



NOVEMBER 2011

The Good News Letter

Jesus is Lord!

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Newsletter Editor: Roberta Karstetter • Newsletter entry deadline is the 3rd Sunday of ea. month

From Our Rector, Father Bill Myrick:

Seven of us, in the Monday Night Book Club, gather to ponder the book “Almost Christian”, by author Kendra Creasy Dean. Week two had a lively discussion and the hour and a half went very fast. The author begins with a quote from Ralph Waldo Emerson: *“A person will worship something, have no doubt about that....That which dominates our imaginations and our thoughts will determine our lives, and our character. Therefore, it behooves us to be careful what we worship, for what we are worshipping we are becoming.”*

The quote begs to answer the question, **“What are you worshipping?”** The easy answer, of course, is Jesus, but that too begs the question “What does it mean to worship Jesus?” We have all experienced people who turn the Christian faith into a single issue cause, something Jesus never did. So what does it mean to worship Jesus...what does it mean to be Christian? Is it merely church attendance, or baptism, or pledging, or passively “loving your neighbor”? Just what does it mean to worship Jesus...what does it mean to be Christian? As a priest of 27 years I have seen people come and go for every single issue imaginable. They have left because of the prayer book, women priests, the Church’s position on abortion, sexuality issues, bad preaching; too long of a service or the wrong time, too much contemporary music and too little contemporary music, they just didn’t like me, or they just didn’t like you. The point is that people are confused about what it means to be Christian. The bigger point is that we too are people.

This book’s first chapter, “Becoming Christian-ish,” challenges us to get honest about our own faith as a way of understanding why people in general and youth in particular are not flocking to Church the way WE THINK THEY SHOULD.

“We provide coaching opportunities for youth to

develop and improve their pitches and their SAT scores, but we blithely assume that religious identity will happen by osmosis, emerging “when youth are ready” (a confidence we generally lack when it comes to, say, algebra). We simply have not given teenagers the soul-strength necessary to recognized, wrestle, and resist the “Symbiotes” in our midst—probably because we lack this soul-strength ourselves.”

So here is our first task to understanding the problem; using a recipe/index card, answer the question, “What does it mean to be Christian... what does it mean to worship Jesus?” Pray about it; ponder it as Mary pondered “All they (the shepherds) had told her.” Don’t sign it. Bring it to church and drop it in the offering plate for us to ponder too. If you find yourself struggling with the question, don’t feel alone, but don’t let that become the excuse that keeps you from following through with the task. The reality is that if you are having trouble articulating your faith, it is even more likely that those who have relied on your teaching are struggling all the more. We desperately need to learn to articulate what our spirit knows to be true. We must learn to tell the story of God’s love and grace as we have experienced them in our own lives. I can remember my father telling me that the two things we never talk about are religion and politics and look at the mess we have made of both. Later in his life all he wanted to talk about was his love for his family and his God. This man had come to know firsthand the power of the word...THE WORD and you couldn’t shut him up. We too must learn this truth; our lives depend on it as does the lives of our “neighbors.” ~ Father Bill ~

Editors Note: The Vestry did a similar task at the Vestry Meeting on 10/18, answering the question, “How would you explain or articulate your faith to a teenager?” See their responses in the inside pages..

Parish Life ...

Left: Pet Blessings for the cats of Tanya, Savannah, Mariah & Alannah.

Right: Fr. Bill offers a blessing to Lady.

Below: Roaring 20's Group (Normajean, Barb, Charrise, Carol, Roberta, Pat, Ann, Teresa, Fr. Bill, Jerry & Deb) enjoyed themselves in the Christ Church Speakeasy.

More photos from various events on the inside pages!



Below: Diocesan Convention Delegates: Terry, Roberta, Marlyne, Fr. Bill, Pat & Barb



Above: Women of the Bible workshop & luncheon with guest speaker, Mother Anita Braden.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

2 Betty Hirte
4 Richard Heeringa
4 Greg Trunk
5 Barbara Bauer
7 Pamela Whitt
16 Jan Kalisz
16 Robert Swenson
20 Dorothy Brown
20 Shelly Mentz-Mornard
25 Bill Pelnar
27 Sophia Seymour



NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

5 Don & Judy Bearder
9 David & Jeanne Bliss
11 Steve & Vicky Brown

**“Give us, O Lord, thankful hearts
which never forget Your
goodness to us.
Give us, O Lord, grateful hearts,
which do not waste time
complaining.”**

~ Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274) ~

Monday Night Book Club

(Upstairs classroom, enter thru the 5th
St. glass door by the ramp.)

