



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
BRIANNA FOTI, Coordinator of Youth Ministries

Channel - Reflections
January 2012

JANUARY 29, 2012

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According to the Rev. Dr. Thom Blair, one of the chief indicators – and perhaps a cause – of a “dysfunctional family” is the absence of expected occasions of participation together. The prevailing sense then becomes one of isolation. Apparently sometimes this very perception brings some individuals into a habit of church attendance. That’s good.

Well what is true of families is also often true of parishes. Therefore our Annual Meeting can be seen as an important event. It can be an occasion for each of us, including a rector, to catch up on what is happening, what we wish would happen, what someone else envisions, and why. Isaiah reminds us that “*The Lord says, ‘Come now, let us reason together.’*” Consider that ideas can come out of individuals. Wisdom however often comes from the collected reflection of God’s people reasoning together.

Our meeting is again scheduled to be accompanied by a delicious brunch following the 10:00 AM worship service on Sunday, January 29, 2012. We need to transact some business and share some thinking about our future. Mark your calendars now.

Our slate of Vestry nominees will include Mickey Shumway and Paul Wright as well as two other people for a second term: Jenny Colen and Tom Allen. Nominees for the Diocesan/Deanery team are Judy Moneta, Brian McAdams and George Wrangham.

Your attendance is important because you are a child of God. Each of us brings something unique. One of our members last year shared her honest response to that assertion. She replied “*All I do every year is sit and smile.*” Yeah, but what a smile! Come if just to help us function as a healthy family for God’s sake and for the sake of us all. It’s an important reality.

-WHW

RECTOR'S WARDEN REPORT

The end of the year is so hectic for most people. There's a rush to send out Christmas cards, to make arrangements for the parties, to get gifts for everyone, to agree on who hosts Christmas, to make travel plans and to keep stress levels reasonable. It's not exactly a win-win type of situation. It's no wonder that many people don't find this season much fun and even do their best to avoid getting caught up in all the hype.

St. Christopher's is also a hive of activity. It starts with the Azalea Day Sale of special Christmas related items. This year the All-Pro team of Mickey Shumway and Peggy Maltz organized this. They bought together a great team of gifted volunteers who gave us a superb offering of items, beautifully organized and presented. It generated considerable new funds for Outreach.

Brianna Foti also took it upon herself to organize a special Pot-Luck for Children and Young Families on a Friday evening. This was the first time, but everyone who attended felt that this was very special occasion and a welcome addition to the church calendar.

Of course, one of the main events of the Christmas Season is the Christmas Pageant and this took a huge amount of organization including the construction of a New Manger (the paint was hardly dry before it was called into service). This one was quite intimidating for Brianna as it was her first Pageant. However again, numerous parents showed up, and stepped in to help, volunteering their kids, dressing them up in their special roles, and in the process helped produce a most touching and most memorable rendering of this beloved event.

It continues right along. The afternoon service on Christmas Eve is one of our best attended all year. There's never enough seating available. Last year we filled the choir stalls with the overflow crowd and we still needed all our collapsible supplementary chairs. It's one of our most distinctive services, one of the most touching and one that is most appreciated.

All these efforts help bring the spirit of Christmas back to where it belongs: an appreciation of what Christmas really stands for, considerable satisfaction in jobs done well, community, continuity, along with a respite from the distractions which abound at this time of year. These activities bring a smile to our faces, a warm glow to our hearts, they make us reflect on the true meaning of Christmas and they make the St. Christopher's community very, very special.

Peter Hunt, Rector's Warden

ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, January 29, 2012

Following the 10:00 a.m. service

*Brunch, discussion and the election of the new Vestry
and Diocesan Deanery Members*



REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

VESTRY

For a second three-year term

TOM ALLEN

JENNIFER COLEN

For a (first) three-year term

MICKEY SHUMWAY

PAUL WRIGHT

Nominees for the Diocesan/Deanery team

Judy Moneta

Brian McAdams

George Wrangham

Respectfully submitted by the Nominating Committee

Peter Hunt, Tom Allen, Ray Welsh,

Sue Henry and Jack Henn

CHRISTMAS SALE 2011

Peggy and I want to thank the ladies who helped us unpack, “stage”, and price all the treasures that were donated. Another big thank you goes to Joan Harrison for sorting and packing all the donations that arrive all year long, for Azalea Day or for the Christmas Sale. Thank you for all your donations – remember as you decorate, open your presents, and undecorated – we really do want anything that you don’t want! The youth were wonderful bringing all those treasures to the Parish Hall that were stored in every nook and cranny. We are thrilled to have raised just under (had to pay for our new signs...) **\$4,000** for Outreach!!! Thank you for shopping with us and buying chances at Chance To Win.

