



# CHRIST AND THE EPIPHANY

VOLUME 25

June 2021

## Ordinary Time

“It’s not easy, being green” sings Kermit the Frog about the color of his skin, bemoaning the fact that because it’s such an ordinary color, people tend to pass you by. But he learns that it’s an ordinary color that is also the color of amazingly wonderful parts of creation. “It’s fine, and it’s what I want to be,” Kermit concludes.

This past Monday, May 24th, as we do every Monday after Pentecost Sunday, the church entered the green season, also known as “Ordinary Time,” the longest season of the church year. This season doesn’t end until the Saturday before the First Sunday in Advent. The altar and pulpit hangings are green during this season, as are the priest’s vestments, except on special Feast Days. If Kermit were an Episcopalian, I’m guessing that the Sundays after Pentecost would be his favorite season!

When we in the church say “Ordinary time,” it not only means regular or plain, but it has also come to mean counted, as in ordinal numbers. The Sundays of Ordinary Time are numbered. For instance, June 6th is the “Second Sunday after Pentecost,” and so on.

The Sundays after Pentecost are “ordinary” in another sense as well, because our scriptures focus on the

teachings of Jesus in his “ordinary” life and how we are to follow him in living ours. Since the First Sunday in Lent, we have been focusing on the life of Jesus: his death, resurrection, Ascension, and then concluding with the gift of the Holy Spirit into our lives at Pentecost.

With Pentecost and the coming of the Holy Spirit, there is a huge change, because now the disciples of Jesus, and that’s us, are empowered to become the church. The Holy Spirit gives us the power to carry out the work of Jesus to love our neighbor. With the Holy Spirit, God actually dwells within us and gives us the strength and power we need to live life differently.

Because of what happened at Pentecost, life is now a union between God and people through the power of the Spirit, making the ordinary holy. Never again can we say, that “ordinary” means boring or plain. When we see with the eyes of God’s Spirit in us, and when we feel with the heart of God’s Spirit in us, and when we act with the power of God’s Spirit in us, the ordinary is transformed into a whole universe of possibility to love.

*Faithfully yours,  
Mary Anne*

## Upcoming Events

**Every Sunday, 9:00 a.m.,** Sunday Service in-person and via Zoom

**Every Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.,** Caste Book Study via Zoom

**Sunday, June 13, noon - 4:00 p.m.,** Junk in the Trunk

**Saturday, June 26, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.,** Old Stone Church Tag Sale

*(Zoom connection information at end of newsletter.)*

## Junk in the Trunk

As we will again gather in the building for Sunday worship services (yeah!), the time for Junk in the Trunk has been changed to 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. We need volunteers to assist at our sales booths and the thrift store. Junk in the Trunk runs every second Sunday through October.

## Thrift Store

The Good Shepherd Thrift Store is taking our mission on the road! We are selling selected treasures at Old Stone Church’s annual Tag Sale, Saturday, June 26, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at 251 Main Street, East Haven. If you can help set up, staff the booth, or pack up, please contact Diane Villano at 203 887-3392.

## “Powder Room” Makeover!

Our intrepid Junior Warden, Wendy, has spearheaded a makeover of the small bathroom next to the offices. Existing furniture was removed, the walls painted, missing floor tiles laid, an additional mirror hung and a new full-size toilet installed.

Be sure to check out this beautifully refurbished room!

## Safe Church

In keeping with our baptismal vow to “seek and serve Christ in all persons,” our parish follows The Episcopal Church and ECCT in their commitment to create safe and loving relationships in all the variety of our ministries. To that end, anyone on staff, or who is in a position of leadership (Vestry members, Thrift Store volunteers, Pastoral Visitors) is required to complete Safe Church Training every three years.

The training consists of two sessions, both of which are virtual. One session is done by yourself whenever you choose; the second session is done in a scheduled Zoom meeting.

For all the information and to sign up, please tell Diane Rowley and then go to the ECCT website:

<https://www.episcopalct.org/Find-Resources/General-Parish-Operations/Safe-Church-Resources/>

If you have any questions, you can contact Rev. Mary Anne at [priest.christandtheepiphany@gmail.com](mailto:priest.christandtheepiphany@gmail.com)

## Around the Church

### Pentecost Red!



### Powder Room Refresh



### Thrift Store Patriotism



## May Vestry Summary

**Next Meeting** - The next Vestry meeting will be Sunday, June 20th after the 9:00 a.m. service in the church library.

**Worship** - Hybrid in-person and Zoom worship starting Pentecost May 23! We will also be looking to restart the Lay Eucharistic Visitor program to make sure Communion gets to those unable to attend in-person services.