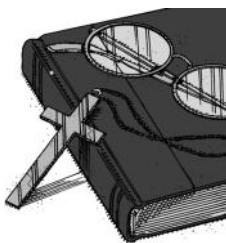
“Almost Christian”,

**“What the Faith of our Teenagers
is Telling the American Church.”**

**“Almost Christian” is a wake up call
that no one concerned about the future of Christianity
in American can afford to ignore.”**

Monday Evenings 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Our Book Club facilitator is Chip Mornard, who led us last year in some great discussions too. It's not too late to join us, we are doing a chapter per week at the present time. All are welcome! Contact the Church for more info.



Check Out the Upcoming Events!

Fri., Nov. 11th (11/11/11):

6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Dinner & Game Night for

all ages! Come and enjoy a sloppy joe or hot dog, chips, pickles & beverages served 6 - 6:40, followed by various board games, card games, & more til 8 p.m. **Please register by Nov. 9th. No charge for this fun night!**



Sat., Nov. 19th:

9 am - 12:30 pm.

**Millinery Hat
Making Workshop
& Lunch.**

Bev Wassam will help us create a spectacular hat,

which you may want to use for the upcoming Old English Advent Tea in December! Bring a plain hat, we'll have some materials to add to it, or bring some of your own embellishments. Bev will be giving tips on how to attach the items too. \$5 per person covers lunch & materials.

Please register by Wed. Nov. 16th.

Sunday, December 4th

2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Old English Advent Tea

Tickets: \$5 per person (children 12 & under free)

Hats required, gloves optional.

Come and enjoy delicious teas & beverages, delicious and unique appetizers as well as fun and fellowship!

Beautiful tables set up by the women of the parish, and grand gentlemen servers! All women, daughters, nieces, granddaughters, cousins and friends are invited! Saint Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, will also be making an appearance to delight all ages!



NEEDED: Women from the Parish to decorate a table for the Advent Tea Event.

8 round tables (seating 8), 2 long tables (seating 10). Tea sets or a mixture of eclectic sets with tablecloths, napkins and centerpiece. Maybe some women would want to join together to decorate one? Contact Christ Church for more info or for reservations & tickets at 262-728-5292.

Please Register by Nov. 30th.



Walworth Co. Emergency Homeless Shelter

2011 Fall/Winter Shelter Schedule

For Shelter: (262) 903-WARM (9276)

For Volunteer & Shelter Info: (262) 215-3451, ask for Deb Weber.

October 30th p.m. - November 6th a.m.: St. Benedicts, 137 Dewey Avenue, Fontana.

November 6th p.m. - November 13th a.m.: Chapel on the Hill, N2440 Ara Glen Drive, Lake Geneva.

November 13th p.m. - November 20th a.m.: St. Patrick's Catholic Church, 107 W. Walworth Street, Elkhorn.

November 20th p.m. - November 27th a.m.: St. Patrick's Catholic Church, 107 W. Walworth Street, Elkhorn (since this will be two weeks in a row for St. Pat's, they are asking for volunteers from other churches to help them out in this second week. Contact the Shelter phone # if you can help them over in Elkhorn this week. Thank you!)

November 27th p.m. - December 4th a.m.: Sugar Creek Lutheran Church, N5690 Cobblestone Road, Elkhorn.

December 4th p.m. - December 11th a.m.: Wesley Woods Retreat Ministries, 250 Stam Street, Williams Bay.

December 11th p.m. - December 18th a.m.: Wesley Woods Retreat Ministries, 250 Stam St., Williams Bay.

December 18th p.m. - December 25th a.m.: Inspiration Ministries, N2270 State Road 67, Walworth.

December 25th p.m. - January 1st a.m.: Delavan United Methodist Church, 213 S. 2nd St, Delavan.

An Evening with the Masters John Ludy Puleo Concert Saturday, November 12th

Performances at 2:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.
Christian Arts Centre of Chapel on the Hill
N2440 Ara Glenn Dr. Lake Geneva
Benefit for Walworth County Homeless Shelter
& Chapel on the Hill Food Pantry.

Music of Frank Sinatra, Tony Bennet & others by John Ludy Puleo. All seats \$10.

Tickets Available from Fr. Bill, Deb or Roberta in the Church Office or call 262-728-5292.

Women of Joy Bible Sharing

Thursday Mornings
9:15 - 10:45 a.m.

Held at Christ Church in the upstairs classroom.

Enter through the back glass 5th St. ramp door.

We can provide bibles, or bring your own.

Come & share, come & experience the joy of the Lord, which is our strength with other women on the journey with Christ! All women are welcome!

Contact Susanne Nelson at 728-9353 or Christ Church at 728-5292 for more info.



