



# The Channel

Monthly Newsletter of St. Christopher's Church/Gladwyne, PA  
A Member of the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania

Mission Statement: To provide a thoughtful and active community of faith, fellowship and ministry.

WILLIAM H. WOOD III, Rector / MARY E. LANEY, Parish Associate  
JOSH WALTERS, Coordinator of Youth Ministries

August 2010

C E L E B R A T I N G 6 0 Y E A R S O F S E R V I C E

## “ I M U S T G O D O W N T O T H E S E A S A G A I N ”

John Masefield wrote the words that represent a mighty call to many around the world.

*I must go down to the seas again, for the call of the running tide  
Is a wild call and a clear call that may not be denied;  
And all I ask is a windy day with the white clouds flying,  
And the flung spray and the blown spume, and the sea-gulls crying.*

Some who hear that ancient call are eager to go. Some have to. We all can be a part of their great adventures, these daring, romantic, dangerous, and - at times - lonely voyages. Such is given to us by the committed ministry of the Seaman's Church Institute, here in Philadelphia and around the world.

-WHW

### Seamen's Church Institute Newsletter:

Now that we've passed the Fourth of July, it is time to get serious about getting ready for Christmas - which means recruiting more knitters to make the watch caps that the Seamen's Church Institute includes in the ditty bags it gives to seafarers between Thanksgiving and Christmas as a gesture of good will and love.

The watch caps will go in the ditty bags our chaplains and ship visitors deliver to seafarers that dock at 31 Delaware River seaport terminals in Pennsylvania and New Jersey between Thanksgiving and Christmas. We visit virtually every ship that docks here year-round and if someone needs a cap at other times, we give them one.

Here's a list of other things you can donate for the ditty bags:

Hats, Scarves, Razors, Shaving Cream, Tooth Brushes, Tooth Paste, Work Socks, Work Gloves, Shampoo, Combs, Pens, Paper, Sewing Kits, Soap

To learn more please visit our website <http://sciphiladelphia.org/>

*They that go down to the sea in ships, that do business in great waters; These see the works of the LORD, and his wonders in the deep. For he commandeth, and raiseth the stormy wind, which lifteth up the waves thereof.*  
Psalm 107: 23

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS SEPTEMBER 2010 – JUNE 2011

September 12:	Sunday School Open House
September 19:	Commissioning of the Teachers, Fall Picnic
October 3:	Blessing of the Animals
October 17:	Stewardship Sunday, Halloween Sale
October 22:	<i>New!</i> Oktoberfest
October 24:	Commitment Sunday
October 31:	Halloween Parade
November 14:	Newcomers Coffee Hour
November 22:	Community Thanksgiving Service
November 28:	ECS Gift Drive
December 5:	Outreach Christmas Gifts, Christmas Sale
December 12:	Rectory Coffee Hour
December 19:	Christmas Pageant, Santa Day
December 24:	Christmas Eve Services
December 25:	Christmas Day Service
January 2:	Staff Sunday
February 6:	Annual Meeting
February 13:	Vestry Commissioning, Waverly Valentines
February 25:	ECS Good Friends Event
March 4:	Mardi Gras Night
March 9:	Ash Wednesday
April 17:	Palm Sunday
April 21:	Maundy Thursday Service
April 22:	Good Friday Service
April 24:	Easter Sunday
May 6:	Azalea Day Pre-Party
May 7:	Azalea Day
May 15:	Youth Sunday
June 5:	Acolyte Recognition
June 16:	Teachers Appreciation Dinner

## REACHING FORWARD

Have you remembered St. Christopher's in your will? If not, here are some reasons why you might consider doing so.

This won't be about taxes. Everybody knows that charitable giving can be part of a good estate plan. Buy why St. Christopher's?

One reason has to do with the past. When we go to St. Christopher's today, we're beneficiaries of far-sighted people. These people bought land and built a church, 60 years ago. In 1951 they decided to hold an Azalea Day. In 1956 they bought land, built a rectory, and started a churchyard. In the early 1960s, after a huge planning effort, a capital campaign raised \$250,000 to build a parish hall, classrooms, and offices. Our wonderful physical plant is a gift from those who went before. Without all of those efforts, St. Christopher's as we know it would not exist.

The other reason has to do with the future. I hear it again and again, there's a good community at St. Christopher's. It helps give our lives meaning and depth. How can we, like our predecessors, advance the prospect that 10 or 25 or 50 years from now, there will still be a good community at St. Christopher's? Just imagine if all of us put aside something for St. Christopher's in our wills. Some bequests, probably most, would be small. A few would be big. Some would be distributed to the church tragically soon, others not for many years. But it would be a flow of capital that would help enormously in preserving our community.

Why, you may ask, does a future generation need financial help from us? I think there are a few answers to that. Our buildings are getting much more expensive to maintain, as they age. At the same time, employment opportunities for young people nowadays are nowhere near as good as the average in the post-World War II period. And, our politicians (of course, we elect them) are burdening coming generations with enormous debt. If we can help out, we should. And we'd be doing no more than was done, right here at St. Christopher's, for us.

Bequests go into our Endowment, which is unrestricted and has multiple purposes. Its primary purpose is to ensure the survival of our church. In the meantime, so long as it's not needed for a rainy day, it provides steady support for Outreach—currently about \$63,000 per year. Both of these purposes are worthy.

In the coming year, will you undertake to think about this? I'd be very happy to discuss this with you. Please consider reaching forward in time to help preserve our wonderful community.

*Tom Allen*  
*Endowment Campaign Committee Chair*

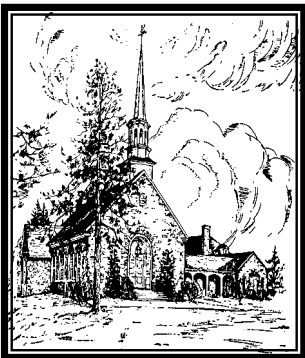
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MONTHLY NEWSLETTER  
OF  
ST. CHRISTOPHER'S CHURCH  
226 RIGHTERS MILL ROAD GLADWYNE, PA 19035

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LONGER WISH TO BE ON ST. CHRISTOPHER'S  
MAILING LIST.

August 2010

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OR SEND AN EMAIL TO SHAWNA@SAINTCHRISTOPHERS.ORG.



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## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ST. CHRISTOPHER'S CHURCH

### PARISH STAFF

The Reverend William H. Wood III, Rector  
The Reverend Mary E. Laney, Parish Associate  
Scott Drackley, Organist/Choirmaster  
Josh Walters, Coordinator of Youth Ministries  
Katie Gibbs, Office Manager/Bookkeeper  
Shawna Minnucci, Parish Secretary  
Bill Petty, Sexton  
Val Galati, Sexton  
Ann Catania, Nursery Coordinator

### VESTRY OF ST. CHRISTOPHER'S

Mary Anne Justice, Rector's Warden  
Ken Jones, Accounting Warden  
Tom Allen, Jennifer Colen, Peggy Cooke, Cathy Higgins,  
Peter Hunt, Susan Hunter, Skip Irvine, Michael Johnson,  
Ellen Pemberton, George Wrangham