Mickey Shumway and Peggy Maltz

A sincere thank you to Mickey Shumway and Peggy Maltz for organizing the sale and for your hours and hours of hard work. We are so grateful to you both!



SANTA DAY

Thank you to all those who made Santa Day such a wonderful celebration. Thank you to Tom Allen for the lovely carols and to the Pemberton's, Marinchak's, and Webb's for their superb job hosting. We look forward to more great fellowship in the coming year!



EPIPHANY FOOD DRIVE

St. Peter's Food Cupboard once again needs your help providing food to the ever increasing number of people living on the edge of hunger, choosing between buying food and medicine, or food and heat. St. Peter's Food Cupboard has provided food for local families in need since 1987. They distribute supplemental bags of groceries to around 140 households weekly.



This is the fourth year we will be asking members to bring in food during the Epiphany season. This year the first Sunday of Epiphany is January 8 and lasts until February 19. During this season members may bring in canned goods, cereal, protein rich foods such as canned tuna and peanut butter and place items in the baskets that will be in the back of the church. They will be carried to the altar during the offertory so they can be blessed and set aside for this ministry with St. Peter's Episcopal Church. Epiphany is the season in which we remember the Good News was announced to the gentiles (those considered outsiders) and therefore it is most appropriate that we bring the Good News to those beyond our community.

Thank you so much for your generous support. If you have any questions, please contact Cathy Higgins, Chair of the Outreach Committee or Mary Laney.



**JANUARY
2012**



What a Wonderful December! I hope everyone enjoyed our St. Christopher's Advent Potluck Night, Christmas Pageant and Santa Day! Most importantly, I hope you enjoyed your family and your many blessings over Christmas.

And what of 2012? What is in store for us, as individuals? As families? As a Christian Community? As a Nation? As a planet?

What changes will come our way? What growth will take place? What is God's plan for us? I start this year out with uncertainty and excitement, but finding much comfort in this: I'm not doing this alone. "I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you." Psalm 32:8.

Oh yeah, I don't have to have it all figured out and I don't have to worry. He's always there... whispering the words to say, suggesting the way to go...so that whatever challenges come my way, He'll be my strength and get me through, whew!

Please let 2012 be full of peace, prosperity, and lots of love! Thank You God!

Youth Schedule January & February 2011

Upcoming Events...

January 1:	No Youth Event or Class
January 15:	Circle of Hope Service Day in memory of Dr. King
January 19:	3rd Thursday-6:30-8:30 at the Clothiers' Home
January 28-29:	Youth Group Ski Trip with Gladwyne Pres.
February 5:	Superbowl Sunday Party at the Clothiers' Home
February 10:	St. Christopher's Penning-Pasta Night: Youth Support International Mission Work (All of St. Christopher's is invited, details to follow.)
February 16 th :	3rd Thursday-6:30-8:30 TBA

THANK YOU

Thank you to all of the parents, children and youth who participated in the Christmas Pageant, especially to Nick and Edward, our musicians and to Cathy and Chris, our seamstress and carpenter. Thanks to Steve Marshall who was our Santa Day photographer also! Looking forward to more fun and festivities to come!

ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

January 1 - Philipp, ?, ?
 January 8 - Nick
 January 15 - Reed, Cole, Casey
 January 22 - Anna
 January 29 - Cristian, Alec, Becky

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COFFEE HOUR

Thank you to our December Coffee Hour Hosts!

The Kimzey Family, Bill & Kristine Wood, The Pemberton' Family, The Marinchak Family and The Webb Family



Visit our Coffee Hour webpage at www.SaintChristophers.org to view available dates, instructions and more!

PARISH REGISTER

Deaths:

Margaret Pellegrino	December 3, 2011
Charles A. Ernst	December 14, 2011

GREENING OF THE CHURCH

A very special thank you to Ellen Pemberton and all of her many helpers from the Altar Guild who did such a lovely job decorating the church for Christmas. It looks beautiful! We appreciate your time and effort.



CHANCE TO WIN

Did you receive a few too many bottles of "cheer" over the holidays? The Chance-To-Win Booth would be happy to help clean up your extra bar clutter. Our baskets of cheer have been great money raisers at past Azalea Days.

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY BEEF & BEER FUNDRAISER

St. Christopher's Church, Parish Hall

January 21, 2012

6:30 p.m.

