



The Pews Report

To Unify and Inform

Lent/Easter 2020

A Publication of the Corporation of Christ Church, Dartmouth, Est. 1817

Why Maundy Thursday is the Most Important Day of the Year

The Rev. Kyle Wagner, Rector

“I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

– John 13: 34-35

Ah, did I get your attention? Each year clergy look out into the congregation and see the beautiful people who come to church during Holy Week as they journey together to experience the Passion of Christ. One of the things that ministers often notice is the number of people worshipping during the Lenten season, especially Maundy Thursday. The people in attendance on special service days do not always correlate to the number of people in church on any given Sunday.

As we began Lent on Ash Wednesday, I noticed that there were a few people who were unable to attend church. We live in a busy world, but I encourage all of us to orient ourselves to God this Holy Season to fully experience all the liturgies that the church has to offer.



Maundy Thursday, often referred to as “Holy Thursday, Great Thursday, and the Thursday of Mysteries,” initiates the *Easter Triduum*, the period in which Christians explore the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus. It is a time that includes Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. Specifically, on Holy Thursday, we

commemorate Jesus’ washing of the disciple’s feet. We also recognize that Maundy Thursday highlights the narrative of Jesus gathering with his friends in the Upper Room, where the first Holy Eucharist was celebrated. Maundy (*mandatum*) means “Commandment,” and on this day, we remember Jesus’ telling his friends, “everyone will know that you are my disciples if you have love for one another.”

So why should Maundy Thursday be considered such an important day? Well, in my opinion, it emphasizes the disciple's role in growing the church. It’s the point where Jesus gets serious about the nature of love, showing it by washing the feet of his dear friends. Maundy Thursday also tells us about the sacramental life of the church, in which Anglicans see as important to the faith.

Being a part of an inclusive community is something that Christ Church seeks to be. As we invite the world, we learn a great deal about what it means to be hospitable, and we learn about this invitation on Maundy Thursday.

My friends, we are called to be in service to others. If we don’t experience the essence of Maundy Thursday, then I fear we will not fully experience the Easter Story. Won’t you join me on April 9th at 6:30pm?

In this Issue:

Updated Worship Practices.....	2
The Lenten Insurrection.....	2
From Historical.....	5
Music Ministry.....	6
Holy Week Schedule.....	15

Please note that the **Parish Office Holiday Hours** are as follows: Good Friday, April 10th Closed

In this Issue:

Why Maundy Thursday is the Most Important Day of the YearI
 Midweek Service Dates 2
 Pastoral Ministry Committee.....4
 Theological Education.....4
 Lenten Reflection.....4
 Historical Committee..... 5
 Music Ministry.....6
 Rector’s Readers Book Club.....8
 Altar Guild Notices.....8
 Food and Clothing Ministry.....9
 From the Finance Committee:.....9
 Heritage Oak Columbarium Perpetual Care Committee II
 Spiritual Songs in African Canadian Faith Life: By Gail Teixeira..... II
 Women’s Ministry Sunday.....I4

Midweek Service Dates

For the month of March at 6:30pm

Tuesday 10	Holy Communion (BCP)
Tuesday 17	Evening Prayer (BCP)
Tuesday 24	Holy Communion (BAS)
Tuesday 31	Holy Communion (BAS)



Liturgical Officers and those Preaching during Midweek Services: The Rev. Bonnie Baird, The Rev. Kirby Walsh, Vanessa Turner (Lay Minister), Libby LaVette (Lay Minister in Training), The Rev. Kyle Wagner, Rector. Legend: BCP: Book of Common Prayer, 1962BAS: Book of Alternative Services, 1985



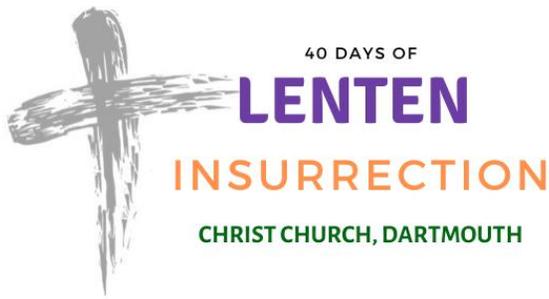
Coronavirus COVID-19

Updated Worship Practices at Christ Church, Dartmouth



Worship Practices Regarding Corona Virus (COVID-19): After recent conversations with parishioners and reviewing Archbishop Ron Cutler’s recommendations for worship practices in light of COVID-19, and with the guidance of Parish Executive, Rev. Kyle is asking that we suspend physical contact during the passing of the peace. This is not an easy decision, but there seems to be a consensus that it is desirable among many congregants for the time being. Similar arrangements have been made in the past relating to SARS and other infectious disease outbreaks.

This decision is not meant to cause alarm as there have been no reported cases of Nova Scotians testing positive for COVID-19. Suspending physical contact does not mean that the peace is omitted from our liturgy. Instead, we are encouraged to make eye contact or indicate our love for one another in a way that does not involve shaking of hands, etc. Please be aware that in the days and weeks ahead, we may have to adjust our worship patterns based on recommendations from the Archbishop and government agencies. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak to the Rector. At this time, the procedure for receiving wine does not change, but receiving it is not necessary to experience the full nature of the Body of Christ. *A reminder that intinction “dipping the bread in the chalice of wine” is not permitted as per Diocesan Policy.* If you do not wish to receive the wine, simply cross your arms in front of you to receive the blessing.



*Resistance, Responsibility, Trust,
Repentance, Forgiveness, Faithfulness*

Spiritual Development Committee

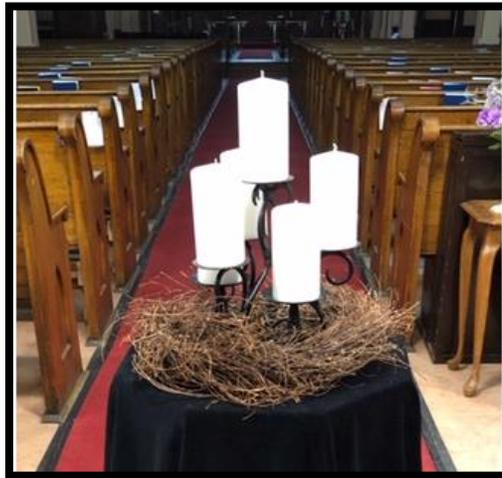
Submitted by Candace Vieira and Joan Hensler, Co-Chairs

Our Lenten Theme for 2020: The Lenten Insurrection

This year our Lenten theme will be *The Lenten Insurrection*. The definition of insurrection is “an act or instance of rising in revolt, rebellion, or resistance against civil authority or an established government.”

