



CHRIST AND THE EPIPHANY

VOLUME 29

September 2025



The Season of Creation Earth Day and Season of Creation Resources, ECCT

During the Season of Creation, (Sept 1st, World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, to Oct 4th, Feast of St. Francis of Assisi) we join with Christians around the world to celebrate in prayer & action our Gospel calling to protect the Earth that God entrusted to us.

Why is it important to mark the Season of Creation?

Firstly, because of our Gospel call to grow in faith as we affirm that God in Christ loves, redeems, and sustains the whole of Creation, not only human beings.

Secondly, because of the urgency of climate and ecological crisis and the need for a bold, prophetic response.

What is our Gospel call to grow in faith? What does Christianity have to do with ecology?

God the Creator pronounced the world “very good” (Gen. 1:31), and gave humans the task to “till and keep” the Earth (Gen. 2:15) as stewards and caregivers rather than owners (Ps. 24:1).

Christian saints, prophets, Jesus, and many of our mystics such as St Francis, lived in close relationship with Creation. As Paul wrote (Rom. 1:20), humanity encounters and dwells with God through the natural world.

Destruction of nature is like estrangement from God: *“There is no knowledge of God in the land. Therefore the land mourns, and all who live in it languish; together with the wild animals and the birds of the air, even the fish of the sea are perishing,”* (Hos. 4:1b, 3); Let us *“Hurt not the earth, neither the sea nor the trees.”*

The Paschal mystery includes all of Creation: everything has been redeemed in the work of Jesus Christ, the Word through whom all things were made (John. 1:3). In him, “all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself things, whether on earth or in heaven.” (Col. 1:19-20).

Jesus said that loving our neighbors is like unto loving

Worship Services

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

Events

Saturday, September 6, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., Harvest Fair

(Zoom connection information at the end of newsletter.)

God. Our neighbors include people of the Third World who face the worst effects of the crisis built by the First World; climate refugees; low-wealth and minority communities, which are hurt first and hardest by the changing climate as social justice is inextricably linked to ecological justice; and future generations, who depend on us to leave them a habitable world. God’s “everlasting covenant” is with “every living creature” (Gen. 9:8-17)— they, too, are the neighbors we are summoned to love.

We proclaim a Gospel of salvation that includes all of Creation, not only human beings. Jesus commissioned his disciples, saying, “Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation” (Mark 16:15). As disciples of Jesus, our mission is to bring good news in word and deed to the whole of Creation.

What is the urgency of climate and ecological crisis?

Through the burning of fossil fuels and deforestation, the world's climate has become disrupted and unstable. The web of life is unraveling before our eyes. Human society is at risk of collapse within decades along with mass extinctions of species and forced migrations.

Over the last fifty years, 60% of the planet's mammals, reptiles, amphibians, birds, and fish have been wiped out by human land development and habitat destruction.

More than 1 million species are on the way to extinction.

Oceans are acidifying and warming, and living fish are being displaced with dead plastic. Sea levels are rising, coral reefs dying, and ecosystems collapsing.

Record-breaking weather patterns are increasing deadly droughts, floods, storms, and heat.

As religious communities, we must commit to practice, within and around our faith communities, hospitality and refuge for all our neighbors, human and other. To learn more and take action, please visit the Creation Care ministries of the Anglican Communion and the Episcopal Church at acen.anglicancommunion.org and The Episcopal Church Ministry of Creation Care at www.episcopalchurch.org/ministries/creation-care.

Around the Church

Working on 47 Park Place



Chapel Garden



Thrift Store



Harvest Fair Reminder

Remember September 6 is this year's East Haven Fall Festival and our Harvest Fair. All baked goods will be gratefully received!



Painting 47 Park Place!

Plans are in place to paint the house we own next to the church. Brad Conant has volunteered to be "head painter." We need lots of help to complete this project. The house needs to be prepped first by scraping and power-washing it. The work will take place on Saturdays.

Things needed for the project

- * Monetary Donations for paint and painting products
- * Water/soda for the "gang"
- * Lunches

Good Shepherd Thrift Store

Seasonal Changeover
week of Sept. 7

Following our **half-price clothing sale** (still going until Saturday, September 6!) will be our "all hands on deck" seasonal changeover effort. If you can spare even a short time, your help will be greatly appreciated in helping us store the spring/summer clothing and put out the cold weather clothing. Contact Barbara Parsons to volunteer.