**Admin** - We will be reviewing Safe Church certification and background/credit checks for all necessary parishioners as required by ECCT.

**Building & Grounds** - The bathroom outside the offices has been refreshed and refurbished. The new lawn service is doing a great job. We may have someone rent the Kitchen for two weekdays a week. The self-help groups surprised us by installing new utility racks in the Upper Hall sexton's closet. Lastly, the Garage is getting cleaned out to be more organized for Junk in the Trunk events.

**Finance** - We received a special \$1,000 gift from a friend of the church at our April Junk in the Trunk event!

**Fundraising** - The time of the monthly Junk in the Trunk events will be moved to noon - 4:00 p.m. to avoid conflicts with in-person Sunday worship. Also we will have our usual table at the June 26, Old Stone Tag sale.

## Encouraging Words

Charlie Langlan

### Patience

Wait for the LORD; be strong and take heart and wait for the LORD. -*Psalms 27:14*

### Healing

"I will heal my people and will let them enjoy abundant peace and security," says the LORD. -*Jeremiah 33:6*

### Thankfulness

Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. -*1 Thessalonians 5:18*

### Hope

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope. -*Romans 15:13*

### New Beginnings

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. -*2 Corinthians 5:17*



**Episcopal  
Church in CT  
(ECCT)**

### **Christ Church Norwich Closing**

After months of talking and discerning together, on Sunday, April 25th the parishioners of Christ Church, Norwich passed a resolution to close the parish. A final service is planned for Sunday, May 30.

### **The "2 out of 3" Rule**

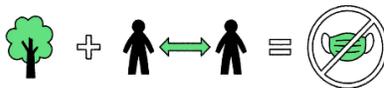
Recommended by the bishops, the "2-out-of-3 rule" requires

that in-person worship and gatherings meet two of the following three precautions: outside, masked, and six foot physical distance. For example, if worshipping outside and people maintain a six foot physical distance, then masks are not necessary. The "rule" here is to maintain at least 2 of the 3 levels of protection when gathering in-person.

Use the 2-out-of-3 Rule

In you're not vaccinated, make sure your activity meets two out of the following three conditions: outdoors, distanced and masked.

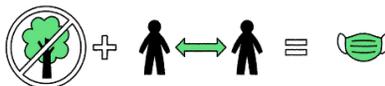
Outdoors + Distanced = No Mask Needed



Outdoors + No Distance = Mask Needed



Not Outdoors + Distanced = Mask Needed



### **Faithful Futures: Exploring the In-Person and Digital Space as Church**

Join us Thursday, June 3 at 6:30 p.m. for an online panel discussion made of clergy and lay leaders throughout ECCT as we explore the ways parishes of various sizes are regathering in-person and in hybrid settings. We will hear from perspectives focused on worship, collaboration, digital communications, ministries, and the challenges we face while still in the midst of a pandemic.

Click here to register:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/faithful-futures-exploring-the-in-person-and-digital-space-as-church-tickets-154766020333?>

### **Bishop Transition Committee**

The members of the Bishop Transition committee have been selected. See here for the members: [https://www.episcopalct.org/Customer-Content/www/CMS/files/20210427\\_Mission\\_Council\\_BTC\\_FIN\\_AL\\_Letter\\_to\\_Standing\\_Committee.pdf](https://www.episcopalct.org/Customer-Content/www/CMS/files/20210427_Mission_Council_BTC_FIN_AL_Letter_to_Standing_Committee.pdf)



### **Season of Racial Justice, Healing, and Reconciliation**

### **Virtual Poetry and Social Justice Dialogue**

Christ Church Cathedral's Virtual Poetry Night is a space where art intersects with spirituality and social justice. This year, our Cathedral is partnering with our ECCT's Racial, Healing, Justice, and Reconciliation Ministry Network (RHJR) to host a series of events to address topics as racial justice, reparations, creation care, and so much more!

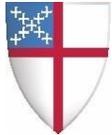
On Friday May 28 at 7:00 p.m., our Poet-In-Residence and host of the series, Dr. Lindsay Rockwell, will feature a special guest, Poet Gregory Pardlo, winner of the 2015 Pulitzer Prize in Poetry. Joining them are poets Joyce Ashuntantang and Spencer Reece.