In a sense, similar to the Advent Conspiracy, we will be thinking of the term **insurrection** as a *going against* in a way. Instead of “giving something up”, we will think of giving up in other ways:

- Week 1 **Resistance** (Give up apathy – life is too short not to care)
- Week 2 **Responsibility** (Give up speaking unkindly. Say something kind and uplifting or smile at others. In a world where you can be anything – be kind.)
- Week 3 **Trust** (Give up worries and anxieties. Give your troubles to God; He'll be up all night anyway.)
- Week 4 **Repentance** (Give up feelings of unworthiness. You are fearfully and wonderfully made by your Creator)
- Week 5 **Forgiveness** (Give up guilt. You are loved by God and He has forgiven your sins.)
- Week 6 **Faithfulness** (Give up giving up. God never gives up on you.)



As we meditate on these themes each week, we will have a special Lenten reading and will extinguish a Lenten candle (the opposite of the Advent lighting where we are moving into the light, now we are moving into the darkness), as journey towards the splendor of the resurrection of Jesus and the festival celebration of Easter morning.

PREACHERS DURING SUNDAYS IN LENT

March 1 *The Rev. Canon Dr. Jody Clarke*

Our Parish Theologian in Residence, Canon Jody, is an Associate Professor of Pastoral Theology at the Atlantic School of Theology. Jody holds B.A. (Dalhousie University), MDiv (Trinity), D.Min. (St. Stephen's). His areas of interest include: Bereavement/Grief, Dying to Death, Trauma and trauma recovery, Forgiveness, freedom and peace, Guilt, Character change, Intensive Short-Term Dynamic Psychotherapy, Virtue, Ethics and Leadership

March 8 *Dr. David Deane*

David is an Associate Professor of Theology at the Atlantic School of Theology. He holds B.A. (Hons.), M.A., Ph.D. (University of Dublin, Trinity College). His research interests include Christian Doctrine (especially Christology, the Doctrine of God, the Doctrine of the Holy Spirit, the Doctrine of Salvation, and Moral Theology, all of which feature in my current book project) Catholic Theology, Hildegard of Bingen, Continental Philosophy and Theology, and Apologetics.

March 15 *The Rev. Michael Tutton*
Associate Priest, St. Paul's, Halifax, NS

March 22 (Mothering Sunday)

Debbie Fice, Postulant

March 29 *The Rev. Bonnie Baird, Pastoral Visitor*

April 5 (Palm Sunday) *The Rev. Dr. Robert C. Fennell*

Rob is Academic Dean and Associate Professor of Historical and Systematic Theology at the Atlantic School of Theology. He holds a B.A. (University of Winnipeg), M.Div. (Emmanuel College/University of Toronto), M.Litt. (University of St. Andrews) Th.D.

(University of Toronto/Victoria University). Rob is a minister in the United Church of Canada, and his areas of expertise include Christian theology, contemporary Christianity, historical Christianity, the Bible, C.S. Lewis, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, the social gospel movement (political, social, and religious dimensions), pilgrimage, interpretation theory, and fascism.

Pastoral Ministry Committee

Submitted by Carolyn Chenhall

RED LETTER DAYS FOR YOUR LENTEN CALENDAR

There was an article in the newspaper today (February 20) stating that Nova Scotia has the highest percentage of children who are in a state of food insecurity. Since the focus of this series is Eradicating Hunger at Home and Abroad, the next presentation will be on Sunday, March 29 presented by Canada Food Grains Bank following the 10:00 am service. A facilitated discussion will follow a film presentation.



To learn how one area of our city HRM is working to alleviate this dire situation do come to the screening of Six Primrose on Sunday, March 8 following the 10:00 am service. This film was produced by Hannah Minzloff and her husband, John. A member of the Family Center will also be in attendance to respond to any questions.

One of the main thrusts of Pastoral Ministry is to give life to the Baptismal Covenant - to seek and serve Christ in all persons and to treat everyone with dignity and respect. We are certain that our eyes and hearts will be opened as we engage with these two films on our Red Letter Days. There is much room in the Lower Hall so let's fill it!!

Theological Education

Submitted by Debbie Fice, Anglican Postulant, MDiv Student (Atlantic School of Theology)

Hello everyone! I'm sitting here at my desk on a sunny afternoon, having finished and submitted one essay, before starting in on the other one that is due later this week. It has been a very 'full' winter at Christ Church, and promises to be an

equally busy spring. On the one hand, I look forward to spring – with warmer weather, longer days, birds, my garden – but this year spring will be bittersweet as it will bring the end of my time here with you at Christ Church.

It has been a wonderful learning time here with you this winter. I was able to share my very first solo home communion with Faye and Brud Thornham in January, which was both exciting and humbling! I have continued to offer Morning Prayer on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings, thank you to the faithful who come and share this service with me. I have continued to attend as many meetings as I can, focusing on church governance as I have much to learn in that area. Sadly, I have not been able to do a great deal of pastoral visiting since the middle of January, but I hope to get a few more visits in before I leave. I would like to thank everyone for their helpful feedback when I have preached since Christmas.

In these last two months I will be leading a Lenten book study, leading a Good Friday labyrinth walk, preaching on Mothering Sunday (Lent 4), Maundy Thursday and on April 19th, my last Sunday here at Christ Church and continuing to learn and serve in any way that I can. I want to thank you all from the bottom of my heart for being such a wonderful and integral part of my learning and journey!!

I wish each and every one of you a blessed Lent and a glorious Easter!!

Lenten Reflection

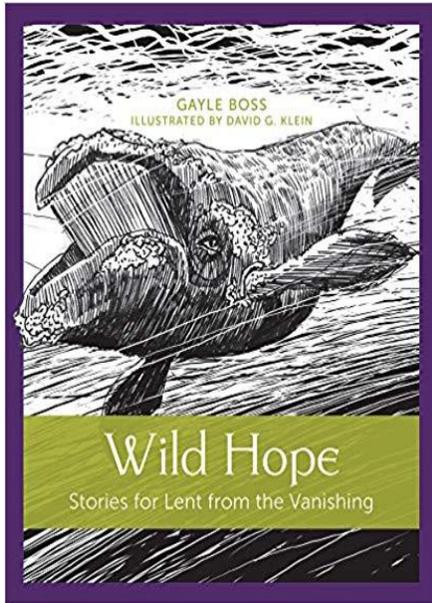
Wild Hope: Stories for Lent from the Vanishing

LENT 2020: Instead of giving something up for Lent, the members of the Christ Church congregation will have the opportunity to assume a Lenten practice – we will be reading and reflecting on the book titled *Wild Hope: Stories for Lent from the Vanishing*.

This book chronicles the stories of various species that are at risk of extinction, and in reading about them, we will be both acknowledging their existence among us and mourning their possible passing. The book has readings for each week in Lent, and we will be meeting in the Parish Office every Sunday (beginning on March 8th) at 11:45 am, to discuss and share our impressions of the week's material.