Bible Study

Terry Osmun will conduct Bible study sessions on Colossians following Sunday worship services. Grab a cup of coffee and a snack and join us in the Library on September 7, 14, 28, October 5, 12, 26, and November 2. Thank you Terry!



Remember
to sign up for
Coffee Hour

There are no signups for Coffee Hour for the next few months. Please consider adding your name to the list. Coffee, tea, etc. is all provided. All you need to contribute are the snacks which can be purchased or homemade.



Sept 18 - Sweetie Kamano
Sept 22 - Jill Lamberti
Sept 23 - Jesse Osmun
Sept 23 - Seth Osmun
Sept 28 - Lee Hubbard



Sept 11 - Ken & Kathy
Dougherty
Sept 27 - Ray & Audrey
Sundwall



In Memoriam: Fred Bowden



Frederick Bowden, passed away at 93 on August 13 at CT Hospice. He was born February 9, 1932 in East Haven. He was pre-deceased by his daughter Sue, and survived by his wife of 69 years, Barbara and their children; Peggy McLaughlin (Sean) of Branford, Stephen Bowden (Sue) of East Haven and Michael Bowden (Joyce) of East Haven - not to mention nine grandchildren and numerous great grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

“Fritz” was a lifelong resident of East Haven. Born in a small house on Coe Avenue, and the youngest of six children, Fred played football at East Haven High School. After graduating, he joined the Army and served during the Korean Conflict, where he taught maintenance and repair of heavy equipment to American soldiers in Japan.

Following his Army stint, he worked at SNET where he met his wife whom he married in 1955. Fred built his house in East Haven. Family was the most important thing to him. He was very active in the Bradford Manor Volunteer Fire

Department as a member for almost 70 years, and also spent time volunteering here at C&E especially with the EH Food Pantry. He helped many people during his life, but always family first.

I am the resurrection, and the life: he who believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live. --John 11:25

Encouraging Words for the Season of Creation Audrey Sundwall

For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.
-- Exodus 20:11

The Lord God then took the man and settled him in the garden of Eden, to cultivate and care for it.
-- Genesis 2:15

The earth is the Lord's and all it holds, the world and all who dwell in it.
-- Psalm 24:1

Oh Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures. Yonder is the sea, great and wide, creeping things innumerable are there, living things both small and great.
-- Psalm 104:24-25

Lord GOD! It is you who have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and by your outstretched arm!
-- Jeremiah 32:17



Remembering Rt. Rev. Jeffery Rowthorn

The Episcopal Church

Bishop Rowthorn entered into Eternal Life on Wednesday, July 23. He served as Bishop Suffragan in ECCT from 1987-1993. Bishop Rowthorn was preceded in death by his wife, Anne Long Wheeler Rowthorn.

Bishop Rowthorn was born April 9, 1934, in Newport, Gwent, Wales. A graduate of Cambridge University, he received his Master of Divinity from Union Theological Seminary in 1961. He was ordained to the priesthood in 1963 in the Diocese of Southwark of the Church in England.

After ordination, he held the Bishop Goddard Chair in Pastoral Theology at Yale and Berkeley Divinity School for 14 years. He was the first to hold this chair and was a founding faculty member of Yale Divinity School's Institute for Sacred Music. From 1994-2001, he served as the last bishop of the Convocation to be elected by the House of Bishops to serve in Europe.

Bishop Rowthorn was an Advisory Board Member of *Weavings: A Journal of the Christian Spiritual Life*. A champion of environmental justice, he and his wife wrote *God's Good Earth: Praise and Prayer for Creation* in 2018. He was also a prolific writer of hymns, his most well-known being "Lord, You Give the Great Commission."

He is remembered by many in Connecticut for his wisdom, humor, kindness, and grace. We are comforted in this time his own words: "Lord, you bless with words assuring: 'I am with you to the end.' Faith and hope and love restoring, may we serve as you intend, and, amid the cares that claim us, hold in mind eternity."

Peace With Creation A Season of Creation Prayer

*Creator of all,
we praise you for the gift of life
and for the faith that unites us
in care for our common home.
We confess how estranged we
have become—
from one another, from your
Creation, and from our truest
selves.
We acknowledge that our
greed and destructive impulses
have fractured our
relationships with you, with
others, and with the Earth.
Fertile fields have become
barren,
forests lie desolate,
oceans and rivers are polluted.
Thriving communities have
become places of suffering,
And the earth cries out.*

Next Issue The deadline for the October issue is September 23rd. Send submissions to 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.



