



# CHRIST AND THE EPIPHANY

VOLUME 27

July/August 2023

THE *Episcopal* CHURCH 



***In recognition of World Refugee Day and Episcopal Migration Ministries' Rainbow Initiative to support LGBTQ+ forced migrants, Presiding Bishop Michael Curry shared the following message:***

Hello, I'm Michael Curry, presiding bishop of the Episcopal Church. June the 20th, as you may well know, is World Refugee Day. In thinking about that, I was particularly mindful this year of the passage found in the 25th chapter of Matthew's Gospel. It's where Jesus tells a parable, a story of judgment day, sometimes called the parable of the last judgment or the parable of the sheep and the goats.

When the Bible talks about judgment day in these kinds of context, it's really trying to get us to grasp what really matters, what is important to God. And in this parable, Jesus says all the nations and peoples of the earth are assembled before the king on

judgment day. To those who have clothed those who were naked, fed those who were hungry, welcomed those who were strangers, visited those in prison or in hospital or alone, he says, enter into the joys of the kingdom. Enter into the joys of heaven.

But the righteous ones who are welcomed into heaven respond in the parable by saying, well, wait a minute, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or naked and clothe you, or alone and visited you? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you?

And Jesus says, when you did it to the least of these who are members of my family, you have done it unto me, the human family, the human family of God. And when we care for one another, respond to one another's needs, do what is just and kind and merciful and loving, we have done it unto God, God's self.

In the month of June and on June the 20th, we observe World Refugee Day, a day to remind us and to encourage us and for us to rededicate ourselves to the task of welcoming the stranger: those who are refugees fleeing persecution, those who are fleeing famine and natural disaster, those who are fleeing war, those who have lost their homes and everything that

## **Worship Services**

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

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

## **Events**

**Bake Sale and Carol's Kitchen, Saturdays, July 8, August 12, September 9, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.**

**Summer Parish Picnic, Sunday, July 30, following the worship service**

**Kindness Rocks, Sunday, August 13, 11:00- a.m.-1:00 p.m.**

they know and simply want to breathe free.

This year, we are also mindful that LGBTQ people in many countries are in additional danger. They are often threatened because of who they are, persecuted, and fleeing persecution. The Episcopal Church has made a commitment through Episcopal Migration Ministries to do what we can for all refugees that we can help. But in particular, for those LGBTQ forced migrants who simply, like the rest of us, just want to live in love and peace, as the Bible says, with everyone sitting under their own vine or fig tree.

The Rainbow Initiative is an initiative of Episcopal Migration Ministries, particularly to reach out to people in that situation. That's an additional commitment to our basic commitment to assist all refugees. And we do this work committed to the one named Jesus, who himself, with Mary and Joseph, was once a refugee.

As people helped the Holy Family to flee persecution, to find safety, so may we this year on World Refugee Day recommit our efforts and our commitments to do all that we can to welcome the stranger. Whereas you did it to the least of these who are members of my family, says Jesus, you have done it unto me.

God love you. God bless you. And may God hold us all in those almighty hands of love.

## July 15

Is July 15 marked on your calendar? It probably would be if you resided in England.



## Around the Church

Gorgeous flowers furnish a cheerful greeting to all



Our booth at Old Stone Church's annual Flea Market, Saturday June 10



Summer Fun Raffle Basket won by a woman who was thrilled to receive it for her grandson's birthday pool party!



According to folklore, if it rains on St. Swithun's Day, the next forty days will also have rain.

St. Swithun (also spelled Swithun) was the bishop of Winchester from 852 until his death in 862 and is considered the patron saint of Winchester Cathedral.

The collect for his feast day from the Church of England Lesser Feasts and Fasts reads:

Almighty God,  
by whose grace we celebrate again the feast of your servant Swithun:  
grant that, as he governed with gentleness the people committed to his care, so we, rejoicing in our Christian inheritance, may always seek to build up your Church in unity and love;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

## July 30 - Summer Parish Picnic

**Carol Link-Ude**

You are invited to gather for our summer parish picnic after Sunday worship service at Christ and The Epiphany, outside if weather permits, otherwise inside.

