

Christ Church
Sixth and Main Streets
Clarksburg, WV

## The Good News Weekly

### Christ Episcopal Church February 24, 2019

www.christchurchclarksburg.com www.stbarnabaschapel.com Office phone: 304-622-3694 Facebook:

https://www.facebook.com/Episcopalparishinclarksburg/



St. Barnabas Chapel 721 Hall Street Bridgeport, WV

#### **Upcoming Events**

2/24/19 Holy Eucharist Rite II at 10:00 a.m. at Christ Church

2/24/19 Holy Eucharist Rite II at 5:30 p.m. at St. Barnabas

2/27/19 Bible Study at 10:30 a.m. at Christ Church

**2/27/19 Executive Comm. Mtg** at 4:30 pm at Christ Church

3/3/19 Holy Eucharist Rite II at 10:00 a.m. at Christ Church

3/3/19 Holy Eucharist Rite II at 5:30 p.m. at St. Barnabas

**3/5/19** Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner 4:00 – 7:00 at CEC

**3/6/19** Imposition of Ashes – Noon at CEC; 5:30 p.m. at SB

#### **Backpack Blessings Schedule**

Pack after church on February 24
Driver to deliver bags February 28 – Ben Barksdale
Shopper for February 28 – Pam Critchfield
Pack after church on March 3
Driver to deliver bags March 7 – Dick Clovis

Shopper for March 7 – Beth Sickles

### **Security During Sunday Services**

The Building and Grounds Committee has recommended that during Sunday services all EXTERIOR doors be locked except for the front door at St. Barnabas and the front doors and the sacristy doors at Christ Church. At Christ Church this includes the doors to the Memorial Garden. So, if you exit into the Memorial Garden during the service, you will be locked into the Memorial Garden until those doors are unlocked for coffee hour. Sorry for the inconvenience, but this is done in response to concerns from parishioners and for security reasons.

#### **Our Parish Life Committee in Action**

Thanks to all those who worked together last week planning, preparing, decorating, serving, and cleaning for the reception following Bill Trimbach's memorial service.







#### **Serving Ministries**

## February 24, 2019 7th Sunday After Epiphany

9:30 a.m. Choir warmup

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II at Christ Church

Lector: Bill Saviers

Ushers: Ben Hardesty and Dee Trimbach

Acolyte: Nate Critchfield Altar Guild: Jody Morse 11:00 a.m. Pack Backpacks

**11:00 a.m. Coffee hour** in the parlor Coffee hour hostess: OPEN

11:30 a.m. Choir rehearsal

5:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II at St. Barnabas

Lector: Ron LaNeve Ushers: Nancy Cotten Altar Guild: Nancy Cotten

# March 3, 2019 Last Sunday After Epiphany

9:30 a.m. Choir warmup

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II at Christ Church

Lector: Jody Morse

Ushers: Ben Barksdale and Kitty Clovis

Acolyte: Nate Critchfield

Altar Guild: Ann Kennedy and Jeanne Smith

11:00 a.m. Pack Backpacks

11:00 a.m. Coffee hour in the parlor

Coffee hour hostess:

11:30 a.m. Choir rehearsal

5:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II at St. Barnabas

Lector: Nancy Cotten

Ushers: Tom and Becky Durrett

Altar Guild: Nancy Cotten

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

#### The Good Book Club – Epiphany 2019

WEEK 8: FEBRUARY 25-MARCH 3, 2019

Dr. Caroline Carson READ: ROMANS 15:7-16:16

**REFLECT:** "Accept one another," Paul writes.

The vision of God's righteousness is revealed in Christ. He calls us to treat one another with respect, to welcome one another (doing so as honored guests), and to accept one another without judgments. This is sometimes easier said than done. How can we have distinctions without divisiveness in the world today? There often seem to be such deep contrasts between the powers-that-be on every level and the powers from above that urge us toward changes. In the fathomless heart of God there is no division. This beautiful floating ball that is Earth harbors distinction in emergent creation, but it is not division. Our mission as a Church includes compassion, justice, and reconciliation, and in order to fulfill that mission and truly know what it means, we need active relationships with others who are different from ourselves. Our distinction is bound and shines in our relationships with each other, but not by the division on which we humans often focus. Holding a personal ethic that does not insist on superiority over the world or others and that does not force its way over others but welcomes all as we are is one way to witness to God's mission. Welcome opens doors for potential healing in an anxious world. Ways of welcome can include other key words and ideas in this rich passage. Proclaiming the good news is vital and a Christian duty. Prayer is a privilege and an opportunity to praise, lament, explore, and be vulnerable in the presence of holiness. Pray with and for each other. Support is what Paul requested from the communities he visited and those to which his colleagues would come. For the common good, we support each other in this life. Support can come from both gratitude and vulnerability. We must free the space that already exists where God might enter and bring peace to us and the world around us. Only by being vulnerable, can we begin to accept ourselves, thus making room for reception of others. "Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God."

#### **DIG DEEPER:**

- 1. How easy or difficult is it for you to proclaim the word of God to others?
- 2. How does this scripture speak to you in your current life situations?
- 3. Have you considered incorporating varied methods of personal prayer in your life?
- 4. How does your community support one another or others far away, overtly and behind the scenes?
- 5. How does your church receive a stranger/newcomer? With a flurry of instruction, opportunities, and food, or quiet distance? **About the Author: Dr. Caroline Carson** is finishing her senior year of seminary at the Sewanee School of Theology and was ordained a deacon on December 15, 2018. She hopes to return to her home Diocese of Louisiana to serve as priest after graduation. Coming from an almost 20-year career as a conductor and professor, her ministry passions include global mission and partnerships, systematic theology, and liturgical music. Caroline hopes to be a resource in mission and liturgy and music for her future church, diocese, and beyond. She sees life through lenses of enthusiasm and peacemaking, and she loves space and her cat, Bluebell!

#### **Grant Site: Introducing Pastoral Care for Refugees in Egypt**

My UTO project involved introducing pastoral care to refugees who came through the Refugee Egypt organization to the Diocese of Egypt with North Africa and the Horn of Africa. This Episcopal/Anglican diocese is within the Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East in the worldwide Anglican Communion. It extends over eight countries: Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Egypt, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Somalia, and Djibouti. I got to know the Refugee Egypt organization, its staff, and many refugees who came through during the month I was in Egypt. I sat with refugees and heard their stories about walking to the border of Sudan, crossing the country, and arriving in Cairo with children in tow. I prayed with them. I heard tragedies of what it is like to live in the middle of a corrupt area with rebel factions stealing your land, house, and food and killing your friends or your wife. I listened, prayed, and shared tea with them. It was visceral and dramatic and is what millions experience along portions of their personal timelines as they migrate across vast lands to find shelter, begin a new life, renew hope, and attempt to preserve their heritage. Many arrive at the center still in shock at being uprooted or in poor health due to such lengthy travel with limited, if any, rations. I had seen this shock in other refugees while I was in Rome. It moves you. It changes you. Some were sick, some frantic, some hopeless, and some hopeful. Everyone handles the world's darkness in his/her own way. Sometimes, simply being with someone helps. Often, being able to share an experience gives it shared value and opens one up to make room for healing. I also worked with refugees in career training and helped teach English communications for interviews, meetings, etc. We had fun! I am still in touch with these wonderful souls. I volunteered as photographer at events and churches, reintroduced Taizé worship (planned and implemented several services), attended clergy meetings, explored outreach programs, and gave a workshop on well-being. The workshop was hosted by the diocese's Bridges Cultural program, which aims to gather community members (including some refugees) of Muslim and Christian faiths for sharing, learning, and social interactions. It included music and movement, confidence-building exercises, healthy habits for personal well-being, and an introduction to types of meditation and the purposes and methods of each. It was well received and there was hope that I may return. Indeed, I want to return and build upon this relationship with the people there, strengthening ties with The Episcopal Church and this branch of our Anglican Communion.