



Christ Church
Sixth and Main Streets
Clarksburg, WV

The Good News Weekly

Christ Episcopal Church ~ St. Barnabas Chapel

August 23, 2020



St. Barnabas Chapel
721 Hall Street
Bridgeport, WV

www.christchurchclarksburg.com

www.stbarnabaschapel.com

Office phone: 304-622-3694

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Christ Episcopal Church, Clarksburg and St. Barnabas Chapel, Bridgeport

Guidelines for In-person Services

The guidelines that were listed in this newsletter can be found on the church website home page.

<https://www.christchurchclarksburg.com/>

Possible Weekly Service in the Memorial Garden

Our first month of worshipping together in an outdoor setting for the 9:00 a.m. Sunday Morning Prayer service has gone well. Now Rev. Nora would like to offer a weekly midday service in the Memorial Garden on any weekday Monday through Friday. She would like to hear from the parishioners to determine your interests and desires. **Please call or text 410-708-7464 or email her at revnora@wvdiocese.org.**



E-Giving to Churches Without Fees

Parishioners are encouraged to use e-giving at:

<http://www.wvdiocese.org/pages/aa-egiving.html>

Just scroll down and click on the donate button located by Bridgeport-St. Barnabas or Clarksburg – Christ Church.

Checks can also be mailed directly to
Christ Episcopal Church
PO Box 1492, Clarksburg, WV 26302

Prayer for Bishop Coadjutor Search

Almighty God, you have created each person with many and varied gifts and joined our lives together as members of the Diocese of West Virginia. Look graciously upon us as we search for our eighth Bishop, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries. Give us minds to discern your will, courage to follow where you lead, and hearts to love as you command, to the glory of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

This Week at Christ Church, Clarksburg and St. Barnabas Chapel, Bridgeport

Sunday, August 23, 2020

**Morning Prayer on the lawn
at St. Barnabas Chapel at 9:00 AM**

Attendance is by reservation only.

Make your reservations by email now!

Email Christ Church at: christchurch1853@aol.com

Give the following information: Your name and total number of family members planning to attend.

Do you plan to sit on the lawn or stay in your car?

If sitting on the lawn, are you bringing your own chair?

Or do you need a church provided chair?

(Your reservation will be confirmed by a return email.)

Or phone in your reservation to the Church office at 304-622-3694, if necessary please leave a message.

(Your reservation will be confirmed by a return call.)

Reservations must be made by Friday 12:00 noon.

If unable to keep a reservation, please cancel.

Sunday, August 23, 2020

Zoom Evening Prayer at 5:30 PM

Join Zoom Evening Prayer by clicking on this link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5245181878>

Meeting ID: 524 518 1878

Another option is to dial in: (646) 558-8656

Wednesday, August 26, 2020

Zoom Compline at 8:00 PM

Service lasts approximate 15-20 minutes.

Join Zoom Meeting by clicking on this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89782062917?pwd=T04rV0pzenJiTXFqSDF0OWRUUVXJidz09>

Meeting ID: 897 8206 2917

Passcode: 933775

. . . to know, live, and share
The Good News Story of Jesus Christ.

In Search of a Bishop Coadjutor for the Diocese of West Virginia

This the first in a series of reflections from the Diocesan Bishop Coadjutor Search Committee. The reflections, designed for individual consideration and/or group conversations, will continue through the diocesan survey period.

As we begin the process of calling a faithful and faith-filled Bishop Coadjutor who will become the 8th Bishop of WV, let us focus on the work of spiritual discernment.

Soon, you will be asked to complete a survey designed to help us search for the candidate who might shepherd us through our Christian walk for the years ahead.

The Search Committee is offering weekly reflections for you to use individually or in small groups to prepare for your critical role in the process.

Listening to God Luke 6:12-16 12

Now during those days he went out to the mountain to pray; and he spent the night in prayer to God.

13 And when day came, he called his disciples and chose twelve of them, whom he also named apostles:

14 Simon, whom he named Peter, and his brother Andrew, and James, and John, and Philip, and Bartholomew,

15 and Matthew, and Thomas, and James son of Alphaeus, and Simon, who was called the Zealot,

16 and Judas son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor. (NRSV)

Before Jesus made a major decision, he went to the mountain to spend time with God in prayer. By listening to God, he moved forward calling disciples who seemed to be the least likely persons to carry on the work of evangelizing Jesus' new message.

- How might you prepare yourself to hear the unexpected from God?
- How can you bring the teachable mind of a disciple, open to the work of the Spirit to this work?
- Reflect upon the state of mind you bring to the search process. In particular, what thoughts or opinions might shape your responses?
- Do you hold biases or opinions that might silence the Holy Spirit? Can you approach these as opportunities to go deeper in your reflection, to grow?
- When responding to the survey, do you see yourself as an advocate, a humble servant, or an illuminator for the Diocese? What do you see in yourself that shaped your answer?

Wisdom of Reflecting in Community

Scripture Philippians 2:1-11 If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, 2 make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. 3 Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. 4 Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. 5 Let the same mind be in you that was[a] in Christ Jesus, 6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, 7 but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, 8 he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross. 9 Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, 10 so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (NRSV)

Reflection

Discernment in a community engages a group of people to follow the leading of the Holy Spirit. It involves prayer, a humble surrendering of control, reflection on Scripture, and listening carefully to one another as together we seek to hear God's voice.

Very soon, the people of the diocese will be asked to participate in a survey to determine the gifts and talents we desire in our next bishop. It seems a bit odd to think about community discernment while many struggle with profound isolation due to the pandemic. However, community discernment creates space for the Holy Spirit to guide, to hold accountable, to bring "a joyous convergence of direction that brings a sense of peace and rightness.

When the deepest desires of persons are aligned with God's deepest desires, life is marked by loving more freely, becoming dedicated to the larger goodness, and experiencing healing and reconciliation with God, oneself, and one another."

(Frances Taylor Gench. "Testing the Spirits" Bible study on 1 Corinthians 12-14, 25 October 2005, www.pcusa.org/peaceunitypurity (29 January 2008).

Discussion

- How or where did Jesus use community discernment and reflection in His ministry?
- What is your experience with community discernment? What did it look like? Was it effective?
- What barriers might there be to reflecting in community about the search for a new bishop, especially in light of the pandemic restrictions? How might those barriers be overcome?
- How might your community be strengthened or grow as a result of sharing this discernment journey?
- How might you get started in community discernment for the search process? Who would you include? How will you meet? What will you do or discuss?
- What gifts do you bring to community discernment? How can you grow from participating in community discernment?