This book does contain material that may be difficult to read, but one of the purposes of Lent is to examine

ourselves and our relationships to God, each other and the world. We cannot deny that our lifestyles, in many ways, impact the world around us, and we need to realize and accept that others may suffer for that. If there are species being pushed to the brink of extinction because of what we have done and are doing to the world, at the very least we should know who they are/were, mourn their passing and hopefully resolve to do whatever we can to make a difference.



C.S. Lewis' *The Screwtape Letters*

Wednesdays at 10:00am March 11, 18, 25th

On Wednesday mornings at 10:00am in the Rector's office we will be examining C.S. Lewis' book *The Screwtape Letters*. This book can be purchased at your local bookstore, online, or at your public library. *Our first session is on March 11*



Birthdays at Christ Church

Happy Birthday Blessings: Birthdays are a special time in the lives of our Christ Church family, and we want to ensure we recognize these happy occasions together. The first Sunday in each month we will celebrate birthdays in that month. Beginning the first Sunday in March, we will have a birthday book at the church entrance. If you have a birthday in that month, we invite you to print your name in the book. This will allow us to recognize your special day.

**2020
LENTEN BOOK CLUB
C.S. LEWIS'
THE SCREWTAPE LETTERS**

Wednesday Mornings
10:00am in the Parish Office
61 Dundas Street, Dartmouth

**LETTER'S ON THE
CHRISTIAN FAITH
FROM THE
PERSPECTIVE OF
TWO DEVILS!**

Starts on March 11th!

Contact the parish office to register today:
902.466.4270 or visit:
www.christchurchdartmouth.com
for more information

Historical Committee

Submitted by Janice Silver

A Notable Christ Church Cemetery Resident and His Well-known Daughter

This is the

second in a series of stories about some of the folks that have been laid to rest in our Church Cemetery.



While preparing the Cemetery Self-Guided Walking Tour Brochure in the spring of 2019, the Historical Committee found out more about many of the featured persons than there was room to print in the brochure. Their stories are interesting and provide a glimpse into the past, not only of Christ Church but of the greater community of Dartmouth.

The second to be featured is **Lieutenant Christian Katzman and his daughter**. Lt. Katzman was from Hanover, Germany and earned a Commission in the 60th Regiment of the British Army. He purchased Maroon Hall in Preston about 1822 and was a gentleman farmer, as well as a scholar who wrote an essay on the diseases of the Epigastrium for the University of Gottingen. Most notable though is that he and his Nova Scotian wife had 3 daughters, one of whom was Mary Jane, later to become well known as **Mary Jane Katzman Lawson**, the author of the *“History of the Townships of Dartmouth, Preston and Lawrencetown”* as well as many other articles and poetry, which drew the attention of Joseph Howe! She was baptized at Christ Church by Rev. Desbrisay on March 2, 1828 and was largely self-educated, reading by age 3. For 2 years she was the editor of the *Provincial Magazine* and operated the Provincial Bookstore in Halifax for 2 years before marrying. She was reportedly active in many social and benevolent schemes designed to help the poor and suffering, particularly connected to the Church of England, of which she was a devoted member. Apparently, she was revered for her kindness and judicious guidance. According to the Dictionary of Canadian Biography, “In an age when women accomplished little beyond the circle of home and charity, her success, although limited to the provincial sphere was threefold: as the capable and youthful editor of a successful if short-lived periodical, as an able business woman in a circle dominated by male initiative and as one of the first native Nova Scotia women to achieve literary recognition, and certainly the first to make an enduring impression”.

Although her father was buried in the Christ Church Cemetery after he died in 1843, Mary resided in Halifax as an adult and was not laid to rest in Dartmouth. She died in 1890 and an elementary school in Dartmouth was named after her in 1960.

Lunch and Learn

JoAnn Cunningham (pictured previous page) was the featured speaker at the Historical Committee’s January Lunch and Learn. She presented a very interesting and informative talk to approximately 70 attendees about the history of WRENS in Canada and the contribution of its members to the war efforts during WWII. Her presentation was followed by a corn chowder and gingerbread luncheon. The cookies for coffee hour made by Nan Nichols, drew a lot of compliments and she was gracious enough to share her recipe!

Mrs. B’s Gingersnaps (made by Nan Nichols for Jan. 26th Lunch & Learn) Notes from Nan: Mrs. B. (Glady

Boutlier) sang with the Christ Church Choir for 45 years, was our faithful babysitter and gave me this recipe.

Bake only on a clear crisp day. Preheat oven to 335F. Cover cookie sheet with parchment paper. Cookies are soft when first removed from pan, cool flat. They become crisp as they cool. Store in tightly covered container or in plastic bags in Freezer

Ingredients

2 cups lard
 1½ cups molasses
 3 cups White Sugar
 4 eggs
 2 tablespoons of ginger, ground cloves and cinnamon
 4 tsp soda
 ¼ tsp salt
 7 ½ cups flour

Mix in the order the ingredients are listed. Mix as much of the flour in as you can with the mixer then turn out on pastry board and knead in the rest of the flour. Divide into 6 balls. Wrap each in saran wrap or substitute and store in plastic bag in freezer. Let rest over night to blend flavours.

Take out one ball at a time to roll out on the pastry board. Use whatever shape you desire (excellent for ginger bread people). Bake in preheated oven for 8 to 10 minutes. Watch carefully that they do not burn. When the cookies have cooled, immediately put in air tight plastic bag or container. This dough keeps well in the freezer. Roll thinly. Makes dozens and dozens.

A reminder from the Historical Committee if you have any photos, bulletins, items related to Christ Church though the years we would gladly receive and preserve them.

Music Ministry

Submitted by John David Bogardus, Music Director

As we fast again this Lent, heightening our senses, as we reflect on our faith and the convictions of our music ministry at Christ Church and how it has continued to grow in its connectivity to our parish themes and liturgy, we look forward to the coming exciting seasons of Easter and Pentecost.

After Christmas we found ourselves bursting with the Spirit as we sang. Filled with the life lifting energy of our celebration of Christ's birth, we continued our hard work with an exciting exploration of the music of John Rutter.

This February, we began a new part of our musical journey. As we have grown in our musical vocabulary within our liturgy, we have begun singing our settings of the mass each week, one after the other. As are the hymns and anthems that we sing each week, the mass setting for a given week is chosen based on its timbre as it relates to our themes and the nature of the lectionary. For instance, we might find a week is particularly introspective and prayerful. For such a week, we will sing perhaps the mass setting by Matt Maher. Similarly, we might find that we arrive at a big exciting celebration, Easter, Christmas, etc. For this kind of service, we will sing an explosive and exciting mass setting such as the one by Paul Freisen-Carper.

To assist with this expansion of our worship, materials such as the printed "Congregational Sing Along Booklet" for each mass setting can be found at the back of the church each week with the greeters. These booklets often have instructions on how to sing each service's setting of the mass as well as interesting information on each composer. The music sections of these booklets are also included in the bulletin each week. Similarly, we have been ensuring that there is an insert of any non Common Praise hymns that we sing together at the back of the church with the greeters.