Family and friends, and all those who have become part of our family, by all they do for us, are invited. Hot dogs, hamburgers, coffee, soft drinks, etc. will be supplied by the church. Please bring a side dish to add to the table. We will need help to move tables and set up tents following the service. Bring a folding chair if

possible. Pray for good weather. See the sign up sheet on the church bulletin board in the Upper Hall.

## Healing Prayer

Offered by lay ministers, healing prayer will take place during Eucharist Services (not Morning Prayer, see the Worship schedule below). Please join us in the Chapel after Communion.

## Viewing Recommendation - The Chosen

Barbara Parsons



The Chosen is a series of three seasons on the life and ministry of Jesus. It brings the Gospels to life. I find that now when I read God's word that I can visualize what I'm reading. I would highly recommend this series. For many, it's been life changing.

You can view it on Peacock or Netflix, but the best way is to download the Angel or The Chosen app.

## Kindness Rocks

On Sunday, August 13, we will be hosting a Kindness Rocks session with a local artist. Kristina Nigro will lead us in painting rocks with positive, uplifting phrases and images to be left for others to discover. As stated on *the thekindness*

*rockprojects.com* the purpose is to cultivate connections within communities and lift others up through simple acts of kindness.



Reserve your space by leaving a message with the office at 203 467-2310.

## “Come Summer with me”

Fr. Austin Fleming in Guideposts

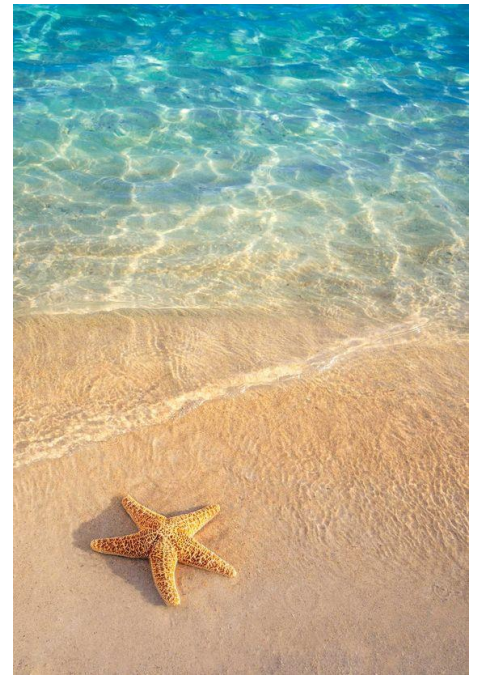
Come summer with me, Lord;  
summer deep down in my soul;  
restore my faith in summer's time,  
in rest, in joy, in play, in you...

Summer in my heart, Lord,  
and dwell there  
as if time would never end,  
as if all time were children's time,  
eternal time  
when school is always out and  
joy is ever in...

And let others summer in my shade, Lord,  
and share whatever summer's peace is mine to give,  
whatever summer's light is mine to shed,  
whatever summer's warmth is mine to share...

Good God of every season and every day this week,  
come summer with me Lord,  
and let the child in my heart spend this summer in your love...

Amen



## Scripture Verses for Summer

Audrey Sundwall

Ants are creatures of little strength, yet they store up their food in the summer.  
*Proverbs 30:25*

You have set all the borders of the earth; You have made summer and winter.  
*Psalms 74:17*

He who gathers crops in the summer is a prudent son, but he who sleeps during the harvest is a disgraceful son.  
*Proverbs 10:5*

He told them this parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees. When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near. Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that the kingdom of God is near.”  
*Luke 21:29 - 31*

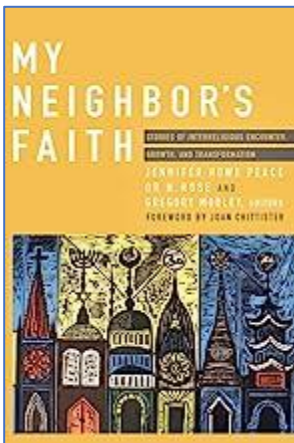
So may all your enemies perish, LORD! But may all who love you be like the sun when it rises in its strength.