Click here to register:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/poetry-and-social-justice-dialogue-event-tickets-151996416373>



June 8 - Richard & Lynn Mead  
June 26 - Barbara & George Coulombe



## The Episcopal Church

### Israel and Palestine

As you may be aware, the conflict and violence between Israel and Palestine has been increasing in the past few weeks. Presiding Bishop Michael Curry has issued the following statement:

*One more time we awake to the news of violence. Reports come in, even as you read this, about violence that has caused death, life-changing injury and destruction of property and lives. Violence which is borne of frustration, rooted in injustice and the violation of international law and in truth, the violation of human rights and human decency. In the Name of the God of all creation, the violence must stop, regardless of where it comes from and to whom it is directed.*

*One more time The Episcopal Church stands to say that violence is not the way forward. We say the expansion of Israeli settlements at the expense of Palestinian families must end. We say incitement which encourages violence must end. We say enough is enough.*

*One more time The Episcopal Church encourages the government of the United States and others who have influence, who are of goodwill and who genuinely seek peace to be partners in peacemaking, to bring about a negotiated settlement to the long-standing conflict which has consumed both Israelis and Palestinians.*

*One more time we find ourselves full of sorrow and sadness. We find ourselves grieving over the loss of life, destruction of homes and the fear that lives in the hearts of tens of thousands of innocent people. We join all people of faith to offer up prayers for healing, wholeness, restoration and reconciliation.*

*And we pray God to grant wisdom and courage to all those in authority to seek peace and pursue it without delay, without excuses, without confusion and with only one agenda: a negotiated and equitable agreement for peace between Israelis and Palestinians – once and for all.*



The American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem is an organization dedicated to caring for the vulnerable and displaced in the Middle East. They are currently taking donations for the Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza which is one of the only hospitals that has not been destroyed. You

can learn more about their mission here:  
<https://afedj.org/>



### ECCT Stories: Jerusalem PeaceBuilders

Rev. Nicholas Porter, priest canonically resident in ECCT wrote an article sharing his faith journey and the founding of Jerusalem PeaceBuilders ([www.herusalempeacebuilders.org](http://www.herusalempeacebuilders.org)). Here is a short excerpt.

Founded in 2011, this ECCT ministry (JPB) launched its first program with 11 teens while today we operate year-round interfaith peace and leadership programs that unite and empower a new generation of Israelis, Palestinians, and Americans who are committed to building secure, shared and peaceful societies.

The story began in my mother's kitchen listening to Walter Cronkite narrate grainy black & white clips of the 1973 Yom Kippur War on CBS News. The images of Arab tanks, Israeli fighter-planes, and violent death changed my life.

I was only nine and living on a cattle farm in Missouri, but it was clear to me that that war was not the answer.

JPB's interfaith programs focus on breaking down isolation, polarization, prejudice, and stereotypes between Jews, Christians, Muslims, and Druze. Peace emerges as participants become active leaders whose lives exemplify a new narrative of achievement, trust, and healthy intercommunal relations.

We do this with a tiny cadre of staff and volunteers. On a good day, we can be likened to yeast leavening dough for a future much greater than ourselves. We are a "non-movement" of Jews, Christians, Muslims, and Druze working individually but simultaneously for peace, prosperity, and dignity in Jerusalem, Israel, and Palestine.

Is this not exactly how the Spirit of God silently shapes history and the human heart? We believe that God is a verb and this is our prayer for the peace of Jerusalem. We hope that you will join us in honoring God and transforming lives.

See the full article here: <https://episcopalct.blog/2021/03/26/a-vision-for-the-holy-land-jerusalem-peacebuilders/>



June 3 - Mary Anne Osborn  
 June 4 - Charlie Langlan  
 June 12 - Ron Blevins  
 June 17 - Kathy Alison  
 June 28 - Rich Schiavone

### Intercessory Prayers

Andrew, Astrid Swanson, Barbara R., Barbuschak Family, Brandon, Carol Ude, Carol C., Charlie & Kris Langlan, Clearwater Family, Courtney, Craig, David, David C., David & Edward, David & Irene, Devin K., Diane, Diane Link, Dot Tate, Doug, Ed, Eileen F., Elaine, Eleanor N., Faith, Father Eddie, Fran Zella, Francesca, Frank P., Frank, Fred & Judy Herzman, Gale, Geneva, Goodfellow Family, Greg T., Heather, Holly & Family, Ian, J.D., Jack K., Jacob, Jen & Tyler W., Jeremy Maldonado, Jessica & baby Olive Estelle, Jesse, Jim