There has been positive feedback and support as we have begun this new musical expression of our faith, some even having favourites and remembering ones that they hadn't heard for a long time.

In addition to our regular 10:00 a.m. services, the choir also sang at the Vigil which was held to honour the lives lost in the Ukrainian flight 752. We sang "Let There Be Peace on Earth" and "May the Lord Bless You and Keep You". This was coordinated as a partnership amongst the clergy, SPIRIT Committee, and the choir.

Our music program here at Christ Church is working hard to support our parish by taking the lead on two significant events to help raise funds with the amazing talent of our musicians and supporters.

A wonderful concert in the works for Friday April 24th, at 7:30 pm, featuring our own Joey Dowell. Joey is an amazing pianist and will be playing Johann Sebastian

Bach - Prelude & Fugue No. 21 in B flat major, Ludwig van Beethoven - Sonata no. 18 in E flat major op. 31 no. 3 "The Hunt", Maurice Ravel - Jeux D'Eau, Franz Liszt - Transcendental Etude no. 10 in F minor "appassionata" amongst others. We will also be acknowledging the generous gift of our grand piano that was donated to Christ Church by Fantasie Music and will be working hard to reach out to the communities outside our doors to share this amazing concert and our amazing space with others. For tickets to this event please contact Candace Vieira at cvieira@sutherlandwatt.ca or call (902)-430-6118.

Handbags for Harmonies, returning again this year, will be our second annual Handbags for Harmonies fundraiser for Christ Church. Back by popular demand, our second hand purse sale will be held on Saturday, June 6, 2020, from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. In addition to the purses and the second hand jewelry table, we will also be selling accessories such as scarves and men's ties. This will be a huge community event and a wonderful fundraiser for the parish. We will be collecting gently used purses, wallets, etc., in the marked box at the back of the church. If you would be interested in helping out with this event, please contact Candace Vieira at cvieira@sutherlandwatt.ca or call 902-430-6118.

Lastly, If you missed the below story in the recent months we would like to share it with you to highlight one of the amazing ways we can change the world with music at Christ Church.

The Story Of Lily

About a year ago during one of our Christ Church Youth Choir rehearsal breaks or perhaps as the learners were getting ready to go home, I asked Lily Munro if she would like to become the second Organ Scholar at Christ Church. She smiled and nodded, "Yes".

Lily has been a part of the Christ Church community since even before I took the post as Music Director. She has been a leader in our youth music program, continually growing in her competency as a singer to such an extent that has begun assisting us in teaching the other learners some skills that she has already begun to master. Beginning to study Organ/Keyboard is often the next step for someone who displays such a propensity for these kinds of musical skills.

So, we began organ lessons. Lily shows up weekly for an hour on top of the 3 hours (2 rehearsals) that were

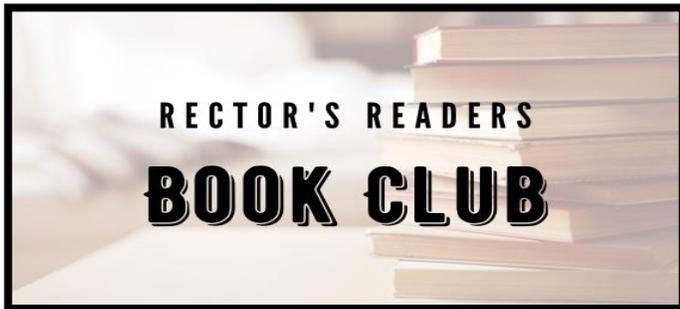
already in her schedule each week. Lily has shown great Improvement. She has gotten to a point quite quickly, where she can sit down and play at the organ some of the settings of the Magnificat are the Nunc Dimittis that we've been working on with the Youth Choir. Not just the melody line but all four vocal parts. No small feat, even for someone who's played the keyboard for a long time. It takes a lot of situational and technical awareness to move the chords at the appropriate time as the choral voices go from verse to verse.

This kind of ministry through education, especially through music, has always been deeply entwined with in the Anglican Church and offering it with no charge to parents is an incredible opportunity that we are able to facilitate for the children of our communities.

This Youth Choir and Organ Scholar ministry will only grow. Just as you look at the Adult choir today, half full of members from the Youth Choir all those years ago led by Betty MacDonald, similarly the Lily's of today, will continue to be the amazing musicians and leaders in the future of the Anglican Church.

Thank you to Candace Vieira (Music Representative on Parish Council) for her help in creating this article.

Rector's Readers Book Club



Saint Augustine once wrote, *"The World is a book, and those who do not travel read only a page."*

We gather in the Rector's office to discuss our selections on the following dates:

Book Club Book List for 2020

- **April 14th** *The Saturday Night Ghost Club* by Craig Davidson (*Vintage Canada*, April 2019)
- **May 12th** *Unsheltered* by Barbara Kingsolver (*Harper Collins*, October 2018)

- **June 9th** *Becoming Mrs. Lewis* by Patti Callahan (*Thomas Nelson*, October 2018)

Altar Guild Notices

Easter 2020 Memorials: The Christ Church Altar Guild is now accepting donations for Easter Memorials. Cheques are payable to Christ Church Altar Guild and please include your Envelope Number with your donation. The deadline is April 5, 2020 to insure inclusion in the Easter Bulletin. Thank You!

What is an Altar Guild? Do you ever wonder how the beauty of Sanctuary comes to be each week? Do you notice that the Church colours change from time to time & how does that happen? Or, where did the flowers come from? The Christ Church Altar Guild is the "culprit"!

An Altar Guild is a volunteer group of the parish whose ministry is to care for the altar, vestments, vessels & altar linens of the parish and to arrange flowers when there is a memorial.

Our duties include:

- Change the hangings – according to the church colours of the season
- Wash the linens as needed
- Wash the "dishes" weekly
- Tidy & vacuum the Sanctuary
- Polish the brass
- Arrange the flowers as needed
- Set up for a Baptism
- Set up for a Wedding
- Set up for a Funeral

Our small group is comprised of 8 dedicated people who work in teams of 2 or 3 on a 6-week rotating schedule. Each group prepares the Altar for two consecutive Sundays (2 hours per week) and then is off for four weeks. For the major celebrations, Easter, Thanksgiving, Christmas, all Altar Guild members take part in the preparations. It is not a huge time commitment but an important one as with all of our Church groups.

Is this something that would appeal to your Special Talents? New members are always welcome, and we provide the training. For further information, please contact Marg Seaman at (902) 466-2159 or Sheila Ferguson at (902) 469-3662. mseaman@accesswave.ca or ds.fergus07@gmail.com

Food and Clothing Ministry

Submitted by Gearlyn Tutty

Finally it is getting close to the end of February. I think I can speak for everyone in saying we have had enough of that fluffy white stuff. I feel when the first of March comes there is hope that spring is just around the corner.