THANKSGIVING SERVICE WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23RD

9:00 a.m. at Christ Church



The ecumenical Thanksgiving Service with area churches will not be happening this year. But Christ Church will have a Holy Communion Service with hymns &

praise in the Church on Wed. a.m. A freewill offering of non-perishable food items will go to the Christ Church Food Pantry. Give Thanks, with a grateful heart!

Christ Church's Bell Ringer Day supporting Salvation Army.

Friday, Nov. 25th

At Walmart & Shopko Locations. Sign up for one or two hour long time slots at one of the locations. Various times are available, starting at 9 a.m., ending at 6 p.m.. A Sign up sheet is on the bulletin board by the Christ the King room. Thank you for your donation of time to this worthy ministry, which benefits those in need in our own community!



Tuesday Morning Services End.

Due to low participation (sometimes no participation), the 7:30 a.m. Tuesday Service has been discontinued. We are looking at various other options to offer in addition to the Wed. a.m. Service. If you have a suggestion for times when YOU would attend, please let Fr. Bill or the Church Office staff know and we will consider the possibilities.

You may use this pledge/gift form, or there will be cards in the Church Bulletins in November.

Please prayerfully consider what your gift/pledge will be for 2011, & return your card on Stewardship Sunday, November 13th.



Reminder! Daylight Saving Time Ends on Sunday, November 6th at 2 a.m.

Turn your clocks back one hour on Saturday night before you go to sleep!

Congratulations Ron Nelson - Awarded WI High School Tennis Coaches Hall of Fame Award.



Ron coached tennis at Elkhorn High School for 14 years with the boys teams and 26 years with the girls teams. He said the teams had over 203 wins throughout those years. Ron will receive the Hall of Fame Award in early November at a Wisconsin Tennis

Coaches Conference.

Ron is also an active member of Christ Church, as one of our music/worship ministry leaders, he plays guitar, piano & keyboard. He is one of the overnight volunteers when Christ Church hosts the Walworth County Emergency Homeless Shelter. Ron is one of the men involved in helping serve the Mother's Day Brunch, as well as other Christ Church events, and recently won the Adam's Rib Cook-off for the best men's entry and best overall for his delicious ribs! Ron is active in the Monday Night Book Club and in many other ways to help further the mission of Christ here at Christ Church. Well done good & faithful servant & Coach Nelson!

Give thanks to our Advertisers by calling them first! SILPH



Gift Certificate - Christ Episcopal Church, Delavan, WI

If your gift should cease to feel like a gift you should QUIT GIVING IT. But please inform the Church office.

Name _____

Address _____ Phone _____

As a steward of God's gifts, in gratitude for all His blessings, and to carry out His work at Christ Church of Delavan, the Diocese and the World, I have indicated my WEEKLY GIFT below:

\$ _____	\$150	\$ _____	\$90	\$ _____	\$75	\$ _____	\$50	\$ _____	\$25	\$ _____	\$10
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Please circle the amount of a WEEKLY GIFT above, or fill in a blank box with the amount of your choosing.

If you'd like to give other than weekly: I will GIFT \$ _____ ANNUALLY, payable as follows:

12MONTHLY installments of \$ _____, or 4 QUARTERLY installments of \$ _____

or 2 SEMI-ANNUAL installments of \$ _____ or 1 ANNUAL Gift of \$ _____



BLESSINGS

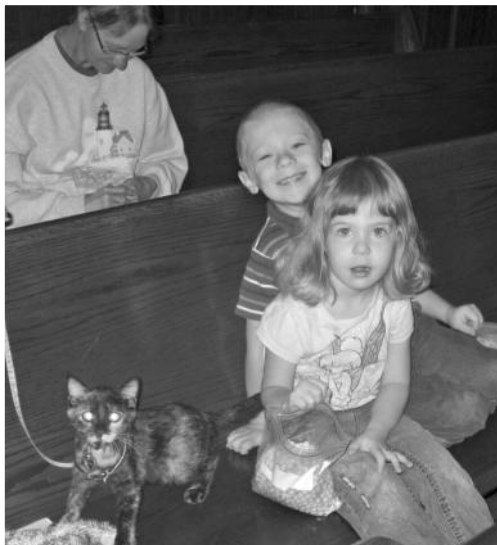


Above: Fr. Bill with Jerry & Barb. Patty & Dick. Below: Thomas & Vanessa

Sunday, Oct. 2nd, parishioners & guests, two legged & four legged were in Church for worship & special blessings.