Join us for a fun night of dinner and dancing with ALL proceeds going to The American Cancer Society. Tickets are \$35 per person, payable to The American Cancer Society. Mail checks and ticket requests to Katie Gibbs C/O St. Christopher's Church or drop in the Sunday plate. If you cannot join us but would like to make a donation it would be greatly appreciated! If you have any questions you can contact Katie Gibbs at KatieGibbs@SaintChristophers.org. Thank you.

FAVORITE THINGS

The Dalai Lama, when asked what surprised him most about humanity, answered "Man. Because he sacrifices his health in order to make money. Then he sacrifices money to recuperate his health. And then he is so anxious about the future that he does not enjoy the present; the result being that he does not live in the present or the future; he lives as if he is never going to die, and then dies having never really lived."

Submitted By: Mary Laney

CHANNEL MAILING

Channel Deadline: *Wednesday, January 18th*

Channel Mailing: *Tuesday, January 31st*
(10:00 a.m. in the Library)



January 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>1</i></p> <p>New Years Day 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I No Sunday School No Sunday Forum</p>	<p><i>2</i></p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p><i>3</i></p> <p>7:00 a.m. Bible Study</p>	<p><i>4</i></p> <p>7:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 8:00 p.m. AA</p>	<p><i>5</i></p> <p>7:30 p.m. Adult Choir</p>	<p><i>6</i></p>	<p><i>7</i></p>
<p><i>8</i></p> <p>8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I 10:00 a.m. Holy Morning Prayer</p>	<p><i>9</i></p> <p>Day School Board Meeting</p>	<p><i>10</i></p> <p>7:00 a.m. Bible Study 7:30 p.m. Vestry Meeting</p>	<p><i>11</i></p> <p>7:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 8:00 p.m. AA</p>	<p><i>12</i></p> <p>7:30 p.m. Adult Choir</p>	<p><i>13</i></p>	<p><i>14</i></p>
<p><i>15</i></p> <p>8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II</p>	<p><i>16</i></p> <p>Office Closed Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</p>	<p><i>17</i></p> <p>7:00 a.m. Bible Study</p>	<p><i>18</i></p> <p>7:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 8:00 p.m. AA</p>	<p><i>19</i></p> <p>6:30 p.m. Third Thursday 7:30 p.m. Adult Choir</p>	<p><i>20</i></p>	<p><i>21</i></p> <p>6:30 p.m. America Cancer Society Beef & Beer Fundraiser</p>
<p><i>22</i></p> <p>8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I 10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer</p>	<p><i>23</i></p>	<p><i>24</i></p> <p>7:00 a.m. Bible Study 7:15 p.m. Outreach Mtg (Library)</p>	<p><i>25</i></p> <p>7:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 8:00 p.m. AA</p>	<p><i>26</i></p> <p>7:30 p.m. Adult Choir</p>	<p><i>27</i></p>	<p><i>28</i></p> <p>Youth Ski Trip 2:00–4:00 p.m. Parish Hall Rental</p>
<p><i>29</i></p> <p>8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II Annual Meeting</p>	<p><i>30</i></p> <p>1:00 p.m. Pastoral Care Mtg (Library)</p>	<p><i>31</i></p> <p>7:00 a.m. Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Channel Mailing</p>				

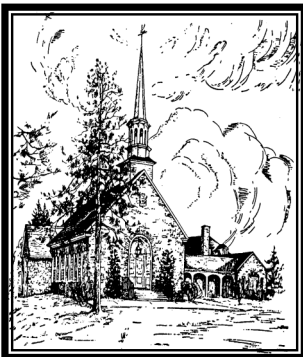
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MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
OF
ST. CHRISTOPHER'S CHURCH
226 RIGHTERS MILL ROAD GLADWYNE, PA 19035

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

January 2012

HELP US GO GREEN. SUBSCRIBE TO OUR E-NEWSLETTER BY CONTACTING THE CHURCH OFFICE AT (610) 642-8920
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
Brianna Foti, Coordinator of Youth Ministries
Katie Gibbs, Office Manager/Bookkeeper
Shawna Minnucci, Parish Secretary
Val Galati, Sexton
Toshi Makihara, Sexton
Ann Catania, Nursery Coordinator

VESTRY OF ST. CHRISTOPHER'S

Peter Hunt, Rector's Warden
Ken Jones, Accounting Warden
Tom Allen, Jennifer Colen, Demetrie Comnas, Peggy Cooke,
Cathy Higgins, Susan Hunter, Skip Irvine, Michael Johnson,
Jill Marshall, George Wrangham