



Sixth and Main Streets  
Clarksburg

## *The Good News Weekly*

August 3, 2014



721 Hall Street  
Bridgeport

### **This week**

- August 5 Christian Education planning meeting at Christ Church
- August 8 Hosting Mission group from New York for the night

### **Looking Ahead**

- August 10 Instructed Eucharist using the Rite I Communion Service
  - \* Acolyte meeting after the service
- August 17 Instructed Eucharist using the Rite II Communion Service
  - \* Parents meeting after worship
- August 23 9:00 a.m. Vestry Retreat at the Steptoe-Johnson office building
- August 24 9:30 a.m. Annual Parish "Picnic in the Park" Eucharist at 9:30 at the VA shelter. Picnic to follow. The Church will provide chicken
- August 31 Outreach Ingathering (read below for more information)
- September 7 CELEBRATION SUNDAY

### **Calling all Acolytes!**

It has been a while since we have gathered to review the responsibilities of this important ministry. We will gather after worship on August 10th for a refresher and welcome any youth 4th grade and up to join the Acolyte Corp.

### **From the Rector**

The decision has been made for Christ Church to have one Sunday morning worship service at 9:30 a.m. on a permanent basis. This change will require something from all of us. For those who have faithfully worshipped at 10:30 this will mean getting to Church an hour earlier. For those who have faithfully worshipped at 8:00 this will mean changing your Sunday morning routine. We will need to honor the quiet before the service more than ever. We will need to adjust our seating. There are plenty of open pews closer to the front. In some ways it will be the blending of 2 congregations into one. Let us all rejoice in the opportunities that will come with this change. Here is the plan for Sunday mornings.

9:30 a.m. Worship (We will use Rite I on the 1st Sunday of the month)

10:30 a.m. Coffee fellowship in the Parlors

10:45 a.m. Sunday School for our children and forum for adults (the adult choir will practice at this time)

11:30 a.m. on our way rejoicing and fed!

Anne+

### **Outreach Ingathering—Sunday, August 31st**

Our tight Parish budget has not provided for outreach funds in the past several years. And yet this parish has continued to support and fund projects such as the Backpack Blessings, Thanksgiving and Easter Baskets, Open Heart Ministries, H.I.S. Bridgebuilders projects and Peterkin scholarships. Funding for this outreach work through July of this year alone has totaled over \$6,000. Outreach is at the very heart of this Church family.

The Vestry has approved a semi-annual special offering to be taken solely for the purpose of funding our Outreach work. We hope that when this Outreach offering envelope comes your way you will be as generous as you can be in your financial support.

*knowing, living, and sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ.*

## Taking on Leadership

What does it mean to be “the Church?” We gather for worship! That is first and foremost what we do. Our worship should feed us and give us spiritual food and strength to live a faithful life out in the world. That is why we call the space where we worship a sanctuary.

But our life as a faith community offers us more than just worship. We gathered a vision team together several weeks ago to talk about our parish life and what we want to be. To help us in our visioning we placed 4 areas of parish life on a chart: worship, fun and fellowship, education, and outreach. We looked at some of the things we already do and we dreamed about new directions for us to take.

The question that continued to emerge as we looked at our parish life is, “how do these events and activities get organized and coordinated?” We all agreed that the ways in the past were not working effectively but we also agreed that there is amazing leadership potential in this community. In smaller church ministry this leadership often gets placed on a few. Those few quickly get overwhelmed and burnt out.

Let’s do it differently this year. Let’s all commit to taking on some leadership. Here is a list of events and gatherings that need leaders for the coming year. Find one or two that interest you and that you would be willing to put your heart and soul into getting them organized . To lead and coordinate does not mean to do it all! We have many hands to help but they need leadership to guide them. Here is a list . What leadership will you take on?

Celebration Sunday  
Leaf Peeping Picnics after Church  
Evensong Evening  
Holiday Bazaar Kathy and Stephanie Posey  
Creation Art Show and Contest  
Backpack Blessings  
Thanksgiving Baskets Tom and Susan Walsh  
Parish Picnic at the Park  
Blessing of the Animals  
Firefighters Appreciation Sunday  
St. Barnabas Sunday  
Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

*Be still and know that I am God*

*Be still and know that I am*

*Be still and know*

*Be still*

*Be*



Annual Picnic at the Park

Where: the VA Park

When: Sunday, August 23

The church will provide fried chicken. You bring the sides.

Celebration Sunday

September 7th

Let us all renew our commitment to this parish family and our life together.