Above Top: Bruce & dogs pass "The Peace". Above Center: Fr. Bill blesses Mark's dog. Above Right: Carol and her pet come forward for blessings, and guests bring in their pets too. See more photos from our Pet Blessing Sunday on our Christ Episcopal Church of Delavan, Wisconsin Facebook Site!

**God Bless Our Pets, Large & Small
Give Thanks to God, Who Made Them All!**



Roaring 20's in the Christ Church "Speakeasy"



On Oct. 8th, the Christ Church Parish Hall was transformed into a 1920's Speakeasy. A flash from the past, where mobsters, molls, flappers, hillbillies, jailbirds & more hung out for some fun & fellowship!

Above Top: Charisse & Ann show some 20's dances. Above: Teresa was jailed for not knowing the secret password & answers to get into the Speakeasy. Center: Normajeane greeted guests. Below: Shirley is recovering at Willowfield & couldn't get to the event, so we went to her for a quick visit.

Above Top: Muggsy Myrick & Party Patricia.
Above: Flappers Charming Charisse, Alluring Ann & Darling Deb.
Right: Rebellious Roberta is jailed for infractions too numerous to mention!

Although we were a small, in numbers, group, we had big time fun and enjoyed the evening with each other!



Women of the Bible & Luncheon

Mother Anita Braden led us through interesting women from the Old Testament; Eve, Sarah, Esther & Rehab. We explored life lessons we could glean from their journey with God, for our own lives today. 24 participants from churches in our area and the Diocese were in attendance.

Thank you to Mother Anita for a wonderful workshop!



Thank you to those who provided delicious soups & salads too!



Vestry Snippets

The Vestry met on Tuesday, Oct. 18th, opening with a scripture reading (Ephesians 4:1-16) and sharing from Roberta Karstetter about the meeting called "Collaborative Conversation" that was organized by the Diocesan Mission & Development Committee, and took place last month. Those in attendance from Christ Church were Fr. Bill, Ron Nelson & Roberta, who joined about 35 others from Episcopal Churches around Walworth County at St. John's Episcopal in Elkhorn.

The churches are in the process of talking about their ministries, the joys and the trials we are going through in our individual parishes. We may be looking at how we can share ideas, and perhaps even more, as the Body of Christ that we are. We meet again at the end of October and in November.

Roberta shared some of the things coming from the Monday Night Book Club, as it relates to the discussions the Churches are having too, as the Book Club explores the book *"Almost Christian - What the Faith of our Teenagers is Telling the American Church"*.

In the course of our discussions, the Book Club shared our testimony with each other of how we articulate our faith, especially to teens. We thought it would be an exercise the Vestry, as leaders, could do too. So, we asked Vestry members to write a few sentences to the question, **"How would you explain or articulate your faith to a teenager?"** Here are some of the replies:

"I think in our everyday examples of how we live our lives, in order to set a good example. I don't think I could explain in words, but just (by) being a good Christian."

"It has been said, "Walk the Talk". The articulation of faith should rather be "Talk the Walk"! In other words, live the life as one loving God and neighbor and when opportunity presents itself, tell why. I live the way I live as an expression of my gratitude for the Grace I have experienced from the loving Creator."

"I was born and raised an Episcopalian. I've never questioned the beliefs of the Church (other than wanting to learn more about how we came to be - and wanting to continually learn more about our Lord and Savior). God has helped me through many personal crises in my life - my faith in Him is very strong and I love to praise His Name!"

"My faith gives me hope for better days to come in bad or stressful situations. It provides comfort when there is a death of a friend or family member - that they have gone to a better place. It makes the eventual thought of death less scary because I will be with God in a better place."

"I believe the best way to articulate my faith to a teenager would be to relate how my faith was nurtured in my youth and teenage years by my father and mother. My faith has shaped me as a person and influenced the decisions I have made as an adult. Hopefully my faith based lifestyle would be evident to any teenager."

Vestry Sharings Continued...

"I believe each of we humans have a need, a need for counsel, guidance, companionship and a need to be loved. In my life, all of these needs are filled by Jesus Christ and the Father. I know that I will never be alone or forsaken as long as I remain open to receiving Their gifts. By following the example of Jesus and by maintaining a constant dialogue with God, I find meaning, fulfillment and purpose in my life."

"I believe! - That is how I would start, whether or not my belief is always theologically accurate, it is what, and who, I am. I believe I am a beloved child of God (yes, an older child, but still a child of His). I believe God loves me, has a plan for me to prosper and give me a hope for the future. I believe God delights in me, though sometimes God may not always delight in my actions. I believe God knows my heart, and I pray to know more fully the heart of God and reflect that in my actions, thoughts and all I do."