*Judges 5:31*

This is what the Lord showed me: behold, a basket of summer fruit.

*Amos 8:1*

## Autumn Book Study - My Neighbor's Faith Diane Villano



Our next Zoom book study will be held at 7:00-8:00 p.m. on Tuesday evenings for seven weeks, September 5 through October 17. Each session will cover a chapter in *My Neighbor's Faith: Stories of interreligious Encounter, Growth, and Transformation*, edited by Jennifer Howe Peace, Or N. Rose, and Gregory Mobley. This is a book I studied in my Year Four of Education for Ministry, and I'd like to share insights and revelations with others. Please register by email at [diane\\_v\\_scpcg@yahoo.com](mailto:diane_v_scpcg@yahoo.com).

## June Vestry Summary

**Next Meeting** - The next Vestry meeting will be Sunday, July 16th after the 9:00 a.m.

service in the library and via Zoom.

**Senior Warden** - This month's Regional Wardens Zoom meeting had both our Senior and Junior Warden present and no other parishes. This gave us a good chance to chat with Rachel. St. James in New Haven appears to still be on track to close this coming December. Several parishioners attended Church of the Holy Spirit's 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary service to represent C&E.

**Worship** - Fr. Andrew will be our supply clergy every other week through the summer.

**Building & Grounds** - Screens have been put in the church windows by one of the Food Pantry volunteers.

All Emergency lighting has been checked and is in working order.

The painting of the parish hall upper windows is complete. The painter will be working on the side doors next and he has given us a quote of \$2,300 to do all the bottom windows of the parish hall.

A local business has cleaned all church gutters and fixed some leaking gutters on both the south side of the church and on 47 Park Place. Melanie said it was the first time there have been no leaks from the gutters since she's been at 47 Park Place!

Some general cleaning of the church is needed and volunteers would be greatly appreciated! Projects include

cleaning windows, general cleaning, and rug shampooing.

The handicapped ramp is in desperate need of repair. If anyone knows of a contractor who might be able to give us a good price please let Barbara Parsons know.

**Feast & Festivities** - A parish summer picnic will be held on Sunday July 30 at the church after the service.

## Communications

**Committee** - The first Junk in the Trunk sale went well. Also our table at the Old Stone Tag Sale was a success. In August the Communications Committee will be hosting a "Kindness Rocks" session where rocks will be painted in the North Lounge and a free will offering taken.

**New Business** - Diane Villano shared about the book *Invite, Welcome, Connect* which she recommends as good reading for the Vestry and all church members.



**Episcopal  
Church in CT  
(ECCT)**

## Reflections on the month of June

**Caela Collins**

June is the month of magic, not the kind of magic that hides in the depths of a Mary Poppins carry-on or the depths of a black top hat. It's also not the kind of magic that's tucked underneath the cool side of a pillow, appreciating in value as the clock strikes midnight. June represents the kind of magic that can't be contained,

the kind of mysterious wonder and awe that only God can comprehend fully. God speaks to everyone in their own unique way whether it be dance, or nature, or liturgy. However, one profound way God's magic emanates isn't that of songbird nannies, rabbits, or tooth fairies, it's in the stillness and silence of universal reminders to abundantly & unapologetically love our earthly siblings.