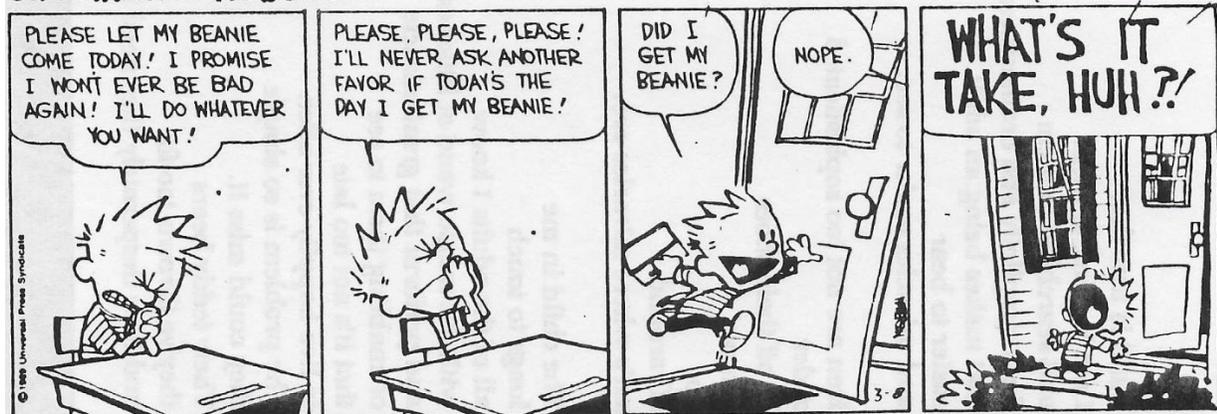
C., Jim R. & Family, Joe Riccitelli, John A., John Guida, John M., John U., John & Vera DePalma, Joseph, Judy DeFeo, Julia, June W., Karen Dattilo & Family, Karl, Kathrine Burdick, Kate W., Katrina R., Ken, Leah S., Lila Day, Lisa H., Lois, Lucas Sundwall, Madeline, Mark Conti, Marjorie Cowles, Marty, Matt, Matt R., Melissa D., Michael, Michelle C., Mitzi Parisi, Nancy S., Patty R., Rachael, Ray C., Rob & Family, Ron C., Sallie Alexander, Stan R., Turiano Family, Wendy, Zach Schatz

To submit names for the Intercessory Prayers list please call or email the church office. Names will be kept on the list for three months unless longer time is requested.

### Next issue

The deadline for the July issue is **June 23**. Email [newsletter.christandtheepiphany@gmail.com](mailto:newsletter.christandtheepiphany@gmail.com). For an update to the Intercessory Prayers, Birthday or Anniversary lists, please call the church office at 203-467-2310.

### GALVIN AND HOBBS





## **A Litany for the Restoration of Peace the Holy Land**

God of peace, we pray for the people of Palestine and Israel in these perilous and dangerous times.

For all who are fearful for the safety of their loved ones and themselves, we pray that the assurance of unfailing love, even in the midst of danger, settles upon them. Shelter them from despair and protect them from harm.

For all who are wounded, we pray they find healing.

For all who have died, we pray they find rest.

For all who grieve, we pray they find comfort.

For leaders on all sides, we pray for a renewed will to lay down arms, for the strength to put the grievances and wrongs suffered by their people to rest, and for the conviction to embrace a path of reconciliation and peace that preserves the rights and dignity of all of your children.

God of mercy, help us to remember there is no border that can separate us from your great love and protection, no stone that can sound the well of your deep mercy.

God of justice, we pray with hopeful hearts that your beloved children of the Holy Land will be spared a future of sustained violence and unrest and that a recognition of the humanity of all people will prevail.

We ask all this in the name of your Son, Jesus. *Amen.*

# Treasurer Report

Susan Shultz

	APR	(UNDER)/OVER BUDGET	YTD	(UNDER)/OVER YTD BUDGET
INCOME	\$6,971.82	\$1,304.32	\$24,288.54	(\$6,801.46)
EXPENSES	\$11,432.87	\$2,010.84	\$37,578.41	\$481.30
NET	(\$4,461.05)	\$706.52	(\$13,289.87)	(\$6,320.16)

Notes: Pledges continue to be under budget due to some large one-payment annual pledges for which I did not know the month they would be received. Note that in April we received a generous \$1,000 gift from a friend of the church! Expenses were up primarily due to the last snow removal invoice (at our new increased rate).



## “The Vine of Life”

“I am the Vine.....You are the Branches.....”  
Is Jesus’ word which heightens our chances-  
To live in His vein, blessed in His love  
As we continually surrender to His Spirit above.

Clinging to Jesus, the Vine for all lives,  
Brings fruit to the Branches of every kind and size.  
For the sap of His spirit nourishes the soul  
And enables us all with powers untold.