The Vestry also approved minutes and treasurer's reports from Sept. They can be found with any Vestry member or in the Church office. The Building Renovation expense reports and further building issues were discussed. The floor in the Church is a major issue that needs tending to, the wood boards are bowing and some damage seems to have occurred to some edges. A letter was approved to send to Scherrer Construction, Engberg Anderson & the floor company who contracted through Scherrer documenting our concerns and hopes for a fix to the problem. Approved was a bid of \$8,500 from Lenz Painting & Decorating, to scrape, and paint the exterior trim, windows and doors of all the older portions of the church building. The Vestry approved Hibl Real Estate to sell the old rectory listing the price at \$139,000.00, as is.

Jean McKinney volunteered to join Fr. Bill, Barb Lonze and Roberta on the 2012 Budget Committee. They will meet before the November Vestry meeting to bring forth the 1st Draft of a proposed budget for discussion.

Barb presented the Outreach Committee's recommendations which were approved as follows: \$250 each to Aram Public Library in Delavan; The Gathering, Milwaukee; and Our Next Generation Foundation, Milwaukee.

The Annual Parish Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 29, 2012.

More Vestry news can be obtained from any Vestry Member. **The next meeting is Tuesday, Nov. 15th at 7 p.m. and is open to all.**

Sunday School Field Trip Animal Gardens & Dancing Horses



24 Students, Parents, Grandparents & Teachers enjoyed the animals & show on Oct. 2nd.



Animals of all kinds to pet, watch & enjoy!





Attention Youth (ages 3 yrs. - 5th grade) **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Sunday School is from 9:50 - 10:40 a.m. (approx.) on the dates listed. Starting just before the 10 a.m. service and runs during the service. The adult teachers & youth join the service at the "passing of

the peace", to sit with families for the rest of the service.

Note to Parents & Students: Roberta will be out of town the first 2 Sundays, classes the last two Sundays in November only.

Sun., Nov. 20th: 9:50 a.m. Sunday School, upstairs room.

Sun., Nov. 27th: 9:50 a.m. Sunday School, upstairs room.

Sunday School Teachers Needed



Do you enjoy children? Have you gone thru the Safeguarding God's Children Training? If not, would you like to? If you can spare just one Sunday a month to help with our Sunday School class, we guarantee you will be blessed as much as the youth! Sunday School meets from 9:50 - 10:40 (or when the Passing of the Peace occurs in the Church Service). We'll even have lessons for you to present too! Contact Roberta for info.

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NURSERY CARE

Children age 3 years and under are welcome. Our nursery volunteers have gone through the Safeguarding God's Children workshop, or equivalent, and are glad to be able to provide care for your child during our church service.

Schedule for November & December:
Service time starts at 10 a.m., Nursery Attendants please arrive by 9:50 a.m. Thank you.

- Sun., Nov. 6th: Steve or Bev Wassam
- Sun., Nov 13th: Patricia Benson
- Sun., Nov 20th: Teresa Williams
- Sun., Nov. 27th: Barb Lonze
- Sun., Dec. 4th: Carol Smith
- Sun., Dec. 11th: Patricia Leverick
- Sun., Dec.18th: Patricia Benson
- Sun., Dec. 25th: Sorry, No Nursery Care This Sunday.

Note: Volunteers, if you can not make your Sunday, contact one of the other volunteers as far in advance as possible. **Thank you for your time to this ministry!**

Sunday School Lessons

The Wedding Feast - Are YOU dressed for the heavenly banquet? Katie and Thomas were and learned how we can "put on Christ righteousness", as our garment. They enjoyed some wedding feast treats as well.



Above: Alannah, Katie, Savannah, Emmy, Ambur, Vanessa, Thomas & Mariah waiting on the hall pew for the "Passing of the Peace" to join parents for the rest of the Church Service. Below: Christ Church's turn to host the Men's Shelter was coming up, the kids decorated 35 bags for the lunches with a message of God's love in colored pictures for the homeless guests as we talked about the plight of the homeless and ways we can help more.





Christ Episcopal Church
Welcomes YOU!
ALL are welcome!
ALL the time!



Christ Episcopal Church
P.O. Box 528
Delavan, WI 53115

Address Service Requested

November
 2011 Good Newsletter

WE WELCOME YOU!

Sunday Services
 8:00 a.m. Holy Communion Service in the Chapel.
 A smaller service in an intimate setting.
 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion in the Church. Signed
 service the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month.



*Nursery avail-
 able, or chil-
 dren may stay
 in for the
 service.

*Contemporary, traditional, hymns & praise.

Weekday Services held in the Chapel

(enter through the 5th St. doors)
 Wednesdays 9:00 a.m. followed by Bible Study for
 those who wish to stay.