June's true magic is born through reminders, which hold the magical wisdom of God's word:

+ A reminder to accept one another as they are and where they are. (LGBTQIA+ Pride Month)

+ A reminder that our Black & Brown siblings in Christ are equals, not by emancipation, but by birthright. (Juneteenth)

+ A reminder to respond with compassion to those who mask their despair with anger, irritability, and bitterness. (PTSD Awareness Month)

+ A reminder to protect & prevent American children and teens from a man-made epidemic through programs like Swords to Plowshares. (Gun Violence Awareness Month)

+ A reminder that monetary success, material assets, and hierarchical titles can fly far away like Icarus [*\*Proverbs 23 4-5*] but to keep core memories with loved ones extremely close to your heart and soul. (Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month)

+ A reminder that the word "home" isn't exclusive to tangible walls and curated designs inspired by the latest trend on HGTV; its wherever you have love, feel safe, are seen & welcomed. (Immigrant Heritage Month)

A final reminder that June enchants us with the need to help keep one another safe from the workplace to anyplace (National Safety Month).



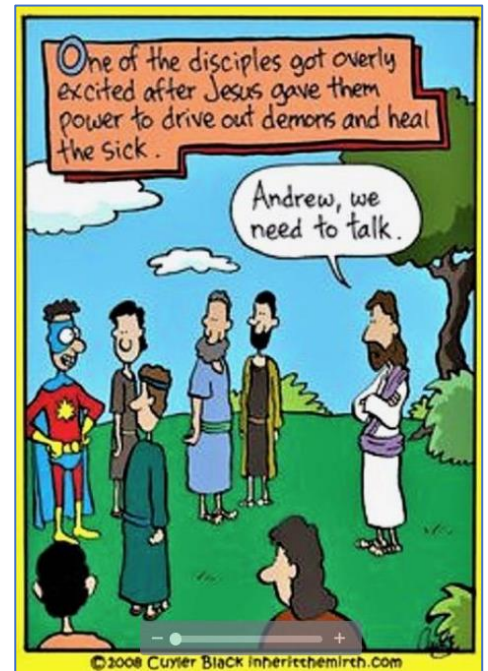
**EfM**  
Diane Villano

Many thanks to my church family and friends who unhesitatingly provided encouragement throughout my four years of study, worship, and theological reflection in the Education for Ministry program. I was honored to attend a graduation service with others of my group on June 4 at Church of the Advent in Cape May, New Jersey, accompanied by one of my staunchest cheerleaders, Barbara Parsons.



While I don't know what my next step will be, I do know the spiritual journey will

continue with God's guidance and your support.



- July 3 - Diane Verderame
- July 4 - Sallie Alexander
- July 14 - Barbara Parsons
- July 16 - Diane Rowley
- July 17 - George Coulombe
- July 27 - Wendy Bellmore
- July 30 - Phyllis Marston
- August 12 - Elise Nacca
- August 17 - Ricky Alexander
- August 28 - Stephanie Reynolds
- August 30 - Janet Nolan



August 7 - James & Stephanie Reynolds  
 August 18 - Richard Schiavone & Judith Randall  
 August 20 - Tom & Susan Shultz  
 August 24 - Fred & Pat Walters

### Intercessory Prayers

Aiden & the Guida Family, Alexis, Alfred, Andrew, Barbuschak Family, Bohdan and Family in Ukraine, Brandon, Carol Ude, Daniel Hall, David & Irene, Diana, Diane Link, Dick, Doreen St. Germaine, Ed, Eileen F., Elaine, Faith, Fran Zella, Francesca, Geneva O'Donnell, Jack Uberti & Holly Chickos, Jack and Jan McDonald, Jay Medlyn, Jay W., Jim R. & Family, Joan Shaffner, John Smith, Joyce Aurelius, Kris, Lauren, Leah S., Lucas Sundwall, Mark Pilletere, Matt R., Mike, Minogue Family,

Nicole C., Pat Walters, Rachael, Ray Sundwall, Sr., Sal A., Sallie Alexander, Sam W., Stanley Rogalski, Susan Diaz, Tim, Tricia Clearwater, Turiano Family

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.