The winter weather impacts us all and it also interferes with the running of our food- bank. The rule we have implemented the last few years is if Halifax Regional School Board cancels school on Thursday due to weather, we close our food bank. This is for safety reasons for both our volunteers and clients. Trying to get here when roads are slippery puts everyone at risk.

The winter weather often causes havoc with food truck delivery from Feed NS. Sometimes it is too risky to put the delivery truck out on unsafe roads. Supplies are often affected at Feed Nova Scotia when donated food products cannot reach them due to bad weather through out the province. Unfortunately, this all trickles down to each and every individual food bank within NS.

As volunteers we face challenges ourselves and at times it is difficult to not become judgmental when dealing with some of our challenging clients. Our set of solutions to problems is not a “one size fits all.” It is one thing for us to apply a set of solutions to a situation when we aren’t facing poverty, addiction, lack of education, intellectual difficulties and no support system. A situation for us not experiencing these issues may seem pretty obvious, straightforward and fixable. However, the same situation facing our clients, this straightforward approach will not work.

Sometimes as volunteers we have to reboot ourselves and remind ourselves we are all God’s children. We need to be more patient, understanding and tolerant. Sometimes this is not always easy. As volunteers our efforts are not always welcomed and appreciated. During these times we just soldier on. We have to remember not everyone has to love and appreciate us. Jesus said to turn the other cheek. It doesn’t happen often but sometimes we have to do just that, put a smile on our face, and not judge. We need to realize that we are not in this person’s situation and we cannot understand what they are going through. Volunteering is not always easy but we have a great team at Christ Church Food-bank. We support and encourage each other during these times. I may be bias but I feel we have the greatest team of volunteers that anyone could ever ask for.

We would also like to thank our friends and parishioner’s who continually support Christ Church Food Bank. Your support is far reaching in our Dartmouth Community.

THE SEASON OF LENT

Journeying Together | Christ Church, Dartmouth

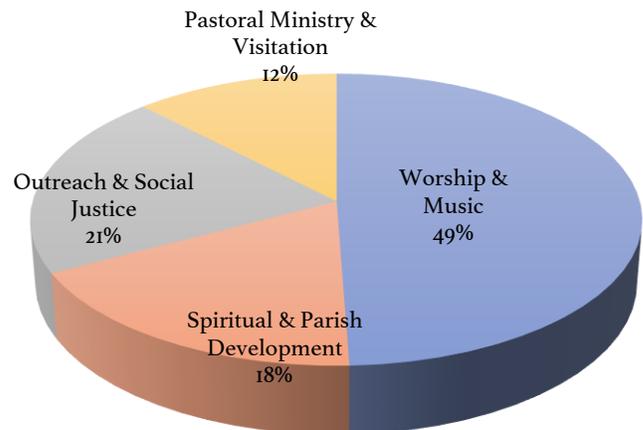
From the Finance Committee:

Information from our Narrative Budget of 2020.

WHERE DOES OUR TIME GO?

The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. (Ephesians 4:11-13)

Hours directed towards ministries (volunteer and paid staff)

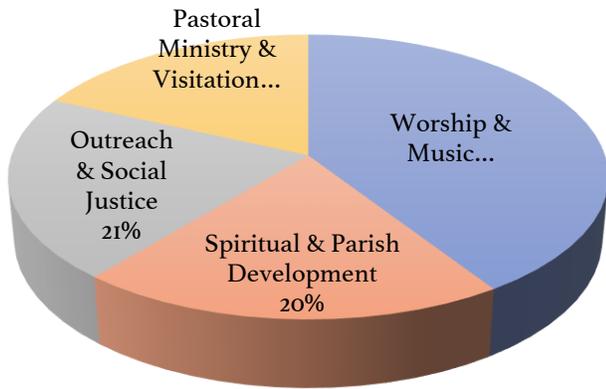


Hours calculated:

Worship & Music	10 960
Spiritual & Parish Development	3945
Outreach & Social Justice	4560
Pastoral Ministry & Visitation	2715

WHERE DOES OUR TREASURE GO?

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. (Matthew 6:21)



Financials

Worship & Music	\$159,638
Spiritual & Parish Development	\$78,811
Outreach & Social Justice	\$81,728
Pastoral Ministry & Visitation	\$70,930

Did you know that it costs \$60/day to operate the hall after expenses are paid, and rental income is deducted, and \$123/day to run the church?

What would happen if we increased our weekly offering by \$1.00 per week?

Each of us can contribute to making a positive change.

STEWARDSHIP

In all this I have given you an example that by such work we must support the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, for he himself said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." (Acts 20:35)

Proportionate Giving is related to Joyful Giving. We encourage congregants to give a proportion of their income to the ministry of the church. In the Old Testament, the tithe-or ten percent of one's income is the obligatory proportionate gift. In the New Testament, Jesus never advocates tithing. Instead, Jesus challenges us to be generous in all that we do. In Luke's Gospel, we learn that **"much is required of the person to whom much is given; much more is required from the person to whom more is given" (12:48)**

- *Would you like to support the ministry of Christ Church?*
- *Would you like to increase your monthly giving for the year 2020?*
- *Is Preauthorized Giving (PAR) direct deposit something you would consider?*
- *Would you like to increase your monthly PAR amount?*
- *Is there a specific ministry you would like to support?*



PAR

PRE-AUTHORIZED GIVING
Supporting the growth of our ministry.

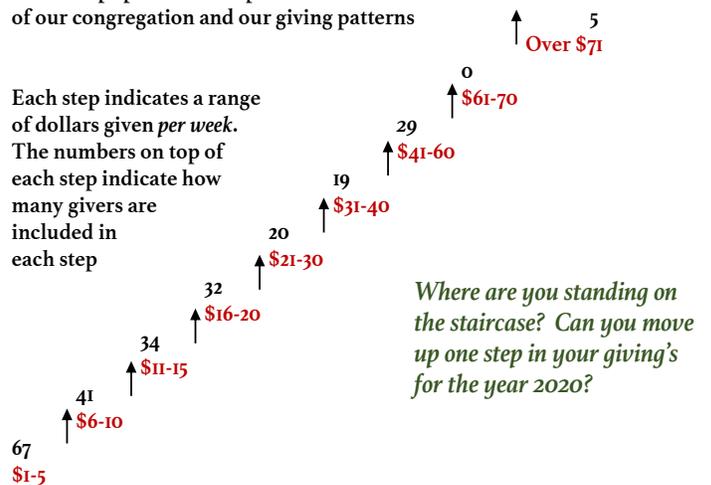
Many of us pay our monthly bills online. Just ask the Parish Administrator for the PAR Form. The same form can be used to change your monthly giving if you are already using PAR. Knowing what to expect each month financially helps us at Christ Church budget and plan the good works we do.