Intercessory Prayers

Aiden & the Guida Family, Alexis, Amanda, Amy, Andrew, Barbuschak Family, Beth Flynn, Brandon, Carol Ude, Charlie & Kris Langlan, David & Irene, Diana, Diane Link, Debbie, Donna Hodge & Family, Dot Logan, Doug, Ed, Elaine, Ellen McDonald, Erick Villano, Faith, Family in Ukraine, Francesca, Gail, Gail & Marnie, Geneva O'Donnell, Hal Levi, Holly Chickos, Holly, Jan McDonald, Jim R. & Family, Joan Shaffner, Kathy, Kathy Guida, Kira, Korey Mollor, Kris, Lauren, Lucas Sundwall, Rev. Lucy, Matt R., Maureen McPherson, Mike, Michael M., Mila, Minogue Family, Nicole C., Pat Walters, Rachael, Regina Schwall, Richard Testa, Sallie Alexander, Sam W., Susan Diaz, 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.



An Interview with Margaret Sipple: Getting to Know Our Ecological Neighbors (Sarah Louise Woodford, Canon for Communications & Media)

From my laptop, Margaret Sipple appeared on my screen. A parishioner of Trinity Episcopal Church in Branford, Connecticut, Margaret was Zooming with me from Weld, Maine, a place that has been a large part of her family since she was a child. “It was here that I first encountered and found a connection to nature,” she told me. In a cabin surrounded by pine and birch trees and the hills of Maine, we spoke about “Praying with Creation,” a new project with Province 1.

SW: “Margaret, could you share with me about the ‘Praying with Creation’ daily devotions? What can a reader expect from them?”

MS: “‘Praying with Creation’ is a collaboration with The Episcopal Path to Creation Justice, the Province One EcoRegion, the Creation Care Ministry Network of ECCT, and the Episcopal Diocese of Western Massachusetts. It was a very simple idea that we would pray for a different animal, plant, or tree in Province 1 every day of the week throughout the season of Creation, which starts on September 1 and ends on St. Francis day in October.”

SW: “What do you hope readers will gain from the daily devotions?”

MS: “We really hope that readers will get to know their neighbors in their ecosystem. I love the baptismal prayer that says: ‘Give them an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works.’ We’re going to find and refine the gift of joy and wonder in God’s works in the world around us. I think the Church, like the rest of our current culture, has become very human-centered and forgetful of the rest of creation that God also loves. If we can bring our hearts back into the loving of that creation, we’ll be able to do a lot more than we’ve done in the past to help preserve it and heal it.”

SW: “How does ‘Praying with Creation help sustain the work of creation advocacy?”

MS: “I think one of the ways is simply by increasing our awareness of creation and what species and environments need in order to survive—to find the food they need, the water they need, the temperature they need. This awareness needs to be responded to with love. We know that Jesus teaches us to love and to view those who suffer with compassion. We need to expand our area of compassion to include our fellow creatures, because creation is groaning. There are actions that will help, and we can take those actions by conserving resources, by refusing to use pesticides in our yard, by reducing our trash, and by taking steps to convert to clean energy to help keep our climate from further warming..”

SW: “Do you find that your prayer life helps to sustain your creation justice work?”

MS: “I do. I really do. I’m always buoyed by gathering with my faith community in Trinity, Branford. We have a great Creation Care Team there and a very supportive Rector. This will be our fourth year of celebrating the Season of Creation. I really receive a lot of support in my faith and my environmental commitments at Trinity. I also have a personal prayer practice of meditation, which helps me be present to the Holy Spirit and to soften my heart to be receptive to the love we know Jesus taught us comes our way when we need to be courageous or persevering.”

Sign up for Praying With Creation and receive daily devotions about the natural world from writers across Province 1 - <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/sl/lhYGn6v/PrayingWithCreation2025>

ECCT 2024-2025 Prayer Cycle



September 7	<p>Parishes: Trinity, Southport; Grace Church, Stafford Springs; Iglesia Betania, Stamford</p> <p>Additionally: Those involved in the ministry of Christian Formation in parishes. For church school & youth group directors, teachers & mentors. For adult education leaders</p> <p>Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Anglican Church of Southern Africa</p>
September 14	<p>Parishes: L'Eglise de L'Epiphanie, Stamford; St. Andrew's, Stamford; St. Francis', Stamford</p> <p>Additionally: The Province of New England: the Dioceses of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont & Western Massachusetts. For their bishops, clergy, congregations, parish & diocesan staff. For Provincial Synod & all Provincial Networks</p> <p>Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Anglican Church of South America</p>
September 21	<p>Parishes: St. John's, Stamford; Calvary, Stonington; St. Mark's, Storrs</p> <p>Additionally: Children & children's ministries especially for children with special needs</p> <p>Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan</p>
September 28	<p>Parishes: Christ Church, Stratford; Trinity, Tariffville; St. Peter's-Trinity, Thomaston</p> <p>Additionally: Youth & youth ministries, J2A, Confirm Not Conform & all other confirmation classes</p> <p>Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan</p>

