be a big cause). Was it worth the emotional capital you invested, especially if it caused animosity or division between you and your community? How do you think your judgments fit into the bigger picture and God’s plan?
4. As humans, we often put off today what we can do tomorrow. Make a list of things you can do every day to “lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy” (13:12-14).

About the Authors: **Teresa Henry** is the current board vice president of the Colorado Haiti Project (CHP), which she has enthusiastically promoted and supported since 2007. She founded the Livelihood (formerly Vocational) Development Program in 2012 to offer education in agriculture, entrepreneurship, and vocational and professional studies to the communities of the Nippes region of Haiti. Through outreach events and numerous visits to Haiti each year, Teresa ignites a contagious passion for CHP everywhere she goes. Teresa has been a florist all her life, graduating from the University of Illinois with a degree in Ornamental Horticulture. She was the owner of Boulder Blooms for 12 years and still enjoys any floral assignment. Her greatest passion is travel and fun with her crazy and loving family.

Anne Skamarock is a past board member and executive director for the Colorado Haiti Project and continues to volunteer with CHP. She traveled to Petit Trou de Nippes in 2005 and 2015 and was thrilled and amazed at the change accomplished by CHP together with the people of the area in those 10 years. Anne is a marketing consultant who has spent 40 years working with enterprise computer systems, storage, and software technology companies. Anne has held positions in large and small companies, has been part of a number of successful startups, and has run her own consulting business. Anne and her husband, Bill, love traveling and learning about new places, people, and cultures.

About the Grant Site: **The Colorado Haiti Project** has been working with community leaders in the rural town of Petit Trou de Nippes, Haiti, for more than 28 years, supporting community-driven programs in education, community health, water and hygiene, girls’ and women’s empowerment, and agriculture. CHP provides resources to Haitian leaders, building bridges from the U.S. to Haiti that provide vital support for local vision and leadership. **The Colorado Haiti Project** received two grants from United Thank Offering.