To make changes, or for further information, please contact the Parish office at: 902.466.4270 or christchurch@christchurchdartmouth.com

STEPS IN A JOURNEY

These steps provide a snapshot of our congregation and our giving patterns

Each step indicates a range of dollars given *per week*. The numbers on top of each step indicate how many givers are included in each step



Where are you standing on the staircase? Can you move up one step in your giving's for the year 2020?

(Note: 40 givers donate less than \$1 per week)

- 250 givers, if we all increased our weekly contributions by \$1 per week, we would have \$13 000 additional funds for operating.
- 250 givers, if we all raised our weekly contributions by \$2 per week, we would have \$26 000 additional funds for operating.



**STAY
CONNECTED!**
Join the Christ
Church Email List!

Are you on our parish e-mail list? Every Wednesday, Mid-Week Announcements, and every quarter the PEWS Reports are sent out from the office to all parishioners on this e-mail list. When other important events happen during the week, they too are sent out. This is a great way to stay informed and up to date on events happening in your Parish and Community. Please e-mail the parish office christchurch@christchurchdartmouth.com to be added to our e-mail list.

Heritage Oak Columbarium Perpetual Care Committee



The new year has started strong for Heritage Oak and the Perpetual Care Committee.

To date we have sold five niches and had three internments.

The new pricing structure has been well received and makes Heritage Oak a viable option as a final resting place for all budgets benefits. Shelley Bridges met with many of the Committees and Groups of our Parish to give an update on what Heritage Oak has to offer the community. If you would like more information on this pricing, please contact John Gallant, Shelley Bridges, or Marg Seaman.

If you are looking for an urn, we also have those available! They are made by Ray O'Connor, a talented craftsman, and there are two different kinds at the cost of \$350.00, of which you receive a charitable tax receipt for \$100.00.

Remember, we do not charge HST, and we provide a charitable tax receipt for a portion of the niche cost.

The Perpetual Care Committee reminds everyone that niches are available for sale in our Heritage Oak Columbarium should you wish to inquire as part of your estate planning. Pre-planning provides peace of mind and can relieve decision-making at a difficult time. There are also many financial advantages to purchasing a niche; NO HST is charged. An income tax receipt is issued for that portion of the cost over \$750.00. There are no opening and closing fees. A brass plaque, engraved is also provided. Interest-free payment plans are available. If you wish to view the columbarium, please contact us at the number below. Remember that Heritage Oak Columbarium & Memorial Garden is a peaceful and historical setting for remembrance for all denominations. PHONE: 902-466-2443 www.HeritageOak.ca

Spiritual Songs in African Canadian Faith Life: By Gail Teixeira



God's Hand - from talkin' to leadin' : Spiritual Songs in African Canadian Faith Life

This message was originally presented at Christ Church, Dartmouth, for African Heritage Month 2020.

In the culture of African North American blacks it has been God's hand that has taken us from lamenting over our troubles, to exercising leadership and self-determination to fulfill our destiny as sisters and brothers of God, with full citizenship in God's family.

Many of us know the history of the indenture of African peoples, people with a proud heritage, with their own faith traditions, language, family groupings, artistic expression: visual arts, music, dance, drama. We are aware these people were captured; families separated; brought to North America; and deemed to be less than human beings, therefore cast - away slaves. Would anyone of us want our family units tampered with,

separated? And yet, that was the experience of peoples of African descent.

Some of their new, human task masters saw in this selfish pursuit of economic domination the possibility to subdue indentured blacks with Christianity. Colonization through religion is not an ideal practice. It is a contentious issue to this day. Yet for many peoples of African descent, Christianity had an influence that allowed blacks to gradually regain a sense of dignity, a sense of purpose. They saw and felt confidence, a willingness to begin to live again, to feel again. Leaders began to rise among them, leaders among the so-called enslaved.

Imagine that you and some friends found yourselves forced to be in a focus group, and you were expected to participate fully. You might be timid, at first, to share your opinion, especially when you find out that some people had been in the group for four previous sessions! So you watch how they respond to the procedures, if they freely go for snacks or breaks during the presentations — you just try to fit in so you're not embarrassed. Eventually you get to chat with your friends, and you share strategies for how to be successful in the focus group.

North American blacks subjected to slavery also had to adjust, and they tried to fit in by having their most observant and quickest to learn the new American language teach others “what to do”. These were the blacks who took their talkin’ to leadin’ in what we now call code shifting. Those who could code - shift learned the language of the masters, and those leaders from within the enslaved people would then transmit these new cultural norms, requirements and beliefs. These self-made leaders among the slave population, within the groups of the indentured blacks, lifted their attitude to embrace some sort of belonging, continuity; a sense of worth. Christian music and chant was used as a confirmation to the slave masters that the indentured blacks were compliant and co-operative. The melodies and rhythms of the western spiritual songs and hymns had a noticeable change, there was a shift. To the blacks, they had given up autonomy in their own country. They chose to internally retain their cultural heritage and to add to the western hymns rhythm and nuance with an African flavor. Hence, the spiritual was born. A forced adaptation, an enduring legacy of resistance to social inhumanity. The spiritual: a cultural product melding Biblical teaching with an African influence.

Historically, prior to the spiritual, there were work songs and dance songs for North American blacks. But the

greater challenge was creative expression to support the depressed human spirit. Like our 21st century experience, persons in bondage will not present with their full capacity unless they have hope and a reason to develop resilience in the face of inhumanity.

I'd like to share with you a personal perspective on the music I grew up with, the music of blacks in North America from the South Carolina Sea Islands, Nova Scotia's communities of the Prestons, the black church Christian tradition and the Civil Rights movement through the lens of social justice as a Christian. These spirituals, this cultural product of African influence and western tradition, had the textual content of Scriptures, the inspired word of The Bible. Old Testament stories such as Noah's Ark, Jacob's Ladder. New Testament accounts of the central ideas behind our Christian faith placed in song settings: the birth, ministry, crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus.

Who built the ark?” Noah! Well, you know something about Noah? Noah, yes, was a righteous person. And Noah made some less than desirable decisions. Maybe in the verses we hear about the animals, the one, the two, the three, the four. But we also find out, behind those closed doors of the Sunday prayer meetings for the blacks, people found out about the Noah who was fearful, Noah who had made mistakes. And yet, God promoted Noah. God gave Noah wisdom. When people in Noah's community saw him working on the ark, imagine their snickers and ridicule. “So what do you think THAT is? And who gave you any kind of instruction on how to build such a boat?” “No one would dream of making something of that size, for no good reason!” “We know that sometimes Noah parties hard, but there is definitely something wrong here!” This back story for the ark was the encouragement blacks needed, to believe that there was a means of escape, already proclaimed in the Holy Bible, to deliver them from the bondage and captivity of evil thinking and tainted motives. They could believe that, if it could happen for Noah, it could happen for them. Noah heard the vision of prophecy through God; Noah heard, pondered, meditated on on God's word. And Noah and his family and the animals were spared with a second chance at a Godly life, because they were faithful.