Treasurer Report

Susan Shultz

	JULY	(UNDER)/OVER BUDGET	YTD	(UNDER)/OVER YTD BUDGET
INCOME	\$ 14,551.03	\$ 3,817.20	\$ 73,447.79	\$ 3,385.98
EXPENSES	\$ 6,557.05	(\$ 2,438.42)	\$ 79,570.09	\$ 1,432.50
NET	\$ 7,993.98	\$ 6,255.62	(\$ 6,122.30)	(\$ 4,818.48)

Notes: The \$3k income increase is really the result of some timing discrepancies between our budget and payments being made. Overall we made some savings in expenses (little bits here and there that added up) so with income for the year on track and savings doing a bit better this month we did make up a little ground on meeting our budget but nothing super significant has changed.

SAFE CHURCH TRAINING SCHEDULE (SEP-NOV)

Safe Church is a requirement of The Episcopal Church for all ordained persons, adults who minister with minors, youth in leadership roles, and adults who minister with vulnerable humans. Safe Church practices include training, background checks, and audits. All C&E volunteers are required to take Safe Church training. Comprehensive trainings take about five hours to complete and are done once. Recertification training is done every three years after the comprehensive training is completed.

Sep 16, 9:00-12:00 p.m. - Comprehensive via Zoom

Sep 21, 1:00-4:00 p.m. - Recertification via Zoom

Sep 27, 10:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m. - Comprehensive via In Person at St. Peter's Grace, Monroe

Oct 9, 6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. - Recertification via Zoom

Nov 9, 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. - Comprehensive via Zoom

Nov 22, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. - Recertification via Zoom

Worship Schedule 9:00 a.m. (unless otherwise noted)

	September 7	September 14	September 21	September 28
Service	Eucharist	Morning Prayer	Eucharist	Eucharist
Presider/ Officiant	Charles Kamano	Ray Clearwater	Charles Kamano	Allyson Brundige
Crucifer	George Coulombe		Kristina Langlan	Kristina Langlan
Acolyte	Kristina Langlan		Audrey Sundwall	George Coulombe
Lay Reader	Evelyn Conant	Audrey Sundwall	Judy Herzman	Terry Osmun
Usher	Kathy Dougherty Ken Dougherty	George Coulombe	Diane Villano	Audrey Sundwall
Zoom Tech	Susan Shultz	Susan Shultz	Susan Shultz	Susan Shultz
Lead Counter	Susan Shultz	Astrid Swanson	George Coulombe	Susan Shultz
Asst Counter	Ray Clearwater	Evelyn Conant	Barbara Coulombe	Judy Herzman

Clergy, Vestry and Staff

Priest-in-charge	Rev. Charles L. Kamano
Senior Warden	Diane Villano
Junior Warden	Barbara Parsons (& Outreach)
Treasurer	Susan Shultz (& Technology)
Clerk	Kristina Langlan
Vestry Member	Ray Clearwater
Vestry Member	Carol Link-Ude (& Altar Guild; Hospitality & Fund Raising)
Vestry Member	Astrid Swanson
Vestry Member	Pat Walters
Vestry Member	Brad Conant
Music Director	Barbara Coulombe
Parish Administrator	Diane Rowley

ECCT continues to experience a shortage of supply clergy for Sunday services. If you know of anyone who might be interested in serving at C&E, please contact the office at christandtheepiphany@gmail.com.

To connect by computer, enter: <https://tinyurl.com/3kbvnb4>, or click on the link on our webpage: 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. If you want or need any help getting connected on Zoom please reach out any time to Susan Shultz at 203-589-1142 or sbshultz@gmail.com.

Christ and The Epiphany Church

39 Park Place
East Haven, CT 06512

Phone: 203-467-2310

Email: christandtheepiphany@gmail.com

Website: www.christandtheepiphany.org

Worship Schedule

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