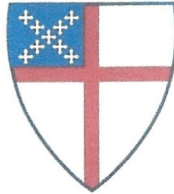


The Gospel Gazette

THE NEWSLETTER OF CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
AND ST. BARNABAS CHAPEL



May 2024

**Our Mission
Is to know, live, and share
The Good News Story of Jesus Christ.**

Father Chris' Message

Greetings Church!

Once again, I want to say that it is a joy being your priest. It is exciting to be part of an energetic parish that is eager to be active and to grow! There's been a lot going on in the life of the church through March and April. In May, we will be welcoming Rev. Heather Barta who will help guide the vestry in some planning and goal setting. One of my favorite verses of Scripture is Proverbs 29:18, "Where there is no vision, the people perish. But happy are those who keep God's instruction." Rev. Heather will work with the vestry as we reach out to the church, ask questions, and learn where God is moving in our midst. I truly believe that the Holy Spirit is working in and through Christ Church and St Barnabas Chapel. We see "evidence" all around us! My prayer is that the excitement, enthusiasm, and joy we see will last beyond a season or two and help transform our church in a positive way.

In the following weeks, you might be approached by members of the vestry and by me. We want to hear about how God is at work in your life and where you see God moving at Christ Church/St Barnabas Chapel.

There's an all-too-familiar saying, "if you don't know where you're going, any path will get you there." In the month of May, you have an assignment: *Pray for the church every single day*. We often pray for individual members who are sick, grieving, or in trouble. Yet as Christians, we are also called to pray for the mission and purpose of the church. A few questions might guide you:

Where is God leading us as a church?

What gifts has God given us?

What can we do to reach the people that no other church is reaching?

All we do as the church should be rooted and grounded in prayer. As the vestry begins this important work of goal setting and visioning, your prayers are necessary. As Jesus tells us, "Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing" (John 15:5). Your gifts of time, talents, and treasures are important for the church; but the single greatest thing you can do is pray! If you're struggling to find the words, here's some guidance that might be helpful:

Ever living God, whose will it is that all should come to you through your Son Jesus Christ: Inspire our witness to him, that all may know the power of his forgiveness and the hope of his resurrection; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* (*Book of Common Prayer*, "For the Mission of the Church").

Finally, if you ever need to contact me, my phone number is (304)646-9597. I would love to connect, grab coffee or lunch, or spend some time in prayer together. Let us pray that God will complete the God work he has begun in us, and that we bear good fruit for the kingdom!

Grace and Peace,
Fr. Chris +



CHOIR MEMBERS NEEDED



POSITIONS OPEN: Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass – no others need apply.

PHYSICAL QUALIFICATIONS: must be able to carry light musical notes across the church. Must have sufficient vision to see director twenty feet away.

EXPERIENCE: No applications accepted from persons who have not sung, hummed, or whistled in the tub or shower.

WAGES: Satisfaction and joy in God's service.

FRINGE BENEFITS: Social Security – we promise you the security of social fellowship with other choir members.

HOURS: Sunday mornings with occasional opportunities for overtime (at the above-mentioned wages)

VACATION: Missed rehearsals and church services are primarily a matter of conscience and ability to return the glares and pointed remarks of the director and other choir members.

Please contact Toni Limbers: 304-627-4431 or tlimbers@hotmail.com TODAY.

May 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Legend: Christ Episcopal Church – CEC – black ink St. Barnabas Chapel – SBC – blue ink			1 10:00 AM Prayer Group at SBC 11:00 AM Prepare and pack meals at SBC to be taken and served in the parking lot of the First UMC in Clarksburg.	2 10:30 AM Bible Study 12:10 Noon Day Prayers in Sanctuary or Mem. Garden followed with a light lunch	3	4 10:00-3:00 At SBC Vestry and Invited guests.
Note: Father Chris plans to work in the Bridgeport area on Tuesday mornings, either in the St. Barnabas office or out in the community.						
5 <i>6th Sunday of Easter</i> 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist at SBC 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist at CEC 11:00 AM Backpack Outreach – all are welcome to help pack bags.	6 6:00 PM Taize Service at CEC		8 10:00 AM Prayer Group at SBC	9 10:30 AM Bible Study 12:10 Noon Day Prayers in Sanctuary or Mem. Garden followed with a light lunch	10	11
12 <i>7th Sunday of Easter</i> 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist at SBC 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist at CEC 11:00 AM Backpack Outreach – all are welcome to help pack bags.	13 6:00 PM Vestry Meeting at CEC	14	15 10:00 AM Prayer Group at SBC	16 10:30 AM Bible Study 12:10 Noon Day Prayers in Sanctuary or Mem. Garden followed with a light lunch	17	18
19 <i>Pentecost Sunday</i> 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist at SBC 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist at CEC 11:00 AM Backpack Outreach – all are welcome to help pack bags.	20	21	22 10:00 AM Prayer Group at SBC	23 10:30 AM Bible Study 12:10 Noon Day Prayers in Sanctuary or Mem. Garden followed with a light lunch	24	25
26 <i>1st Sunday After Pentecost</i> 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist at SBC 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist at CEC 11:00 AM Backpack Outreach – all are welcome to help pack bags.	27 Memorial Day (may change) 3:30 PM Executive Committee Meeting	28	29 10:00 AM Prayer Group at SBC	30 10:30 AM Bible Study 12:10 Noon Day Prayers in Sanctuary or Mem. Garden followed with a light lunch	31	