The Bible women may not be in the texts that survived the spirituals in today's forms, but the work and intuitions of the women of Bible days are as strong today as they must have been in Bible times. Even in unfair servitude, there was the hope and promise of family reunification.

From Bible times right through our 21st century experience, we all need the message of the spiritual. At this point, you may wonder: “Why can’t everyone just use the general hymns and song expressions of the ‘traditional church’?” Good question. Our sisters and brothers from the Episcopal Church in the United States suggest:

“The worship experience is more a verb than a noun in the Black community, a holistic experience engaging the head, the heart and the body. Telling the stories, testifying, preaching and praying are communal acts, set in the context of music, movement and dance...” - accessed Monday https://episcopalchurch.org/files/black_ministries_strategic_plan.pdf

We all need the hand of God to move us from talking about the problem, to taking ownership and leadership for our solution to the problem, to actively breaking the limitations of the problem. How do we do it? Just as Noah did — Begin. The work song of blacks was the beginning; the continuation of the spiritual, the Christian song adapted by the indentured blacks. And the next step of progress was the individualized song: the Gospel song. Once you begin the process, then you lean on God, and the powerful application of lived prayer. So you begin. And you join your work with the work of the Almighty: **“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”** [Lead me on | Through the land]

“All Night, All Day” - angels watching over me. Not the things flapping their wings; the appointed thoughts, they came to Jesus’ father, they came to Mary. The angel came to Mary’s cousin, Elizabeth. And all three listened to the special, divinely appointed message crafted specifically for them.

“There’s one more river to cross” - a code song... If there was any reluctance on the escape route, humming the tune would re-assure the group and give them the conviction to stay calm and maintain focus along the way. That natural response to use encouraging sounds has been around for quite a while. Some of us hum hymns and tunes that we’ve heard; we “doo doot doo”; we whistle. These code songs of the Underground Railroad were more than entertainment: they were life and death environmental cues for survival and perseverance.

“Follow the Drinkin’ Gourd” - another code song... The Little Dipper, the Drinking Gourd, points to the North Star, a directional aid in traveling the Underground Railroad.

“Wade in the Water” serves as a prequel, preparation and visualization of the dangerous trip to freedom. Its true meaning for escape was hidden as the land owners thought it to be distraction when used in the work experience during the hot climate. The master / overseers would perceive the song as a re-telling of Moses’ parting of the Red Sea. The song’s true meaning was a “flight to freedom”.

There’s one more river to cross, Wade in the Water: these songs could easily be associated with the Red Sea or the Jordan River. There is a Bible account about Naaman, an army captain disfigured with leprosy. Naaman was told to wash in the “dirty Jordan River”. And Naaman had “attitude” and made it obvious to those around him his resentment in having to deal with “those beneath him”. Yes; it took seven times in the Jordan, seven times in a tough situation, in a challenging, uncomfortable place, before Naaman saw his body healed, before he recognized the childlike beauty to embrace every person, regardless of title or position, as children of God, messengers of inspiration, angels unawares in our lives.

Do we give up after one dip in the Jordan? Do we make the excuses: “There are cleaner waters at home to wash in.” But the healing was in the obedience. And our growth in the capacity to be better at making our community feel welcome is practicing the fresh inspiration, the new attitudes that come from meditating on Scripture, in maybe a different way than we are accustomed to. And perhaps, that fresh inspiration will come from the rich tapestry of Scripture, history, culture, and freedom that makes itself known through the spiritual songs; songs in the faith life of African Canadian Christians. The impact of the spirituals goes far beyond emancipation from the forced migration experience of blacks themselves. It extends to “how do we treat others who are different”? Differences in culture, in skills and interests, in life experience, in access.

Ministries here at Christ Church, Dartmouth have known, positive impacts; they bring dignity and hope to all people. It is encouraging that African Heritage Month has been on the hearts and minds of Christ Church, Dartmouth - I feel the welcome as I mingle, worship and serve with you. The fellowship, the service, the heartfelt smiles; the stirring music, pastoral prayer and inspired Christian teaching. Can we do more? With God’s help, there are so many possibilities. And... what if our efforts seem to miss their intended benefit? Then we know that we are just asked to “be like a little child”, come in prayer to receive a fresh beginning, and to

“Swing Low, Sweet Chariot” — God is comin’ for to carry me home. And I’ll tell all my friends, I’m a comin’ there, too. To God, be the glory. Amen.

Women’s Ministry Sunday



In February we recognized women in our parish and the important ministry they offer our community.

We have very active Anglican Church Women (ACW) units – the Ethel F. Stevens Unit and the Isabel Creighton Unit (all women in the Anglican church are ACW members). The women of these units have been members of their groups for several years and have worked tirelessly and with much dedication to the ministry of our parish family through their leadership, fundraising, catering funeral receptions, food bank to name a few projects.

Another dedicated group of women here at Christ Church is the Altar Guild whose ministry is to care for the altar linens, flowers, vestments and the communion vessels.

In addition to these groups, women in our parish serve as wardens, sit on Parish Council, sing in the choir and serve other committees, using their ministry to help provide assistance and direction to our parish work.

Today we want to recognize four women and their ministries both here at Christ Church and in their communities – Carolyn Chenhall, Libby LeVatte, Gail Teixeira and Marg Seaman. Thank you to these ladies for all of their wonderful ministries!

Carolyn Chenhall – To quote Carolyn, “I offer the following in humility. Perhaps the greatest affirmation I have had in terms of my long held belief in the ministry of the Whole People of God was my attendance on three occasions to a conference in the US representing our diocese called Living Stones and the support of Rick and our daughters who ‘allowed me to pursue my various opportunities to which God had called’. That conference

gave credence to the various ministries in which I have been involved at Christ Church, the Dartmouth Region, the Diocese and the National church.” Through Christ Church, Carolyn has served in baptismal preparation, on Parish Council, has been a warden and a member of the choir, a substitute organist, ACW president and Pastoral Ministry Chair. On Regional



Council, she has been the representative for our parish and Chair for two terms. She was Diocesan synod delegate several times, campus ministry chair (a real passion), co-chair Leap for Faith campaign, Diocesan president ACW, presently a member of Human Resources VSST. On the national church level, she was five times General Synod member, one-term member of COGS (Council of General Synod), Planning and Agenda team for COGS. She also serves in the community, canvassing for 30 years for the Cancer Society, volunteering in the school library, assisted her daughter’s high school string group in raising funds for their international competition, and sewed costumes for Dartmouth Figure 8’s.