### A Prayer for Transition and Guidance

O Lord, you are with us in every transition and change. With your deep compassion, presence and abounding love ease our anxiety. We pray for our parish family, that we may be genuine in our self-reflection, tireless in our commitment, patient in our discernment, loving in our communion, open in our search, and daring in our faith. We thank you for the gifts, talents and skills with which you have blessed us. We thank you for the experiences that have brought us to this

moment. Help us accept change as a gift of your direction for our journey in this transition. Instill in us a vision of the church's family; that, guided by your Holy Spirit, we will be united in love and joyfully accomplish this mission, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### Next Issue

The deadline for the September issue is **August 22**. Submissions can be sent to [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 or email [christandtheepiphany@gmail.com](mailto:christandtheepiphany@gmail.com).

### Treasurer Report

Susan Shultz

	MAY	UNDER/OVER BUDGET	YTD	UNDER/OVER YTD BUDGET
INCOME	\$7,073.82	(\$662.68)	\$44,047.46	\$3,807.66
EXPENSES	\$7,847.59	\$2,580.18	\$43,904.26	(\$8,664.29)
NET	(\$773.77)	(\$3,242.86)	\$143.20	\$12,471.95

Notes: Overall our Year-to-date income is very close to budget with the surplus coming from our unexpected special gifts. We had some bills to pay in May that caused our May numbers to not look that great but for the year we are still on track with some of the expenses being offset by lower supply clergy costs for the month.

## Worship Schedule 9:00 a.m.

	<u>July 2, 2023</u>	<u>July 9, 2023</u>	<u>July 16, 2023</u>	<u>July 23, 2023</u>	<u>July 30, 2023</u>
Service	Eucharist	Morning Prayer	Eucharist	Morning Prayer	Eucharist
Presider Officiant	Andrew Osmun	Audrey Sundwall	Andrew Osmun	Ray Clearwater	Andrew Osmun
Crucifer	George Coulombe				George Coulombe
Acolyte	Audrey Sundwall		Diane Villano		George Coulombe
Lay Reader	Wendy Bellmore	Gail Beck	Terry Osmun	Judy Herzman	Barbara Parsons
Usher	Diane Villano	Barbara Parsons	Pat Walters	Wendy Bellmore	Audrey Sundwall
Zoom Tech	Susan Shultz	Susan Shultz	Susan Shultz	Susan Shultz	Susan Shultz
Lead Counter	Susan Shultz	George Coulombe	Pat Walters	Astrid Swanson	Susan Shultz
Assistant Counter	Ray Clearwater	Fred Bowden	Melanie Miller	Audrey Sundwall	Ray Clearwater

The August worship schedule will be emailed to those listed and posted in the Upper Hall and in the Narthex.

### Clergy, Vestry and Staff

Priest-in-charge	Open
Senior Warden	George Coulombe
Junior Warden	Barbara Parsons (Outreach)
Treasurer	Susan Shultz (Technology)
Clerk	Gail Beck
Vestry Member	Ray Clearwater
Vestry Member	Carol Link-Ude (Altar Guild; Hospitality & Fund Raising)
Vestry Member	Audrey Sundwall (Communications)
Vestry Member	Astrid Swanson
Vestry Member	Diane Villano (Newsletter)
Music Director	Barbara Coulombe
Parish Administrator	Diane Rowley

To connect by computer, enter: <https://tinyurl.com/3kbvnb4>, or click on the link on our webpage: [www.ChristandTheEpiphany.org](http://www.ChristandTheEpiphany.org)

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 8:45 a.m. on Sunday.

If you are not receiving the email bulletin, please contact Diane Rowley 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**

39 Park Place  
East Haven, CT 06512

Phone: 203-467-2310

Email: [christandtheepiphany@gmail.com](mailto:christandtheepiphany@gmail.com)

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

## **Worship Schedule**

Sunday 9:00 a.m. In-Person & Online Zoom Worship  
*In-person with social distancing and optional masking*