Discover the Joy of Reading!

By Toni Limbers

Listen up all ye Saints of Christ Church and St. Barnabas Chapel! We are excited to announce our first Reading Camp – Go for the Gold...Read! The free reading camp is for children entering grades 2-4 in the fall of 2024. Space is limited and campers must apply in advance. Reading Camp is June 24-27, 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.



This four-day-long program is designed to build reading skills, self-confidence, and self-esteem in an informal setting. Reading Camp includes dinner, reading aloud, small group activities, a craft project, and even a field trip to our Clarksburg-Harrison Public Library!

Where do you fit in? Volunteers are needed – including but not limited to, money contributors to provide books and other supplies, leaders (teachers), leader helpers, people to assist with crafts, children guides (herders), food providers (contact Ashley Nutter), food servers, and junior leaders.

If you are interested in helping with Reading Camp (Go for the Gold... Read!), please contact the church office or Toni Limbers at 304-627-4431 or tlimbers@hotmail.com. Donations to Reading Camp can be made at Christ Episcopal Church, Attn: Reading Camp.

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More information from Ashley Nutter:

Parish Life Committee has planned menus for the Reading Camp.

There is a signup sheet in the Parish House where you can volunteer to provide anywhere from one item to a whole meal.

News from the Vestry

- A new audio-visual system for the sanctuary has been approved to improve the quality of the livestreaming of our services. Look for some new electronic devices in the near future. Remember when you are traveling or are away on vacation, you can worship with your church family wherever you are in the world. For other friends and family members who live far away, our online presence is the front door to our church.
- The annual West Virginia Diocesan Convention will be November 15-16 at Stonewall Jackson Resort. Christ Church Clarksburg and St. Barnabas Chapel will be the host church. Ashley Nutter has volunteered to head up the committee to coordinate the things we need to do. As we get closer to the event, she will be letting us know how we can help.

Announcements

- Welcome to our new Parish Administrator, Lauren Kemper!
- The first Sunday of each month is Discretionary Sunday, and all offering coins and paper money goes to Fr. Chris' fund to use as he wishes to help those in need. You can write a check any time with "Discretionary Fund" on the memo line.
- If you are not getting emails from the church, please send your email address to: christchurch1853@aol.com.
- This month's birthdays and anniversaries are:
 - 5/11 Katie Smith
 - 5/13 Danielle Jefferson
 - 5/15 Everett Hertz
 - 5/15 Tina Clark
 - 5/19 John Thompson
 - 5/27 John Vaughan
 - 5/19 Doyle and Beth Sickles - anniversary
 - 5/23 John and Kathryn Vaughan - anniversary





Office Information

Phone: 304-622-3694

Hours: 9:00 AM – Noon Monday – Thursday

Email address: christchurch1853@aol.com

Websites

<https://www.christchurchclarksburg.com/>

<https://www.wvdiocese.org/>

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/>

Addresses

Christ Church -

Main and Sixth Street, Clarksburg
or 123 South Sixth Street, Clarksburg

St. Barnabas Chapel -

721 Hall Street, Bridgeport

Mailing address - PO Box 1492, Clarksburg 26302

Father Chris' Contact Information

Father Chris would love to connect with you!

If you ever need to reach out to him,

call or text him at

(304)646-9597

or email him at

Christo.scott@gmail.com.

The Lectionary Page

Go to [The Lectionary Page](#) to find lessons for Sundays and Major Holy Days from the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL) (as adapted for use in Episcopal worship).