Libby LeVatte – Libby LeVatte is the daughter of Rev. Woodrow LeVatte, a past curate at Christ Church, and Betty (Bayer) LeVatte – historian, senior choir member, first female vestry member. Libby’s spiritual development began at a very early age when, as a small child, she went along to baptisms and other church events with

her Dad when he was the Chaplain at Shannon Park. Having the great fortune to be part of a large extended family who were all very involved in the life of Christ Church, Libby was introduced to the life through JA (Junior Auxiliary), Sunday School – both as a learner and then a teacher, the junior choir and as an adult in the senior choir and now is delighted to be singing once again with the current choir. Libby has sat on Parish Council, served as Diocesan Synod representative and the Spirit Committee, and after a few years’ hiatus while living at Hacketts Cove attending St. Peter’s church, she has rejoined the Spirit committee. Libby is looking

forward to her new spiritual development journey as she prepares to become a Licensed Lay Minister.

Marg Seaman – Marg moved to Halifax in 1986 via Toronto, Edmonton, Winnipeg and then finally to Dartmouth in 1997. Since joining Christ Church, Marg seems to be involved in almost every aspect of our parish life. Here are some of Marg's ministries: counting collection, Altar Guild, Finance Committee, warden, selling tickets for Christ Church Players, participating in the Bicentennial events, assisting in the office, helping with the changeover of the accounting system, year-end preparations, choir, reading, greeting, columbarium restructuring, Perpetual Care & columbarium sales, streamlining of all the funds within the finances, heading up the hamper program, assisting with contract preparation, Theology on Tap, involved with our association with the MacPhee Centre, served on the Parochial Committee, presented a hall rental analysis to Parish Council, is part of the Garden Group, helps with all church dinners, knits for the Prayer Shawl Group and is also a Eucharistic minister.



Gail Teixeira – Gail began her Christ Church music ministry in March 2018. Since then, she has been an active member of Christ Church gifting us not only with her leadership in the choir, but also blessing us with her violin playing during our 10:00 services. Gail's faith as a strong Christian began when she was a small child in New Orleans where she heard the Word and sang God's praises. She is a positive role model as a Christian in the truest sense of the word. In the summer of 2019, Gail helped lead our children's youth choir camp where she taught the children different musical skills and different genres of music. She is an active member on our Spiritual Development committee. Gail is a music educator in the HRCE. We



are truly blessed to have such a faithful and loving child of God here at Christ Church.



April 5 Palm Sunday 8:00am and 10:00am with HC
This service begins with Jesus' entry into the Holy City of Jerusalem. Those who are able, process outside and inside the church. We listen to the Passion Gospel that records Christ condemned before his friends and family. Thus, it begins Holy Week at Christ Church.

April 6 Monday 6:30pm Evensong with choir.
Directed by John David Bogardus

April 7 Tuesday 5:00pm Agape Supper with Holy Communion in the Lower Hall. RSVP to the Parish Administrator if you wish to attend.

April 8 Wednesday 6:30pm Tenebrae Service with full choir, Directed by John David Bogardus. The word "Tenebrae" comes from the Latin meaning "darkness." The Tenebrae is an ancient Christian tradition that makes use of gradually diminishing light through the extinguishing of candles to symbolize the events of that week from the triumphant Palm Sunday entry through Jesus' burial. This increasing darkness symbolizes the approaching darkness of Jesus' death and of hopelessness in the world without God.

April 9th Maundy Thursday 6:30pm
This is the day that Christ gathered with his disciples in the upper room. This is the day that Christ took a towel and washed the disciples' feet, giving us an example that we should do to others as he has done to us. On the eve of Thursday at Christ Church, we begin the Paschal Triduum or the Three Great Days. At our Maundy Thursday service, we listen to John's Gospel and how Jesus washed his disciples' feet. In the act of servanthood, the clergy will wash the feet of those who wish to come forward. *With Homily.*

April 10 Good Friday

10:30 a.m. Dartmouth Ecumenical Service at Christ Church, Dartmouth. Come to this community service as we Christians reflect on what it means to be community as we grieve the loss of our Lord.

1:00pm Good Friday commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus and his death at Calvary. A time of prayer and reflection on the scriptures. Come and reflect on the Cross and what Jesus' death means for you and the world.

April 11 The Easter Vigil with Holy Baptism 6:30pm

On Easter Eve, able parishioners will meet for the Lighting and Blessing of the New Easter Fire. The Pascal Candle is lit. As the Paschal Candle is brought forth into the darkened church, we note Christ's resurrection in our midst. We also gather together to renew our baptismal vows as we welcome new members into God's family.

April 12th Easter Sunday

5:45am Easter Morning Service: In the early hours, well before the light of dawn. When the events of Good Friday and the bleak grip of Holy Saturday continue to cast a shadow over the small hours of Sunday morning, something is about to happen. That something is unimaginable and virtually incomprehensible. At 5:45 a.m., we will gather on the grounds of Christ Church to renew our baptismal vows, to hear the ancient promises of hope and salvation. We will process and sing. Then we will enter into the drama that is at the center of our faith, that extraordinary Easter Sunday morning event that changes the world. With Homily. On Easter morning at our traditional worship times, we gather to give thanks for the risen Lord! The tomb is empty! Thanks be to God! Alleluia! A potluck in the Lower hall follows this service.

8:00 a.m. (Traditional Book of Common Prayer)

10:00 a.m. (Book of Alternative Services) with full choir

CHRIST CHURCH, DARTMOUTH

THE LORD IS RISEN!

**EASTER
SUNDAY**

8:00AM TRADITIONAL RITE

10:00AM MODERN RITE WITH CHOIR

WWW.CHRISTCHURCHDARTMOUTH.COM



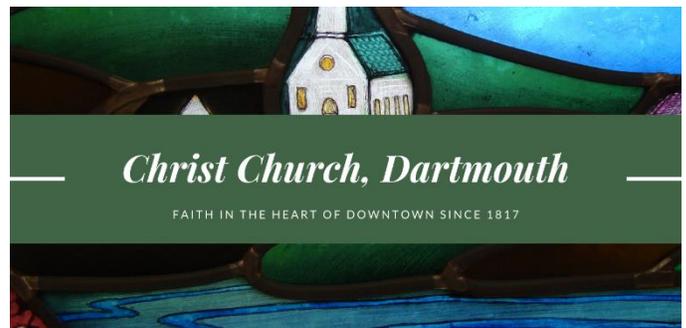
All welcome as we join together in community.

**ECUMENICAL
GOOD FRIDAY
SERVICE**

A GATHERING OF CHURCHES IN
DARTMOUTH

April 10th at 10:30am

LOCATION: CHRIST CHURCH, DARTMOUTH
50 WENTWORTH STREET



CONTACT

Office Phone: (902) 466-4270

Email: christchurch@christchurchdartmouth.com

Web: www.christchurchdartmouth.com

Parish Office Hours: Monday–Thursday 9:00 am–3:30 pm Sunday 9:00 am–11:30 am

Church Hall: 61 Dundas Street

Postal: 61 Dundas Street, Dartmouth,
Nova Scotia, B2Y 4H5