Faithfully serving in His precious name,  
Can only be done while linked to His vein.  
For the love and power in His blood we claim  
Are gifts freely given for His glory and fame.

So feed on Him each hour of the day  
Grow in His love as you study and pray  
Trust to His care all that you do,  
And He’ll continually shower His blessings on You!

-- Barbara Coulombe

## Clergy Spotlight - Rev. Mary Anne Osborn

### Tell us about your immediate family and pets

So, as I'm writing this, the four-legged member of the family is causing a fuss in the background and wants all of my attention. This is par for the course at our house when you live with a large, attention seeking, active Weimaraner. He is a very beloved member of our family who, at 4 years old, is on a mission to keep me busy with training, hikes, games, and lots of snuggles. He brings much joy and laughter to my wife of 35 years, Joanne, and to me. Besides Toby, we have three grown children, their significant others, five grandchildren, and a precocious little Pug grand-dog.



### What brought you to Christ and The Epiphany?

Not a "what" brought me but a "who" brought me, and it was a combination of God and the Vestry.

### In what ways do you serve your church family or community?

This is a tough question because there are lots of ways that I could answer this. Most obvious is that through my ordination vows I serve as a pastor, priest and teacher, all of which are some of the ways that bring me into relationships where God comes alive. And that's what I love about being here with you. If you want a more detailed answer, let's have coffee!

### What was your occupation prior to retirement?

Betcha' you can guess this one!

### What's your favorite pastime?

Do you mean the pastimes I really, really adore but only do rarely, or the ones I actually get to do? On the rarely-but-favorite list are snorkeling, taking long walks on the beach, hiking in the desert southwest, and photography. On the favorite but more frequent list are hiking, which our dog Toby makes sure I do every day, kayaking, training Toby, and curling up with a good novel.

### What brightens your day?

You can probably tell that our Toby has a very central place in my life, and here's another Toby comment. His ability to make me laugh with his ever-changing clownish antics brings me joy every single day.

### What's one thing about you that no one knows?

Is this a trick question? If I told you, then someone would know!

### What is your fondest childhood memory?

Sundays. I loved Sundays! Sundays were family day. My father traveled a great deal, so Sundays were particularly special because he was at home. We'd always go to church, and I mean always. And then, we'd play! We'd go for picnics, or play golf, or go out in our boat and water ski, or maybe we'd just hang out and work in the yard. And on Sunday night we'd watch "The Wonderful World of Disney" and "Bonanza" together, a perfect ending to our day.

### Do you have any favorite psalms, Bible passages, or inspirational sources?

I have tons of favorites, depending on what I am feeling at the time. Psalm 139 always speaks to me because of how beautifully it expresses the unfathomable depths of God's presence with us in all times and in all places.

## Worship Schedule (9:00 a.m. via Zoom)

	<u>June 6</u>	<u>June 13</u>	<u>June 20</u>	<u>June 27</u>
Ushers	Wendy Bellmore Diane Villano	Barbara Parsons Audrey Sundwall	Audrey Sundwall Diane Villano	Barbara Parsons Wendy Bellmore
Lay Reader	Pat Walters	Ray Clearwater	Richard Mead	Diane Villano
Crucifer	George Coulombe	n/a	George Coulombe	George Coulombe
MP Officiant	n/a	Wendy Bellmore	n/a	n/a

## Zoom Worship Connection Information

To connect by computer click:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7639094733?pwd=WkR1ZHBNYTNKWmJqM2NvTkRjZ09hdz09>

To join by phone call:

929-436-2866

Meeting ID = 763 909 4733

Password = 39

Weekly bulletins are emailed out on Fridays. Zoom is opened around 8:30 a.m. on Sunday.

Past sermons are available on the *Christ and The Epiphany* YouTube channel here:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkGs9WC8ug7syl9n0kHkRaA>.

If you are not receiving the email bulletin please contact Diane in the office at 203-467-2310 or [christandtheepiphany@gmail.com](mailto:christandtheepiphany@gmail.com).

If you want or need any help getting connected on Zoom please reach out any time to Susan Shultz at 860-669-1104 or [sbshultz@gmail.com](mailto:sbshultz@gmail.com).

# Christ and The Epiphany Church

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Website: [christandtheepiphany.org](http://christandtheepiphany.org)

## Worship Schedule

Sunday 9:00 a.m. In-Person & Online Zoom Worship

*In-person with masks and social distancing*

*(See the newsletter, our website, or facebook page for*

*Zoom connection information details.)*

Christ and The Epiphany Church  
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